Overview of VA Data, Information Systems, National Databases & Research Uses

October 2, 2017
Maria Souden, MSI, PhD
Associate Director, VA Information Resource Center
Database & Methods Cyberseminar Series

*Informational seminars to help VA researchers access and use VA databases.*

**Topics**

- VA data sources & data access systems
- Application of VA data to research and quality improvement questions
- Limitations of secondary data use
- Resources to support VA data use
## FY ‘18 Database & Methods Schedule

First Monday of the month*  |  1:00pm-2:00pm ET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/2/2017</td>
<td>Overview of VA Data &amp; Research Uses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/6/2017</td>
<td>Requesting Access to VA Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/4/2017</td>
<td>VA Medicare Data (VA/CMS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/8/2018*</td>
<td>Mortality Ascertainment &amp; Cause of Death</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/5/2018</td>
<td>Assessing Race &amp; Ethnicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/5/2018</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/2/2018</td>
<td>Pharmacy Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/7/2018</td>
<td>VA Healthcare Utilization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/4/2018</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/9/2018*</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10/2018*</td>
<td>Comorbidity Measures Using VA &amp; CMS Data</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Schedule shifts by one week in event of VA holiday.

Visit our Education page for more information & registration links.

[www.virec.research.va.gov](http://www.virec.research.va.gov)
Session 1: Overview of VA Data, Information Systems, National Databases & Research Uses
Today’s objective

The purpose of this cyberseminar is to provide an introduction to VA data and resources for using it effectively.
Session roadmap

- Introduction to VIReC
- Overview of the VA data environment
- Highlights of commonly used VA data sources
- Platforms & tools for using data
- Where to go for more help
Poll #1: Your role as a data user

- What is your role in research and/or quality improvement?
  - Investigator, PI, Co-I
  - Data manager, analyst, or programmer
  - Project coordinator
  - Other – please describe via the Q&A function
Poll #2: Your experience with VA data

How many years of experience do you have working with VA data?

- One year or less
- More than 1, less than 3 years
- At least 3, less than 7 years
- At least 7, less than 10 years
- 10 years or more
Session roadmap

• Introduction to VIReC
• Overview of the VA data environment
• Highlights of commonly used VA data sources
• Platforms & tools for using data
• Where to go for more help
Meet VIReC

**Mission**

To advance VA capacity to use data effectively for research and quality improvement and to foster communication between data users and the VA healthcare community.

**Activities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEVELOP</th>
<th>DISSEMINATE</th>
<th>IMPROVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>data knowledge and methods</td>
<td>data knowledge</td>
<td>data access and availability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factbooks and User Guides</td>
<td>Intranet website</td>
<td>Advocate on national committees &amp; workgroups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary information</td>
<td>VHA Data Portal</td>
<td>Real SSN request reviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical documentation</td>
<td>(collaboration with NDS &amp; VINCI)</td>
<td>VA/CMS Data for Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyberseminars (hosted by CIDER)</td>
<td>HelpDesk 1:1 consultation</td>
<td>VA REDCap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HSRData Listserv</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Session roadmap

- Introduction to VIREC
- Overview of the VA data environment
- Highlights of commonly used VA data sources
- Platforms & tools for using data
- Where to go for more help
Activities that generate VA data

- Administrative / Operations activities
- Clinical care / Patient records
- Financial recordkeeping
- Veteran surveys & patient portals
- Patient care outside the VA system
Veterans Health Information Systems & Technology Architecture (VistA)

• Integrated system of software applications
• Directly supports patient care at Veterans Health Administration (VHA) healthcare facilities
• Source of data for many VHA datasets or databases
Commonly used VA data sources

- VA Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)
- VA Medical SAS (MedSAS)
- VA Vital Status File
- VA MCA National Clinical Data
- VA Pharmacy Data
- VA/CMS Data for Research
Commonly used VA data sources

- **EHR/VistA**
  - VA Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)
- **VA Medical SAS (MedSAS)**
- **VA Vital Status File**
- **VA MCA National Clinical Data**
- **VA Pharmacy Data**
- **VA CMS Data for Research**
Commonly used VA data sources

- VA Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)
- VA Medical SAS (MedSAS)
- VA Vital Status File
- VA MCA National Clinical Data
- VA Pharmacy Data
- VA CMS Data for Research

Utilization and Status

10/2017
Commonly used VA data sources

- VA Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)
- VA Medical SAS (MedSAS)
- VA Vital Status File
- VA MCA National Clinical Data
- VA Pharmacy Data
- VA CMS Data for Research

Clinical Care Activities & Costs
Commonly used VA data sources

- VA Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)
- VA Medical SAS (MedSAS)
- VA Vital Status File
- VA MCA National Clinical Data
- VA Pharmacy Data
- VA CMS Data for Research

Non-VA Data
Session roadmap

- Introduction to VIReC
- Overview of the VA data environment
- Highlights of commonly used VA data sources
- Platforms & tools for using data
- Where to go for more help
Highlight: Corporate Data Warehouse

Data steward: National Data Systems (NDS)
CDW roles

- **BISL**
  - Business Intelligence Service Line
  - Data Architects
    - Build the data warehouse that organizes these data

- **NDS**
  - National Data Systems
  - Data Steward
    - Grants access to CDW data

- **VINCI**
  - VA Informatics & Computing Infrastructure
  - Data Provisioning
    - Creates subsets of CDW data for users who have been granted access

- **VIReC**
  - VA Information Resource Center
  - Data Use Support
    - Provides documentation & education to help understand and use the data
CDW origin & content

>130 VistA Systems

Minute by minute transactions added – no changes

CDW
(60+ domains)

- Patient
- Staff
- Allergy
- Inpatient
- Outpatient
- Inpatient Rx
- Outpatient Rx
- Lab Chemistry
- Lab Microbiology
- Vital Signs
- etc.

Region 1 Data Warehouse
Region 2 Data Warehouse
Region 3 Data Warehouse
Region 4 Data Warehouse

Nightly updates to architected database - no change to content
CDW… things to know

- Data straight from VistA
  - Not curated or transformed
- CDW is a relational database, *not* a dataset
- For SAS users, requires some conceptual shifts and new skills
- Relatively new and still evolving
- CDW SharePoint Site:
  [https://vaww.cdw.va.gov/Pages/CDWHome.aspx](https://vaww.cdw.va.gov/Pages/CDWHome.aspx) (VA Intranet)
VIReC resources for CDW data

http://vaww.virec.research.va.gov/CDW/Documentation.htm
(VA Intranet)
New to CDW?

Getting Started with Using CDW

These products are designed to help new CDW users with understanding the nature of relational data, becoming familiar with CDW structure and logic, finding documentation of CDW content, and knowing what to expect when first viewing CDW data in SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) software.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resources</th>
<th>Released</th>
<th>Resource</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDW: A Conceptual Overview 2017</td>
<td>2017/03/29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDW: Locating Its Documentation 2017</td>
<td>2017/04/05</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting the Information You Need From CDW: SQL Starter Language</td>
<td>2015/01/26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Your Dataset in CDW: Joining Tables within a Domain</td>
<td>2015/07/27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting CDW Back Together: Joining CDW Tables (Continued)</td>
<td>2016/10/24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Management in SQL: Selected Intermediate SQL Skills</td>
<td>2016/10/31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

http://vaww.virec.research.va.gov/CDW/Documentation.htm
Email virec@va.gov to be notified of new CDW products and seminars.
Part 3. Clinical Context

According the Outpatient Domain Release Document [28], the primary fact table OutpatientVisit contains records from three Vista files: Visit (#9000010) file, Outpatient Encounter (#409.68) file and the Patient (2) file. The Vista file Visit (#9000010) is a collection of care and non-care records related to patients and non-patients that

Part 4. Table and Column Descriptions

Part 4 describes each table in the Outpatient 2.1 Domain and selected columns within each table. It is organized by table. The name of the table is presented in large font with a description of its general content immediately following. After each table description, selected columns within that table are described. Table 1 summarizes the various parts of the column descriptions.

Table 1. Content of Column Descriptions

Part 5. Primary and Foreign Key Connections Query

Once you have been granted access to CDW data, this query can be used to generate an up-to-date list of primary and foreign keys associated with this domain.

```
SELECT TOP 1000 [FKschemName]
```

Part 6. Example SQL Code for Basic Research Questions

This section contains a series of simple research questions that are answered by applying basic SQL queries to the data in this domain. The three research questions include:

- How does Outpatient.Visit compare to Outpatient.Workload, in terms of number of records?
- What appointment status is associated with visits at my station last month?
- What are the 10 most common primary diagnoses for outpatient encounters at my station last month?

Question 1. How does Outpatient.Visit compare to Outpatient.Workload, in terms of number of records?

```
SELECT COUNT (VisitsID) TotalNumVisitsInJan
FROM CDW.Outpatient.Visit
WHERE VisitDate BETWEEN '1/1/2015' AND '1/31/2015';
```

TotalNumVisitsInJan
17,652,832

```
SELECT COUNT (VisitID) as TotalWorkloadVisits
FROM CDW.Outpatient.Workload
```

Step 2 | Understand the Logic of the CDW Inpatient (Inpat) Tables

It is first necessary to understand how and when the information about bed section is entered into the various tables found in the inpatient domain. This understanding of the data has been inductively reasoned via the presence of a LosingSpecialtySID in Inpat.Inpatient and Inpat.SpecialtyTransfer.

- Inpatient data is not populated in the Inpat.Inpatient and Inpat.SpecialtyTransfer until the patient is discharged from the hospital (inpatient stay ends). Upon discharge from the last bed section (and thus the hospital) the data will be populated in these CDW tables.

Step 3 | Identify the Tables/Views and Columns Needed

- S-Patient.SPatient is used to identify individual patients and eliminate known and probable test patients; the columns used in this process include PatientSSN, PatientSID and CDW.PossibleTestPatientFlag.
- Dim.Specialty is needed to identify the specialty's code and description; the following columns Specialty and PTFCode will be used.

Step 5 | Write SQL Queries

Step 5 provides basic code to identify bed section records of interest.

5.1 Select bed section stays from Inpat.Inpatient (last or only bed section of discharged patients only)

The following SQL query selects bed section stays of interest (in this example bed section code 72, 73, and 74) from the Inpat.Inpatient table. This is done by selecting the appropriate columns from the Inpat.Inpatient.

```sql
-- Inpat.SpecialtyTransfer Records
SELECT st.InpatientSID, st.PatientSID, st.AdmitDateTime, -- same as below if bed section stay is also the last bed section stay.
   SpecialtyTransferDateTimeIn, SpecialtyTransferDateTimeOut, -- same as below if bed section stay is also the last bed section stay.
   dateadd(day, 1, SpecialtyTransferDateTimeIn) -- date the stay started.
FROM Inpat.SpecialtyTransfer st
INNER JOIN Dim.Specialty sp
ON (st.SpecialtySID = sp.SpecialtySID) -- The name of FK and FK differ !!!
WHERE (sp.PTFCode IN ('72', '73', '74') OR st.SpecialtySID IS NULL)
   OR st.SpecialtySID IS NOT NULL
   AND st.SpecialtySID != '1' -- ignore rows w/ Specialty changes but no Specialty changes */
```
Highlight: VA MedSAS Data
Data steward: National Data Systems (NDS)
MedSAS… things to know

- Data have been summarized and had business rules applied
  - Inpatient discharges at the stay level (episode of care)
  - Outpatient information at the visit and encounter level

- Include diagnostic, treatment, and some demographic information from the electronic health record
  - Demographic information current at time of encounter or stay

- Includes data about care in non-VA facilities paid for by VA
MedSAS inpatient overview

Patient Treatment File (PTF)
Austin Information Technology Center (AITC)
National Data Systems (NDS)
MedSAS inpatient data elements

Examples

• Patient demographics
• ICD-9/10 diagnosis codes
• ICD-9/10 procedure & surgery codes
• Discharge dates
• Treating specialty
MedSAS outpatient overview

- Visit (SF) Dataset: The Visit Dataset reports services provided to a patient in a 24-hour period (see 2.4.1).
- Event (SE) Dataset: The Event Dataset provides information about individual outpatient encounters (see 2.4.2).
- Inpatient Encounters (IE) Dataset: The Inpatient Encounters Dataset provides information about professional services received by patients during an inpatient stay (see 2.4.3).

National Patient Care Database (NPCD)
National Data Systems (NDS)
MedSAS outpatient data elements

Examples

- Patient demographics
- ICD-9/10 diagnosis codes
- CPT-4 procedure codes
- Event dates
- Provider specialty
Coming soon! MedSAS Replacement data views

• NPCD Database to be discontinued

• MedSAS **outpatient** files (SF/SE/IE) will become available as SQL views in CDW
  • Current variables recreated
  • Will look the same to the end user, just in SQL

• Currently being tested to make sure workload logic applied correctly

• Availability and access information to come
VIReC resources for MedSAS data


(VA Intranet)
2.1 Background

VA health care facility staff members across the United States and Puerto Rico enter patient care information into Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA), the main information collection and data management system in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). A select set of data collected during patient health care occasions are entered in local health care facilities VistA systems and then electronically transferred from each local VistA system upon discharge of a patient or upon collection of quarterly census data only to a centralized Patient Treatment Module (PTM) environment at the Veterans Information Technology, Data Sharing and Access (VISTA) computer facilities.

3.1 List of Variables & their Dataset Locations

This section lists variables and their dataset locations for the fiscal year (FY) 2014 VHA Medical SAS Inpatient Acute Care Main, Bed Section, Procedure and Surgery Datasets. An X in the frequency column indicates VIREC provides additional summary information for this variable in VIREC Select Variable Frequencies: Medical SAS Datasets, FY2006–2014 [16].

Table 5 provides a short definition of each variable and reports their presence in the FY2014 Inpatient Acute Care Datasets.

Table 5. FY2014 VHA Medical SAS Inpatient Variables and their Dataset Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAS Name</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Main</th>
<th>Bed Section</th>
<th>Procedure</th>
<th>Surgery</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABO</td>
<td>Number of days a patient was out of the hospital on pass during an inpatient stay</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADMITTAD</td>
<td>Date of admission of the inpatient stay</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AG15Y</td>
<td>Number of days a patient was out of the hospital on pass during an inpatient stay</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGE</td>
<td>Number of days a patient was out of the hospital on pass during an inpatient stay</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANESTED</td>
<td>Number of days a patient was out of the hospital on pass during an inpatient stay</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AOR</td>
<td>Number of days a patient was out of the hospital on pass during an inpatient stay</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIH (No)</td>
<td>Number of days a patient was out of the hospital on pass during an inpatient stay</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AXIS4B</td>
<td>Number of days a patient was out of the hospital on pass during an inpatient stay</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AXIS5B</td>
<td>Number of days a patient was out of the hospital on pass during an inpatient stay</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Variable Name: ABO

Definition: Number of days a patient was out of the hospital on pass during an inpatient stay

Remarks: This variable is used in the calculation of the LS (number of bed days for the entire episode of care) variable. Chapter 10, "Absences," of the VHA Manual of Policies (4d-1), Operations: Part 1, Medical Administration Activities [17] provides guidelines for granting of authorized absences. Section 10.64 of this manual indicates that an authorized absence for hospital patients may not exceed 96 hours. The 96-hour limit applies to the variables PASS and PASSB. This section suggests that ABO is reserved for absences greater than 96 hours.
More about MedSAS

Join us May 7, 2018

VA Healthcare Utilization
Dr. Denise Hynes

 Archived FY17 sessions:
Highlight: VA Vital Status Status File (VSF)
Data steward: National Data Systems (NDS)
VA Vital Status File… things to know

- Includes death and birth dates from multiple sources of mortality information
  - VA Workload Data (PTF and Fee Basis)
  - Beneficiary Identification and Resource Locator System (BIRLS) Death File (from VBA)
  - Medicare Vital Status File
  - Monthly Social Security Administration Death Master File

- Two files - Master and Mini
VA Vital Status File data elements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VSF Master File</th>
<th>VSF Mini File</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Death dates from:</td>
<td>• Applies algorithm to determine “best”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• VA &amp; CMS enrollment &amp; utilization</td>
<td>• Death date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• VBA &amp; Social Security benefits</td>
<td>• Birth date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Last healthcare utilization dates from multiple sources</td>
<td>• Gender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Last utilization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Presumed living indicator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More about mortality data

Join us Jan 8, 2018

Mortality Ascertainment & Cause of Death
Dr. Charles Maynard

Archived FY17 session:
Highlight: MCA National Clinical Data
Data steward: VHA Managerial Cost Accounting Office
MCA national clinical data… things to know

- MCA creates 26 National Data Extracts (NDEs), classified as Core, Clinical, Financial, Program Activity
  - See VHA Data Portal for full list

- Four clinical NDEs most relevant to health services research
  - Lab tests & costs (LAB)
  - Lab test results (LAR)
  - Pharmacy prescriptions (PHA)
  - Radiology procedures (RAD)
VA MCA clinical NDE data elements

Examples

- Date
- Test results
- Ordering provider
- Costs
Resources for MCA NDEs

VIReC MCA NDEs Documentation
(VA Intranet)

MCAO National Data Extracts & Reporting Information
http://vaww.dss.med.va.gov/nationalrptg/nr_extracts.asp
(VA Intranet)

Health Economics Resource Center (HERC)
http://vaww.herc.research.va.gov/include/page.asp?id=managerial-cost-accounting
(VA Intranet)
Highlight: VA pharmacy data

Data stewards: PBM, MCAO, NDS
Sources of data on medications dispensed in VA

Pharmacy Benefits Management
  • Data Steward: PBM

MCA Pharmacy NDE
  • Data Steward: MCAO

Four CDW Production Domains
  • Data Steward: NDS
  • Pharmacy Bar Code Medication Administration (BCMA) Domain (inpatient pharmacy)
  • Pharmacy Outpatient Domain
  • Pharmacy Patient Domain
  • Non-VA Meds
VA pharmacy data elements

Examples

• Generic drug name
• VA drug class
• Days supply
• Cost
• Dosing instructions (PBM only)
Resources for pharmacy data

http://vaww.virec.research.va.gov/Pharmacy/Overview.htm

(VA Intranet)
More about pharmacy data

Join us April 2, 2018

VA Pharmacy Data
Dr. Charles Maynard
Dr. Bonnie Paris

Archived FY17 session:
Highlight: VA/CMS Data for Research

Data steward: VIReC

- VA Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)
- VA Medical SAS (MedSAS)
- VA Vital Status File
- VA MCA National Clinical Data
- VA Pharmacy Data
- VA/CMS Data for Research
VA/CMS - types of data

- Medicare & Medicaid enrollment and claims data
- Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey (MCBS) data
- Patient assessment data
- Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) - utilization in Medicare managed care
- United States Renal Data System (USRDS) data
VA/CMS data elements

• Examples
  • Medicare and Medicaid enrollment
  • ICD-9 diagnosis codes
  • ICD-9 and CPT4 procedure codes
  • Charges and payments
  • Veteran flag
### Resources for VA/CMS Data

http://vaww.virec.research.va.gov/Index-VACMS.htm

(VA Intranet)
More about VA/CMS data for research

Join us December 4, 2017

VA Medicare Data
Ms. Kristin de Groot

Archived FY17 session:
Session roadmap

• Introduction
• Highlights of commonly used VA data sources
• Platforms & tools for using data
• Where to go for more help
VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure

- Secure data environment
- High-speed processing platform
- Free data management and analytic tools
- VINCI services

VINCI Central Website
http://vaww.vinci.med.va.gov/vincicentral/ (VA Intranet)
AITC (Austin Information Technology Center)

- Centralized computer processing center (mainframe)
- Available data
  - MedSAS datasets
  - VA Vital Status file
- Learn More…
  - VHA Data Portal AITC Mainframe page
    http://vaww.vhadataportal.med.va.gov/DataSources/AITCMainframe.aspx (VHA Intranet)
  - AITC Mainframe Website
    https://vaww.sde.portal.va.gov/sites/eo/Pages/Default.aspx (VHA Intranet)
CAPRI & JLV

*Read-only access to patient electronic health records (EHRs)*

**CAPRI*•**
- Uses desktop computer software application
- Can see patient record one site at a time
- Includes search function
- Direct access to JLV

**Joint Legacy Viewer**
- Replacing VistAWeb
- VA Intranet web portal
- Can see VA and DoD patient records for all care sites at once
- VistA Imaging available

*Compensation and Pension Record Interchange*
More about EHR viewer tools

Date TBD, join us in summer of 2018!

Archived FY17 session:
Session roadmap

• Introduction
• Highlights of commonly used VA data sources
• Platforms & tools for using data
• Where to go for more help
Public-facing VIReC overview
Publications & events
Cyberseminars

VA network only
News & new resources
Resources for working with data

VA network only
Collaborative with NDS & VINCI
Data source & access information

www.virec.research.va.gov

http://vaww.vhadataportal.med.va.gov
VIReC options for specific questions

**HSRData Listserv**

- Community knowledge sharing
- ~1,200 VA data users
- Researchers, operations, data stewards, managers

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**HelpDesk**

- Individualized support
  
  virec@va.gov
  (708) 202-2413
Quick links for VA data resources

Quick Guide: Resources for Using VA Data

VIReC: http://vaww.virec.research.va.gov/Index.htm (VA Intranet)

VIReC Cyberseminars: http://www.virec.research.va.gov/Resources/Cyberseminars.asp


VINCI: http://vaww.vinci.med.va.gov/vincicentral/ (VA Intranet)

Health Economics Resource Center (HERC): http://vaww.herc.research.va.gov (VA Intranet)

CDW: https://vaww.cdw.va.gov/Pages/CDWHome.aspx (VA Intranet)

 Archived cyberseminar: What can the HSR&D Resource Centers do for you?

10/2017
Take-aways

• VA has many data sources that can be used to address research & QI questions
• Data are complex and distributed
• Use resources VIReC and others offer to
  • help you navigate data sources
  • connect you with peers, experts & additional info
Contact information

Maria Souden, MSI, PhD
Associate Director
VA Information Resource Center
Hines VA Hospital
maria.souden@va.gov
virec@va.gov
708-202-2413
Next session:
November 6, 2017

Database & Methods Cyberseminar Series

Requesting Access to VA Data

Linda Kok, MA
VA Information Resource Center