

Virtual Care CORE



July 2023 Newsletter

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Recent News from OCC and the VC CORE

Funding opportunity for VA investigators at non-COIN Sites: SWIFT-IVI

The Small aWard Initiative For impact – Independent VA Investigators (SWIFT—IVI) program invites eligible **VA investigators at non-COIN sites** to apply for up to \$50,000 in pilot project support during VA fiscal year 2024. This program will support preliminary projects informing future, more extensive HSR&D merit review and/or career development proposals. The goal of the SWIFT program is to provide funds for collecting and analyzing preliminary data for future proposals or preparatory research activities leading to larger HSR&D and QUERI merit-review submissions. This program is supported by HSR&D and administered by the Center for Mental Healthcare and Outcomes Research (CeMHOR) COIN at the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System. See the attached Word document for all details. The application deadline to submit for this cycle is Friday, August 18, 2023. **An email of intent (EOI) is required in order to submit an application. The EOI must be submitted by July 7, 2023. To submit an EOI, please follow the steps below:**

- 1) Send an email to Mary.Bartnik@va.gov and Danielle.Peters@va.gov.
- 2) Use in your subject line: SWIFT-IVI EOI.
- 3) Include in the email:
 - Principal Investigator information
 - Name
 - VA affiliation and title
 - Include 5-6 keywords about the research topic you plan to study.
 - 4-6 sentences about your research plan.
 - 2-3 sentences specifying the planned future funding application that the award would make possible.
 - 1 sentence stating how much protected time the PI's supervisor will allow the PI to dedicate to the project.

Study: *Assessing Collaborative Research Networks to Enhance Research Value*

To better understand what individual and environmental factors contribute to successful collaborative research, Dr. Elizabeth Stevens at NYU Langone Health is conducting a research study that will collect information about our consortium's members and their collaboration networks.

Please check your VA spam filters! So far, two emails have been sent with the subject "Invitation to take part in a survey about research collaboration" on June 6 and June 20 from noreply@nyulangone.org. The study will last approximately 5 years and involve several parts including a baseline survey, the possibility of a one-time 60-minute interview, and four follow-up surveys. The surveys ask about your background, personality, perceptions of collaborative research, research productivity, and collaboration networks. All study activities are 100% optional. If you do not wish to be contacted, please reach out to Dr. Stevens at elizabeth.stevens@nyulangone.org.

The VC CORE Directory is Live!

We are incredibly excited to share the [VC CORE Directory](#) in its current iteration (in the future, we hope for additional functionality that allows multi-selection within our response columns, and of course to add more of our members). Thanks to the level of engagement from our wonderful Network (read: you), the list is very impressive, at over 170 entries. We invite you all to find yourselves and quality check your entries, as well as to find each other and connect! If you wish to be added to the Directory, it's not too late! Please reach out to navid.dardashti@va.gov to receive a unique survey link we will use to populate your entry.

Funding Opportunity From the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)

[This Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\)](#) aims to support research that generates evidence on the real-world effectiveness of telehealth collaboration among healthcare providers for consultation, second opinions, and other purposes, referred to as provider-to-provider telehealth (PPT). PPT offers remote access to critical health expertise that might not exist locally in certain communities. The funding has co-participation of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the Office of Disease Prevention (ODP), and is inspired by the gaps and opportunities identified by the [2022 Federal Partners Meeting Report](#), and the NIH's "[Improving Rural Health Through Telehealth-Guided Provider-to-Provider Communication](#)" Workshop.

Research supported by this NOSI is expected to:

1. Contribute to the advancement of health equity and access to care in rural communities through implementation research focused on telehealth-guided provider-to-provider communication;
2. Stimulate evidence-based interventional and observational research to investigate the real-world effectiveness of provider-to-provider telehealth in managing the health of rural populations while observing, gathering, and assessing information on implementation;
3. In settings where evidence of clinical effectiveness of PPT is robust, develop and test implementation strategies while observing and gathering information on the intervention's impact on relevant outcomes.

Funding and Dissemination Opportunities and Deadlines

Opportunities	Contact	Deadline
Small aWard Initiative For impact – Independent VA Investigators (SWIFT—IVI) Pilot RFA for VA investigators at non-COIN sites	Send EOI to Mary.Bartnik@va.gov and Danielle.Peters@va.gov (see instructions above or in attached word doc)	Email of Intent due 7/7/2023
Notice of Special Interest: Assessing Real-World Effectiveness and Implementation of Telehealth-Guided Provider-to-Provider Communication among Rural Communities	See NOSI posting on nih.gov for full details and contact list	10/5/2023

Recent Virtual Care Publications

- O'Shea, A.M.J., Howren, M.B., Mulligan, K. *et al.* Quantifying the Digital Divide: Associations of Broadband Internet with Tele-mental Health Access Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *J GEN INTERN MED* (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11606-023-08120-8>
- Arao, K.A., Fincke, B.G., Zupa, M.F. and Vimalananda, V.G., 2023. Comparison of Endocrinologists' Physical Examination Documentation for In-Person vs. Video Telehealth Diabetes Visits. *Journal of the Endocrine Society*, p.bvad073. [Comparison of Endocrinologists' Physical Examination Documentation for In-Person vs. Video Telehealth Diabetes Visits | Journal of the Endocrine Society | Oxford Academic](#)

Upcoming Presentations and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date/Time
Mobile and Web-based Intervention for Veteran Couples With PTSD and Pain	Jolie Haun, PhD	7/12/2023 12:00 – 1:00 PM EST
Comparative Effectiveness and Outcomes of Telehealth Interventions: VA Studies in Neurology and Substance Use Disorder Treatment	Lewei (Allison) Lin, MD, MS; Linda Williams, MD	7/12/2023 1:00 – 2:00 PM EST

Recent Presentations and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date/Time
Leveraging Technology to Target PTSD and Moral Injury With Moral Elevation	Adam McGuire, PhD	6/14/2023 12:00- 1:00 PM EST
Technology-based Couples' Interventions for PTSD	Kayla Knopp, PhD	5/10/2023 12:00- 1:00 PM EST

Links to Resources

Telehealth

- [VHA Telehealth Services Website](#)
- [Telehealth Intranet Site](#)
- [VHA Mobile and Peripheral Devices for Facilities](#)

VA Mobile

- [VA Mobile | VA App Store](#)
- [New VA Mobile 'My App List' functionality/categories](#)
- [ANNIE Automated Texting System | SharePoint site](#)
- [VACO Mobile Mental Health & Technology | SharePoint site](#)
- [VA Mobile Health Practice Guide | SharePoint site](#)

MyHealtheVet

- [MyHealtheVet | Portal Homepage](#)
- [MyHealtheVet | VA Intranet Product Homepage](#)
- [My HealtheVet Statistics - My HealtheVet Product \(va.gov\)](#)
- [My HealtheVet Secure Messaging Reports Guide](#)

Data Reports, Measures, Definitions, and Training

- [VHA Reports and Measures Portal \(RAMP\)](#)
- [Reporting and Analytics Field Training \(RAFT\)](#)
- [VSSC – Connected Care, Telehealth, Call Centers](#)
- [Data Definitions for VSSC Data Cubes](#)

Patient Generated Health Data

- [Approved VA Policy on PGHD](#)
- [PGHD video for staff](#)

General Office of Connected Care

- [Connected Care Website](#)
- [Connected Care Outreach Toolkit](#)
- [Connected Care Academy](#) (VA Intranet Required)

Contact Information

- For any comments or questions about material in this newsletter or about the Virtual Care Consortium of Research, please email the CORE team at VHAVirtualCareCore@va.gov.
- Please let us know if you have news to share with the community! Email us and we will add it to the next newsletter.
- Finally, [follow us on Twitter](#) for regular, bird-sized bits of information!

The mission of the VA Virtual Care Consortium of Research is to facilitate research that evaluates and improves use of virtual care to enhance the accessibility, capacity and quality of VA health care and Veteran experience.
