



PROVEN

Coordinating Hub to Promote Research
Optimizing Veteran-centric EHR Networks

PROVEN Hub Newsletter

August 2023

Welcome to the PROVEN Hub Newsletter! The PROVEN Hub is designed to provide a single point of contact for the VA research community to design, conduct, and disseminate cutting-edge, operationally prioritized research and evaluation in support of a safe, effective, and efficient implementation of Oracle Cerner Millennium EHR throughout VA.

**Join Us for Our Upcoming Virtual EHRM Research Summit:
Accelerating Adaptive and Responsive EHRM Research**

Friday, September 29, 2023

12:00-3:00 pm ET / 9:00 am-12:00 pm PT

[Register now!](#)

Agenda

**12:00-12:40 pm ET
(9:00-9:40 am PT)**

Welcome and Overview of Summit Goals

*Becky Yano, PhD, MSPH, PROVEN Coordinating Hub MPI –
Administrative & Implementation Cores, Center for the Study of
Healthcare Innovation, Implementation & Policy, VA Greater Los
Angeles*

Opening Remarks

*Carolyn Clancy, MD, MACP, Assistant Under Secretary for
Health for Discovery, Education, and Affiliate Networks (DEAN)*

**The Role of the Office of Health Informatics in EHR
Modernization**

*Jonathan Nebeker, MD, Executive Director, Office of Health
Informatics (OHI)*

**Support for EHRM Research and Evaluation Under the VA
Health System Portfolio and Beyond**

*David Atkins, MD, MPH, Director, VA Health Services Research
& Development, Office of Research & Development (ORD)*

**12:40-1:15 ET
(9:40-10:15 am PT)**

Panel Discussion: Updates on EHRM Research

Moderator: *Michael Weiner, MD, MPH, PROVEN Coordinating Hub MPI – Health Informatics Core; Core Investigator, Center for Health Information & Communication, Indianapolis VA*

Panelists:

- *Seppo Rinne, MD, PhD, PROVEN Coordinating Hub – Partnership & Engagement Core MPI; EMPIRIC and SCHOLAR QUERI Partnered Evaluation Initiatives MPI, VA Bedford*
- *Jessica Davila, PhD, PROVEN Hub – Data & Methods Core MPI, Center for Innovations in Quality, Effectiveness & Safety (IQuEst), Houston VA*
- *Brianne Molloy-Paolillo, PhD, Center for Healthcare Organization & Implementation Research (CHOIR), VA Bedford*

**1:15-1:55 pm ET
(10:15-10:55 am PT)**

Panel Discussion: EHRM Research Development, Cerner Data and Approaches to Cerner-based Interventions

Moderator: *Jessica Davila, PhD, PROVEN Coordinating Hub – Data & Methods Core MPI; Core Investigator, Center for Innovations in Quality, Safety and Effectiveness (iQuEst), Houston VA*

Panelists:

- *Saul J. Weiner, MD, Deputy Director, VA Center of Innovation for Complex Chronic Healthcare, Jesse Brown VA (Chicago)*
- *Maria Souden, PhD, Director, VA Information Resource Center (VIReC); PI, ORD Strategic Initiative for Research & EHR Synergy (OSIRES), Hines VA (Chicago)*
- *Margaret Gonsoulin, PhD, Chief Data Manager, Data Management and Migration, ODCIO, EHRM Integration Office (EHRMIO)*
- *Michael Matheny, MD, MS, MPH, FACMI, Associate Director, VA Informatics & Computing Infrastructure (VINCI), Tennessee Valley VA; Director, Center for Improving the Public's Health through Informatics, Vanderbilt University*

**1:55-2:05 pm ET
(10:55-11:05 am PT)**

What Does the VA Healthcare System Leaders, Managers, and Providers Need from Research?

Tom O'Toole, MD, Deputy Assistant Under Secretary for Health for Clinical Services; Veterans Health Administration

**2:05-2:45 pm ET
(11:05-11:45 am PT)**

Panel Discussion: The Future of Partnered EHRM Research and Evaluation in VA

Moderator: *Seppo Rinne, MD, PhD, PROVEN Hub – Partnership & Engagement Core MPI; EMPIRIC and SCHOLAR QUERI PEIs MPI, VA Bedford*

Panelists:

- *Steven H. Brown, MD, MS, FACMI, Director of Knowledge Based Systems, VA Office of Health Informatics*
- *Sheila Cox Sullivan, PhD, RN, EBP-C, Director of Research, Evidence-Based Practice & Analytics, VA Office of Nursing Services*
- *Edward (Skip) Walton, MD, MHPE, Director, Medical Informatics Unit, VA Office of Academic Affiliations*
- *Blake Lesselroth, MD, MBI, FACP, FAMIA, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine and Vice-Chair of Medical Informatics, University of Oklahoma-Tulsa School of Community Medicine*

**2:45-2:55 pm ET
(11:45-11:55 am PT)**

Vision for EHRM Moving Forward: View from the Top

Neil Evans, MD, Acting Program Executive Director, VA EHRM-Integration Office

**2:55-3:00 pm ET
(11:55-12:00 pm PT)**

Closing Remarks

Steven Simon, MD, MPH, PROVEN Coordinating Hub, Administrative Core MPI; Chief of Staff, VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System

HSR&D Research and EHR Synergy Cyberseminar Series

In July, Drs. Gemmae Fix and Jessica Davila shared findings from their study of Veterans' preferences and experiences of VA's transition to the Cerner Millennium electronic health record. Catch up on the [archive](#) of previous presentations.

Our next cyberseminar, scheduled for October 25th from 12-1pm ET, will be on health professions trainees' (HPT) experiences with learning the VA EHR across VistA/CPRS and Cerner sites, with a specific focus on strategies that can optimize HPT learning and care provision. [Registration information will be available soon.](#)

VA EHRM Researcher Spotlight

Jessica Davila, PhD (Multiple PI, PROVEN Hub – Data and Methods Core)

Center for Innovations in Quality, Effectiveness and Safety (IQuEST) at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Houston, Texas



Jessica A. Davila, PhD, is a cancer epidemiologist and health services researcher at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center (MEDVAMC) and Center for Innovations in Quality, Effectiveness and Safety (IQuEST). She co-leads the Health Policy, Quality, and Informatics Program at IQuEST. In addition, she serves as the Assistant Dean of Research, Research Informatics, and Data Integration and the Director of the Medical Informatics program at the Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR) at Baylor College of Medicine. She has significant experience using administrative data and conducting medical record review studies and has been involved in several VA and non-VA studies involving complex quantitative analyses, qualitative methods, and intervention development. Dr. Davila was a VA HSR&D post-

doctoral fellow (2001-03) and a VA HSR&D Merit Review Entry Program Career Development Awardee (2003-06).

In addition to serving as an MPI for the PROVEN Hub, Dr. Davila currently co-leads a PROVEN rapid pilot project titled *Optimizing Support for VA Nurses During Transition to Cerner: Assessment of Non-VA Nursing Experiences*. The pilot aims to identify pragmatic strategies to improve delivery of nursing care in the context of Cerner Millennium implementation. She also co-leads a project funded by the Office of Nursing Services titled *Evaluating the Impact of Electronic Health Record Modernization (EHRM) on Outpatient Nursing Care*. This project aims to identify the impact of EHRM-related changes in outpatient nursing workflows on patient safety.

See a [recently published article](#) by Dr. Davila and others in the Journal of General Internal Medicine.

VA EHRM Updates in the News

Lawmakers tasked with overseeing VA's EHR transition have introduced multiple bills to enhance oversight. Read about Congress' competing proposals [here](#).

DoD anticipates completion of its EHR deployment by March 2024 despite initial challenges. Read the full article [here](#).

Despite layoffs reportedly targeting clinical team that worked to implement new EHR systems, VA official expects Oracle Cerner to deliver on \$10B EHR contract. Read more [here](#).

VA EHRM Research Resources

- Check the EHRM-IO web page for updates to the [deployment schedule](#) when they become available.
- Check out the PROVEN [Project Registry](#) for current information on EHRM projects
- Access VIREC's [VA Millennium EHR Data Documentation & Resources](#) (intranet site)
- VIREC Summary Documentation Tables include detailed information about data found in the Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW). (Intranet only: <https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/OITBISL/SitePages/Get-Started-With-CDW.aspx>)
- Researchers and investigators can now access Millennium data for their projects. See the [VA Millennium EHR Data](#) page on the VHA Data Portal for information about the data available and how to access for research, quality improvement, and operations projects.
- The [EHRM-IO Data Migration and Management team SharePoint site](#) links to resources related to data syndication.
- EHRM & Research SharePoint has research resources related to the Oracle Cerner Millennium implementation. (Intranet only: <https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VHAPugResearch/RRG/SitePages/EHRM-and-research.aspx>)

***Are you conducting an EHRM research or quality improvement project?
Let us know at provenhub@va.gov***

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