Virtual Care CORE

October 2023 Newsletter

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Recent News from OCC and the VC CORE

Adding VC CORE Affiliation to your Signature

It recently came to our attention that some investigators have an interest in adding their VC CORE affiliation to their signature. As an HSR&D funded Consortium of Research rather than a COIN or QUERI center, we had not previously considered this possibility – but thought it was a wonderful idea. In brainstorming some ways this could look in writing, we arrived at the following, which we propose for anyone interested:

Member Group	Title
Researchers currently funded through Associate Investigator Program	Associate Investigator, VC CORE
Researchers currently or previously funded through OCC RFA mechanisms; AIs after completing Program	Investigator, VC CORE
Other researchers or staff with an interest in indicating CORE affiliation	Member, VC CORE

There are no requirements for those who wish to self-indicate as members (we assume if you're receiving this newsletter or this alert reproduced elsewhere that you're already receiving communications from us). As always, we appreciate the two hundred or so of you that have participated by filling out surveys, offering to review manuscripts, applying for funding, responding to evidence requests, and helping each other with your queries and initiatives. If you decide to add one of these titles to your signature or elsewhere, or have suggestions for alternative nomenclature, let us know!

Reminder: Request Portal for Letters of Support from the Office of Connected Care

VC CORE recently collaborated with the Office of Connected Care Telehealth Services team to create a submission portal for Letter of Support requests. A product of years of successful partnership with the research community, OCC advocated for this channel in the hopes of simplifying the process of obtaining letters of support for investigators and their office alike. Investigators begin by inputting basic information about their proposed studies, including the primary technology of focus and type(s) of support requested. The portal then routes the request to appropriate subject matter expert for review and generates a draft letter to be refined by the

investigator for signature, pending review. OCC asks that requests be submitted with ~4 weeks' notice before grant deadlines, whenever possible, to allow for adequate review and consideration.

We are excited to debut this process and begin receiving your submissions! As this portal is brand-new, we eagerly appreciate feedback from investigators who submit requests, both on the overall process and the draft letter output

Reminder: The VC CORE Directory is *Live!*
We are incredibly excited to share the VC CORE Directory. We're still working on re-entering survey responses as multi-selections within our response columns, as well as adding our new VC CORE members who have joined since this went live. 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.

Help Develop a Measures Repository to Support the VHA Virtual Care Research Community!

The VC CORE is working in collaboration with OCC to crowdsource self-report measures (e.g., validated survey scales, questionnaires, and other such instruments) used by members of our investigator network in their research and evaluation projects focused on virtual care. Measures recommended by the CORE investigator network will be used to develop a measures repository that will be available to support researchers in the identification and selection of the best measures for their work. It is also part of OCC's efforts to develop an outcomes framework to more comprehensively track outcomes related to virtual care.

We hope you will help with this noble cause by sharing as many self-report measures as you can! An email invitation to submit measures via a REDCap form was originally sent to the CORE investigator network on Tuesday September 26th. A reminder email with the REDCap link included will be circulated again today! Related requests to share your expertise and input may follow as this effort moves forward. If you have any questions, please reach out to VHAvirtualcarecore@va.gov.

Funding and Dissemination Opportunities and Deadlines

Opportunities	Contact	Deadline
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 and Upcoming Conference Presentations

- Rauzi MR, Mealer ML, Abbate LM, Stevens-Lapsley JE, Nearing KA. Older Veterans' Experiences of a Multicomponent Telehealth Program: Qualitative Program Evaluation Study JMIR Form Res. 2023 Sep 8.

- Rauzi MR, Abbate LM, Lum HD, Cook PF, Stevens-Lapsley JE. Multicomponent telerehabilitation programme for older veterans with multimorbidity: a programme evaluation. BMJ Mil Health. 2023 Sep 14.

- Felker BL, Towle CB, Wick IK, et al. Designing and Implementing TeleBehavioral Health Training to Support Rapid and Enduring Transition to Virtual Care in the COVID Era | Journal of Technology in Behavioral Science. J. technol. behav. sci. 8, 225–233 (2023).

- Stryczek KC, Honsberger M, Ball S, Barnard JG, Young J, Felker B, Au D, Ho PM, Kirsh S, Sayre G. VA Outreach Is an Essential Area for Improving Veterans' Health Care Accessibility. Military Medicine, 2023.

- Kim JM, McCann RA, Gold SD, & Felker BL. [Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Telemental Health Usage Among Veterans](). Psychological Services. 2023, June 1.

- Whitfield J, Owens S, Bhat A, Felker, B Jewell T, & Chwastiak L. [Successful ingredients of effective Collaborative Care programs in low- and middle-income countries: A rapid review](). Cambridge Prisms: Global Mental Health (2023)

- Rubenstein LV, Curtis I, Wheat CL, Grembowski DE, Stockdale SE, Kaboli PE, Yoon J, Felker BL, Reddy AS, Nelson KM. [Learning from national implementation of the Veterans Affairs Clinical Resource Hub (CRH) program for improving access to care: protocol for a six year evaluation](). BMC Health Serv Res 23, 790 (2023).

- Hilty DM, Ahuja S, Felker BL, Kishimoto T, Krupinski EA. [Introduction to Evidence-Based Digital Interventions and Informatics Approaches to Service Delivery for Behavioral Health Populations](). Journal of Technology in Behavioral Science.

Upcoming Virtual Care Conference Presentations

- Hou C, Hovsepian S, Leung L, Der-Martirosian C. A retrospective national cohort study on the impact of video care on ER use among type 2 diabetes patients at the Veterans Health Administration. AcademyHealth D&I 2023. Poster Presentation. December 10-13, 2023. Arlington, VA.

- Yoo C, Needleman J, Chu K, Leung L, Der-Martirosian C. Telehealth Utilization for Primary Care Services by Substance Use Disorder Diagnosis at the VA. SEARCH 2023 The National Telehealth Research Symposium. Oral presentation. November 7-9, 2023. Philadelphia, PA.

- Hou C, Hovsepian S, Leung L, Der-Martirosian C. Veteran patient perspectives on the use of telehealth services in primary care at the VA. SEARCH 2023 The National Telehealth Research Symposium. Oral presentation. November 7-9, 2023. Philadelphia, PA.

- Der-Martirosian C, Lukowsky L, Chu K, Steers WN, Dobalian A. A retrospective national cohort study on the impact of video care on ER use among type 2 diabetes patients at the Veterans Health Administration. AcademyHealth D&I 2023. Poster Presentation. December 10-13, 2023. Arlington, VA.

- Tisdale RL; Purmal C; Kalwani NM; Sandhu AT; Heidenreich PA; Zulman D; Hussain T; "Opportunities to Address Specialty Care Deserts and the Digital Divide: VA's Virtual Hub-and-Spoke Cardiology Clinic." American Heart Association conference; November 13, 2023, 8:45 AM - 8:55 AM

Upcoming Presentations and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date/Time
Recent Research Findings on Digital Exposure-Based Interventions for PTSD	Carmen McLean, PhD	10/11/2023 12:00 – 1:00 PM EST
[Superusers' Best Practices in Proactive Integrated Use of Virtual Healthcare Resources in Specialty Care Settings]()	Jolie Haun, PhD, EdS Rachel Benzinger	10/11/2023 1:00 – 2:00 PM EST
Social Cognitive Predictors of and Engagement in Web-Based Trauma Recovery Interventions	Carolyn Yeager, PhD Charles Benight, PhD	November 8, 2023 12:00 – 1:00 PM

Recent Presentations and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date/Time
Harnessing Technology to Increase Access to Couple and Family Treatment for Alcohol Use Disorders among Veterans registration - VA WebEx Enterprise Site	Julianne Flanagan Elizabeth Santa Ana	9/13/2023 12:00 – 1:00 PM EST
Ways to Use (and Not Use) Mobile Devices to Assist PTSD Treatment: From Doomscrolling to Gaming	Matthew Price, PhD	9/13/2023 12:00 – 1:00 PM EST
Burnout, Turnover, and Telehealth in VA Primary Care during the COVID-19 Pandemic registration - VA WebEx Enterprise Site	Eric Apaydin, PhD, MPP Lucinda Leung, MD, PhD, MPH	9/20/2023 12:00 – 1:00 PM EST

Links to Resources

General Office of Connected Care
- Connected Care Website
- Letter of Support Portal
- Connected Care Outreach Toolkit
- Connected Care Academy (VA Intranet Required)

Telehealth
- VHA Telehealth Services Website
- Telehealth Intranet Site
- VHA Mobile and Peripheral Devices for Facilities

Patient Generated Health Data
- Approved VA Policy on PGHD
- PGHD video for staff

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

MyHealth*e*Vet
- MyHealth*e*Vet | Portal Homepage
- MyHealth*e*Vet | 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

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.