PROVEN
Coordinating Hub to Promote Research Optimizing Veteran-centric EHR Networks

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 the Federal EHR throughout VA.

Join Us for PROVEN's *Final* EHRM Research Summit!

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VA Electronic Health Record Modernization (EHRM) Research Summit: Using Research-Operations Partnerships to Transform the Future of EHRM

Friday, March 28, 2025

10am-1pm PT/1-4pm ET

Agenda

1:00-1:20 pm ET **(10:00-10:20 am PT)**	**Welcome and Overview of Summit Goals** *Becky Yano, PhD, MSPH, PROVEN Coordinating Hub MPI – Administrative & Implementation Cores, HSR Center for the Study of Healthcare Innovation, Implementation & Policy (CSHIIP), VA Greater Los Angeles*
	Opening Remarks • *Carolyn Clancy, MD, MACP, Assistant Under Secretary for Health for Discovery, Education, and Affiliate Networks (DEAN)* • *Kristina Cordasco, MD, MPH, MSHS, Acting Director, VA Health Systems Research*

1:20-2:10 pm ET **(10:20-11:10 am PT)**	**Panel Discussion: A Model for Investigator-Operations Partnerships** Moderator: *Seppo Rinne, MD, PhD, PROVEN Coordinating Hub MPI – Partnership & Engagement Core; Core Investigator, Center for Healthcare Organization & Implementation Research (CHOIR), VA Bedford*

<u>Panelists:</u>

Research Partnership with the National EHRM Supplemental Staffing Unit

- *Seppo Rinne, MD, PhD, PROVEN Coordinating Hub MPI – Partnership & Engagement Core; Core Investigator, Center for Healthcare Organization & Implementation Research (CHOIR), VA Bedford*
- *Jennifer Herout, PhD, MA, Chief Human Factors Scientist, Human Systems Integration, Digital Health Office, Veterans Health Administration*

Research Partnership with the Office of Nursing Services

- *Jessica Davila, PhD, PROVEN Coordinating Hub – Data & Methods Core MPI; Core Investigator, Center for Innovations in Quality, Effectiveness, and Safety (IQuESt), VA Houston*
- *Sheila Cox Sullivan, PhD, RN, Director of Research, EBP & Analytics, VA Office of Nursing Services*

Research Partnership with the Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA)

- *Ellen Ahlness, PhD, Qualitative Methodologist, VA Puget Sound; Clinical Associate Professor, University of Washington Department of Health Systems and Public Health*
- *Erin Matteau, DPT, CHES, Health Systems Specialist, VA Office of Academic Affiliations*

2:10-2:50 pm ET **(11:10-11:50 am PT)**	**Panel Discussion: EHRM Research Development, Federal EHR Data, and Approaches to New Federal EHR-based Interventions** Moderator: *Jessica Davila, PhD, PROVEN Coordinating Hub – Data & Methods Core MPI; Core Investigator, Center for Innovations in Quality, Effectiveness, and Safety (IQuESt), VA Houston*

<u>Panelists:</u>
- *Lisa Backus, MD, PhD, Executive Director, Population Health Informatics, VA Palo Alto*
- *Margaret Gonsoulin, PhD, Chief Data Manager, Data Management and Migration, ODCIO, VA Electronic Health Record Modernization Integration Office*
- *Jon White, MD, Acting Deputy Chief Research & Development Officer (CRADO) for Enterprise Protections, Veterans Health Administration*
- *Nate Apathy, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Maryland School of Public Health; Research Scientist, Regenstrief Institute*

2:50-3:30 pm ET **(11:50 am-12:30 pm** **PT)**	**Panel Discussion: The Future of VA Health Informatics Research in the Context of EHRM and AI** Moderator: *Michael Weiner, MD, MPH, PROVEN Coordinating Hub – Health Informatics Core MPI; VA Indianapolis* Panelists: • *Evan Carey, PhD, Acting Director, National Artificial Intelligence Institute (NAII), Digital Health Office (DHO), Veterans Health Administration; Assistant Professor of Biostatistics and Informatics, Colorado School of Public Health* • *Makoto Jones, MD, MS, Infectious Disease Specialist and Director, Biosurveillance Antimicrobial Stewardship, and Infection Control Program (BASIC), VA Salt Lake City; Co-Director, Medical Informatics Fellowship Program, University of Utah School of Medicine* • *Michael Matheny, MD, MS, MPH, FACMI, Associate Director, VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure (VINCI); Director, Center for Improving the Public's Health through Informatics, Vanderbilt University*
3:30-3:40 pm ET **(12:30-12:40 pm PT)**	**Scaling Up: Preparing for EHRM Acceleration** *Jonathan Nebeker, MD, Executive Director, Clinical Informatics, Office of Health Informatics (OHI), Veterans Health Administration*
3:40-3:50 pm ET **(12:40-12:50 am PT)**	**Vision for EHRM Moving Forward: View from the Top** *Neil Evans, MD, Acting Program Executive Director, Electronic Health Record Modernization Integration Office (EHRM-IO)*
3:50-4:00 pm ET **(12:50-1:00 pm PT)**	**Closing Remarks** *Becky Yano, PhD, MSPH, PROVEN Coordinating Hub MPI – Administrative & Implementation Cores, HSR Center for the Study of Healthcare Innovation, Implementation & Policy (CSHIIP), VA Greater Los Angeles*

Please note: At this time, the Summit will only be available to those who register with a VA email address. When you click the registration link, you may be asked to log in to your VA account to complete registration.

[Register Now](#)

PROVEN Research Snapshots

The PROVEN Coordinating Hub is developing a number of research snapshots focused on key areas in EHRM-related research. These briefs are meant to serve as quick guides to key issues in specific topic areas and contain summaries of VA research projects and findings in those areas, along with contact information for content experts to reach out to for more information. In addition, we are developing snapshots that summarize the objectives and key findings of PROVEN's rapid pilot projects. In the coming weeks, these research snapshots will be made available on the [PROVEN website](#) and will remain on the website as a resource for EHRM investigators.

EHRM Patient Safety & Human Factors Research Workgroup

Our EHRM Patient Safety & Human Factors Research Workgroup was launched to help investigators develop ideas that result in funded research and evaluation projects related to the EHR transition. The workgroup, led by PROVEN co-investigators Drs. Kristina Cordasco and April Savoy, aims to support researchers by providing feedback on project ideas, connecting them with relevant operations partners, and identifying the resources they need to be successful. VA researchers with specific interests in patient safety or human factors engineering are invited to participate. The workgroup convenes on the 3rd Friday of each month.

Although PROVEN will be sunsetting at the end of this month, Dr. Savoy plans to continue leading this workgroup and staying in contact with current workgroup members about future meetings. If you are not currently part of the workgroup but are interested in participating, please email April.Savoy@va.gov with your VA location and a few sentences about your area of interest. *This group is currently open to VA research scientists and staff only (including WOC).*

VA EHRM Research Resources

The guidance for EHRM proposals will be updated and maintained by OSIRES going forward and questions should be directed to ResearchEHRMHelp@va.gov

The PROVEN Project Registry contains current information on EHRM projects

The EHRM-IO Sustainment Resource Center provides EHR end users with resources to education, information, and support (Intranet site)

View current and past issues of the EHRM Navigator, a bi-weekly newsletter that covers all areas of the EHRM program, including news from VA medical centers, EHRM Reset updates, congressional updates, and more (Intranet site)

The Path to Restart Communications Toolkit provided by VA's EHRM-IO contains materials that may be referenced for communicating about the EHRM program reset (Intranet site)

Access the JGIM special issue "The Science of Electronic Health Record Transitions"

The EHRM-IO Intranet webpage provides updates on the deployment schedule when they become available (Intranet site)

Access VIReC's VA Millennium EHR Data Documentation & Resources on the Intranet.

VIReC's Summary Documentation Tables include detailed information about data found in the Corporate Data Warehouse (Intranet site)

VA Millennium EHR Data on the VHA Data Portal contains information about the data available, and how to access data for research, quality improvement, and operations projects (Intranet site)

EHRM-IO Data Migration and Management team SharePoint site links to resources related to data syndication (Intranet site)

EHRM & Research SharePoint has research resources related to the Federal EHR implementation. (Intranet site)

A Final Word from the PROVEN Team

This issue reflects PROVEN's last newsletter to our national VA research network as we sunset our activities at the end of March 2025. PROVEN was established to accelerate research dedicated to improving Cerner implementation outcomes (now referred to as the "Federal EHR") as well as the functions capable of enhancing evidence-based computerized decision support and testing of novel interventions that could capitalize on the historic transition to a new EHR. To that end, PROVEN funded a series of rapid pilot projects, many of which were used to make important changes in early implementation (e.g., specialty care referrals), launched cyberseminars with VIReC to disseminate findings well before publication to support change efforts, held annual EHRM research summits, provided regularly updated proposal guidance for EHRM researchers, supported collaborative research development, advanced a national research agenda, supported the VA EHRM National Research Council, and published a special journal supplement on the science of EHR transitions to bring global perspectives to bear on VA's efforts. Perhaps one of the most important outcomes has been establishment of the EMPIRIC and SCHOLAR QUERI Partnered Evaluation Initiatives, led by Seppo Rinne, MD, PhD. EMPIRIC and SCHOLAR have been among the only on-the-frontlines-of-care evaluations of deployment with a focus on provider and staff experiences. Results have been tremendously informative and helped guide key improvements, and as a result the team was recognized with the VA Health Systems Impact Award. Another important study was funded to examine burnout associated with deployment, co-led by Edwin Wong, PhD (VA Puget Sound) and Seppo Rinne, MD, PhD (VA Bedford), and is still underway, and will no doubt provide additional insights into how to foster best practices for implementation. We also applaud Saul Weiner, MD, MPH (Jesse Brown VA) who was funded to determine facilitators and barriers to implementing Clinical Decision Support tools in the Federal EHR. These studies are in addition to hard work on the part of a myriad of VA program offices and those responsible for implementation to get it right in service of improved care and Veteran experience.

The instrumental work accomplished by these teams has led to an array of operations-funded evaluation efforts in partnership with the Office of Health Informatics, Office of Nursing Services, National EHRM Supplemental Staffing Unit, and SimLEARN, among others, bringing evidence to bear on the steps ahead as Secretary Collins's stated plans are to accelerate further implementation of the Federal EHR. Thus, the demand for research and evaluation evidence around EHRM and health informatics more broadly will grow dramatically in the coming months and years, while PROVEN's support for this research community will be ending. We have therefore set up a series of handoffs to others, so that some functions continue. For example, VIReC will continue the once shared EHR-focused cyberseminar series (VIReC point of contact: MollyAnn.Kessner@va.gov), the national Quantitative Methods Core calls will continue under Dr. Katherine Hoggatt's leadership (San Francisco VA) as the collaborative they represent has been broadly supportive to the field, and Dr. April Savoy will continue to lead the Patient Safety & Human Factors Engineering workgroup.

We thank you all for your support throughout the last few years and look forward to convening at our final EHRM Research Summit on March 28th, 2025.

The PROVEN Coordinating Hub

https://www.hsrd.research.va.gov/centers/proven/
Contact us: provenhub@va.gov