



# **USING THE PRIMARY CARE EQUITY DASHBOARD TO SUPPORT A NOVEL PATIENT OUTREACH PROGRAM TO IMPROVE HYPERTENSION & RACIAL DISPARITIES IN PRIMARY CARE**

VA HSR&D Focus on Health Equity and Action CyberSeminar  
Leslie Hausmann, PhD & Rhonda Hamilton, MD  
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**SUPPORTED BY**

VA Office of Health Equity and VA HSR&D RVR 19-492  
(Principal Investigator: Leslie Hausmann, PhD)

**VA**



**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

Veterans Health Administration  
*Office of Health Equity*

**CHERP**  
CENTER FOR HEALTH EQUITY  
RESEARCH AND PROMOTION  
VA HSR&D CENTER OF INNOVATION



# Primary Care Equity Dashboard



## PURPOSE

The Primary Care Equity Dashboard was developed to engage the VA healthcare workforce in the process of identifying and addressing inequities in their local patient populations

# Development Process

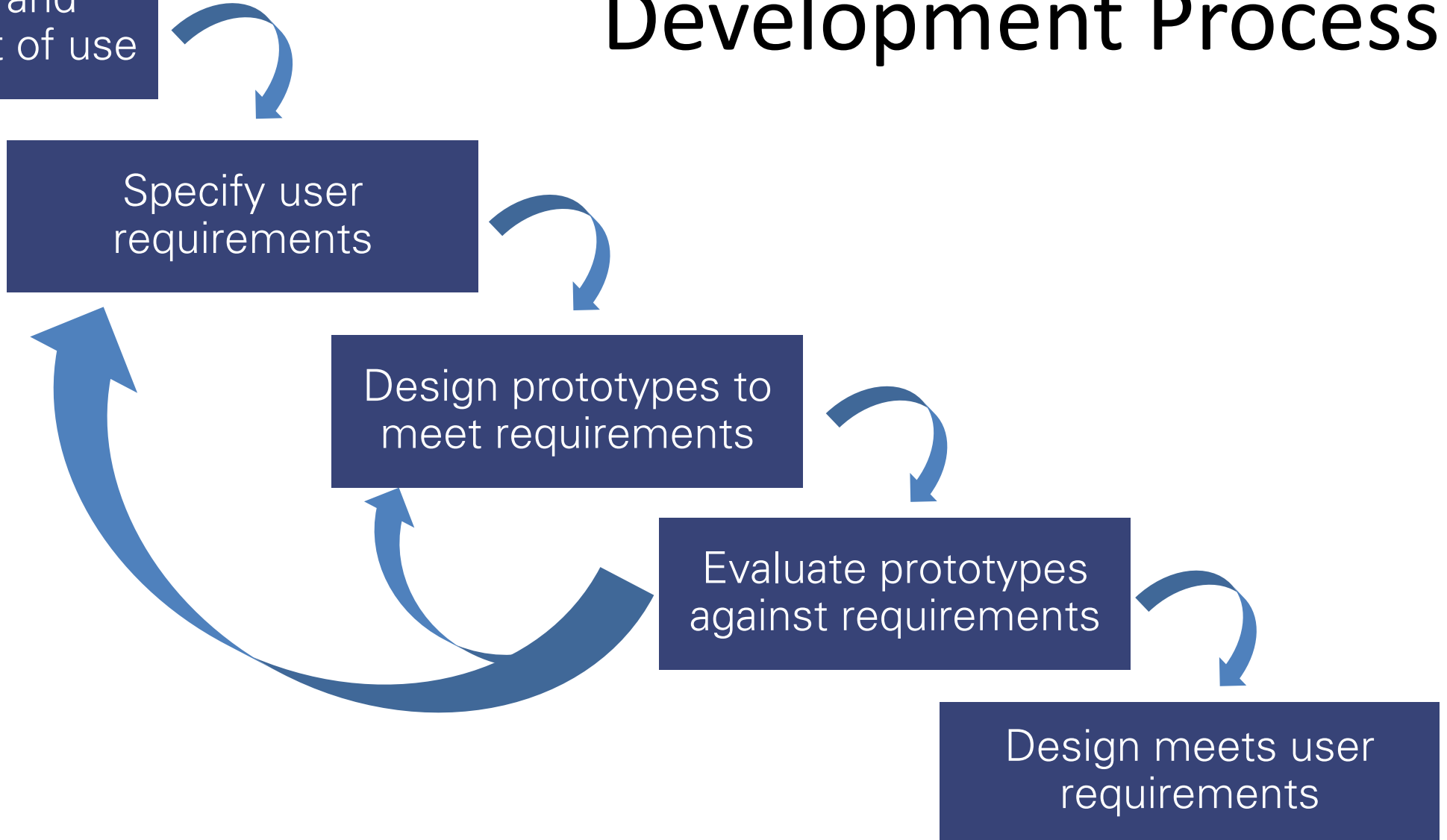
Understand and  
specify context of use

Specify user  
requirements

Design prototypes to  
meet requirements

Evaluate prototypes  
against requirements

Design meets user  
requirements





# ACCESS THE PCED VIA THE OFFICE OF HEALTH EQUITY SHAREPOINT PAGE:

<https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VACOVHA0HE/SitePages/Test.aspx>

The screenshot displays a SharePoint page for the Office of Health Equity. The top navigation bar includes the SharePoint logo, a search bar, and the page title "Office of Health Equity". The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with links to Home, OHE Leadership, Health Equity Action Plan, Awareness, Operational Partners, Workforce Trainings, Equity Tools, and Edit. The main content area features a large blue header with the text "Primary Care Equity Dashboard" and a circular icon depicting two people. Below the header, a welcome message reads "Welcome to the Primary Care Equity Dashboard site". A blue button with a bar chart icon and the text "Click here to access the Primary Care Equity Dashboard" is highlighted with an orange circle. To the right of the button, a text block states: "This site provides direct access to the dashboard as well as resources to guide you and your team." Below the button, a "Menu" section lists links to Home, Equity QI Resources, Helpful Links, and Feedback Form. At the bottom right, there is a video player with the title "Engaging Healthcare Teams to Eliminate Health Inequities" and a "Share" button.

SharePoint

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Office of Health Equity

Home

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Primary Care Equity Dashboard

Welcome to the Primary Care Equity Dashboard site

Click here to access the Primary Care Equity Dashboard

This site provides direct access to the dashboard as well as resources to guide you and your team.

Menu

Home

Equity QI Resources


Helpful Links

Feedback Form

Engaging Healthcare Teams to Eliminate Health Inequities

Share

# WELCOME PAGE / BEFORE YOU BEGIN



## Primary Care Equity Dashboard

Before you Begin

VISN Opportunity Matrix

Equity Data Visualizations ▾

Education and Interventions ▾

Glossary

FAQs

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## Welcome to the Primary Care Equity Dashboard!

Thank you for joining in the effort to eliminate health inequities and provide the best care possible to all Veterans. This tool is designed to give primary care clinicians and staff the data they need to identify and address health inequities among their patients.

**Before you begin**, check out the videos on the right and review an [introductory tutorial](#) containing tips on navigating the dashboard. Continuing education credit for completing the tutorial is available.

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Use the navigation menu on the left to view the different reports presented in the dashboard.

The **VISN Opportunity Matrix** section contains VISN-level score cards allowing users to easily identify measures, facilities, and demographic subcategories on which to focus equity-driven interventions.


The **Equity Data Visualizations** section contains reports to help you identify disparities in health outcomes across different patient populations, health measures, and VA facilities.

The **Education and Interventions** section contains resources to help guide possible interventions for the disparities you have identified in the data.

### Video: How to Apply Equity Quality Improvement in the VA

Engaging Healthcare Teams to Eliminate Health Inequities

Watch later Share




Watch on YouTube

### Video: Antiracism Resources and the Impact of Racism within VA

Antiracism Resources and the Impact of Racism within VA

Watch later Share



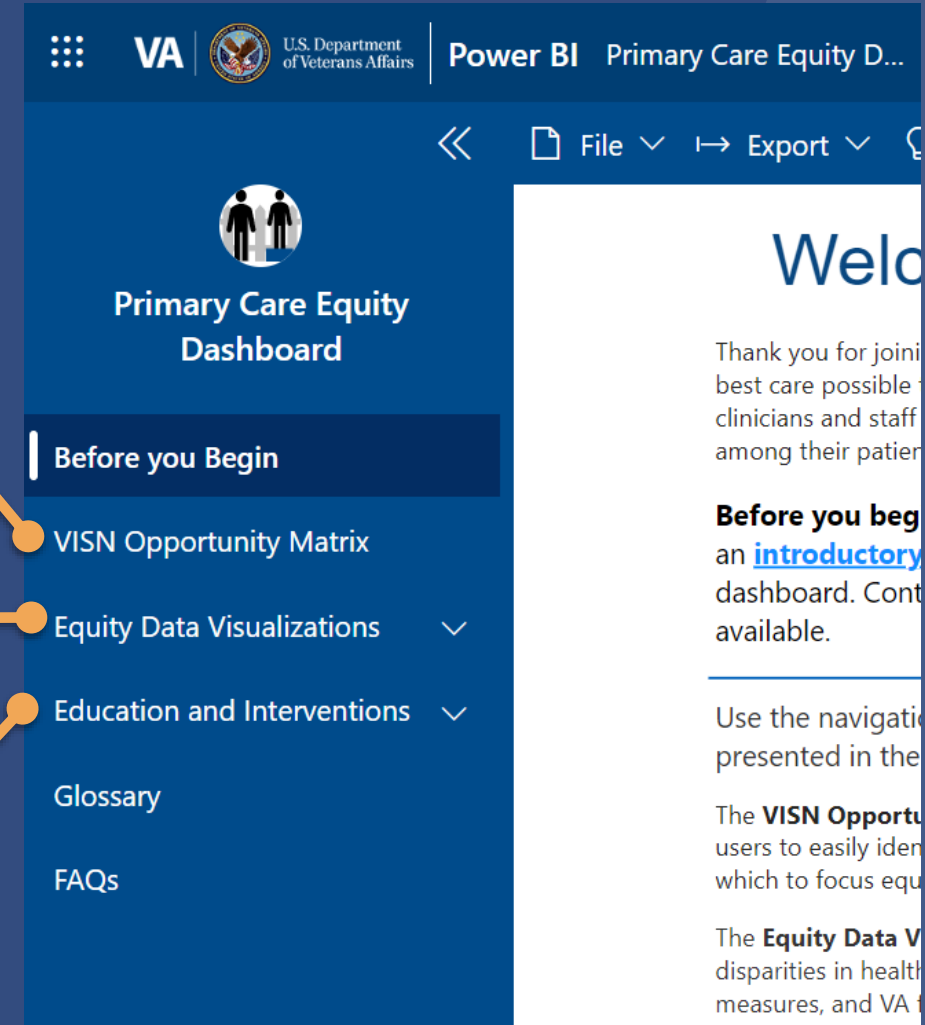
Watch on YouTube

# NAVIGATION MENU


VISN-level score cards allowing users to easily identify measures, facilities, and demographic subcategories on which to focus equity-driven interventions

Facility-level reports allowing users to identify and track disparities in quality across subpopulations

Resources to help guide action planning and interventions to act on disparities identified in the data



# VISN OPPORTUNITY MATRIX – NEW THIS YEAR



Primary Care Equity Dashboard

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Cell Details

VISN Name

V04

Timeframe

2022

Show Results based on

Minimum Avg. Patients per Month

10

Reset to default

Select a cell in the matrix to populate

VISN Performance and Disparity Matrix

1 Better than National & Comparator

2 Better than National, Worse than Comparator

3 Worse than National, Better than Comparator

4 Worse than National & Comparator

– ≤ min. Avg. Patients per Month

Measure and Facility	Worse than National Overall	Black	Hispanic/Latino	Asian	AI/AN/Indigenous	NH/PI	Female	Lives in rural area	Lives in high poverty area
HbA1c less than 8 in patients with diabetes (dmg13h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
Poor control of HbA1c in patients with diabetes (dmg23h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
Blood pressure less than 140/90 in patients with diabetes (dmg27h_ec*)		4	4	2	4	4	4	1	1
Controlling high blood pressure in patients with hypertension (ihd53h_ec*)		4	4	4	2	4	4	1	1
Statin therapy for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn1_ec*)	✓	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	3
Statin adherence for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn4_ec)		4	4	2	1	2	4	1	2
Statin therapy for patients with diabetes (statn7_ec*)	✓	3	1	4	4	1	4	4	4
Statin adherence for patients with diabetes (statn8_ec)		4	4	2	2	2	4	1	2
Non-recommended PSA screening in men 70 years and older (psa1_ec)		1	2	1	4	1	–	4	2

NOTES: (1) Comparator groups: Race/Ethnicity subgroups - White; Female - Male; Rural - Urban; High Poverty Area - Low Poverty Area. (2) eQM measures that affect SAIL are highlighted with an asterisk. (3) eQM does not have data available for most measures in facilities that have transitioned to Cerner EHR (ihd53h\_ec is the only measure with complete data at this time). As such, these facilities will not appear in the matrix and will not be included in the overall VISN scores for measures which data are unavailable.

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# FILTER BY VISN AND QUARTER/YEAR

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Primary Care Equity

VISN Name

Timeframe

Show Results based on  
Minimum Avg Patients per Month

V04

2022

10

Reset to default

Cell Details

Select a cell in the matrix to populate

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## VISN Performance and Disparity Matrix




1 Better than National & Comparator 2 Better than National, Worse than Comparator 3 Worse than National, Better than Comparator 4 Worse than National & Comparator - ≤ min. Avg Patients per Month

Measure and Facility	Worse than National Overall	Black	Hispanic/Latino	Asian	AI/AN/Indigenous	NH/PI	Female	Lives in rural area	Lives in high poverty area
HbA1c less than 8 in patients with diabetes (dmg13h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
Poor control of HbA1c in patients with diabetes (dmg23h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
Blood pressure less than 140/90 in patients with diabetes (dmg27h_ec*)		4	4	2	4	4	4	1	1
Controlling high blood pressure in patients with hypertension (ihd53h_ec*)		4	4	4	2	4	4	1	1
Statin therapy for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn1_ec*)	✓	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	3
Statin adherence for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn4_ec)		4	4	2	1	2	4	1	2
Statin therapy for patients with diabetes (statn7_ec*)	✓	3	1	4	4	1	4	4	4
Statin adherence for patients with diabetes (statn8_ec)		4	4	2	2	2	4	1	2
Non-recommended PSA screening in men 70 years and older (psa1_ec)		1	2	1	4	1	-	4	2

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NOTE: Comparator groups used in disparity calculations are as follow: Race/Ethnicity subgroups - White; Female - Male; Rural - Urban, High Poverty Area - Low Poverty Area

# SET THE DESIRED MINIMUM GROUP SIZE



## Primary Care Equity Dashboard

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VISN Name

V04

Time

2022

Show Results based on

Minimum Avg. Patients per Month

30

Reset to default

○ 10

○ 20

☒ 30

○ 40

○ 50

○ 100

○ 150

○ 200

○ 250

Cell Details

Select a cell in the matrix to populate

VISN Performance and Disparity Matrix

1 Better than National & Comparator

2 Better than National, Worse than Comparator

3 Worse than National, Better than Comparator

4 Worse than National & Comparator

≤ min. Avg. Patients per Month

Measure and Facility	Worse than National Overall	Black	Hispanic/Latino	Asian	AI/AN/Indigenous	NH/PI	Female	Lives in rural area	Lives in high poverty area
HbA1c less than 8 in patients with diabetes (dmg13h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
Poor control of HbA1c in patients with diabetes (dmg23h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
Blood pressure less than 140/90 in patients with diabetes (dmg27h_ec*)		4	4	2	4	4	4	1	1
Controlling high blood pressure in patients with hypertension (ihd53h_ec*)		4	4	4	2	4	4	1	1
Statin therapy for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn1_ec*)	✓	1	1	–	–	–	4	4	3
Statin adherence for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn4_ec)		4	4	–	–	–	4	1	2
Statin therapy for patients with diabetes (statn7_ec*)	✓	3	1	4	4	1	4	4	4
Statin adherence for patients with diabetes (statn8_ec)		4	4	2	2	2	4	1	2
Non-recommended PSA screening in men 70 years and older (psa1_ec)		1	2	1	4	1	–	4	2

NOTES: (1) Comparator groups: Race/Ethnicity subgroups - White; Female - Male; Rural - Urban; High Poverty Area - Low Poverty Area. (2) eQM measures that affect SAIL are highlighted with an asterisk. (3) eQM does not have data available for most measures in facilities that have transitioned to Cerner EHR (ihd53h\_ec is the only measure with complete data at this time). As such, these facilities will not appear in the matrix and will not be included in the overall VISN scores for measures which data are unavailable.

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# VIEW MATRIX FOR VISN AND FACILITIES

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30

Reset to default

Cell Details

Select a cell in the matrix to populate

## VISN Performance and Disparity Matrix




1 Better than National & Comparator 2 Better than National, Worse than Comparator 3 Worse than National, Better than Comparator 4 Worse than National & Comparator - ≤ min. Avg. Patients per Month

Measure and Facility	Worse than National Overall	Black	Hispanic/Latino	Asian	AI/AN/Indigenous	NH/PI	Female	Lives in rural area	Lives in high poverty area
<input type="checkbox"/> HbA1c less than 8 in patients with diabetes (dmg13h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
(460) Wilmington, DE HCS	✓	4	4	-	-	-	4	3	3
(503) Altoona, PA HCS		2	-	-	-	-	2	1	2
(529) Butler, PA HCS		2	-	-	-	-	2	2	2
(542) Coatesville, PA HCS	✓	1	3	-	-	-	1	4	1
(562) Erie, PA HCS		2	-	-	-	-	2	1	2
(595) Lebanon, PA HCS	✓	4	4	-	-	-	3	4	4
(642) Philadelphia, PA HCS	✓	3	4	3	-	-	3	4	4
(646) Pittsburgh, PA HCS		2	2	-	-	-	1	1	2
(693) Wilkes-Barre, PA HCS	✓	4	4	-	-	-	1	4	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Poor control of HbA1c in patients with diabetes (dmg23h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Blood pressure less than 140/90 in patients with diabetes (dmg27h_ec*)		4	4	2	4	4	4	1	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Controlling high blood pressure in patients with hypertension (ihd53h_ec*)		4	4	4	2	4	4	1	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Statin therapy for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn1_ec*)	✓	1	1	-	-	-	4	4	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Statin adherence for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn4_ec)		4	4	-	-	-	4	1	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Statin therapy for patients with diabetes (statn7_ec*)	✓	3	1	4	4	1	4	4	4
<input type="checkbox"/> Statin adherence for patients with diabetes (statn8_ec)		4	4	2	2	2	4	1	2

NOTES: (1) Comparator groups: Race/Ethnicity subgroups - White; Female - Male; Rural - Urban; High Poverty Area - Low Poverty Area. (2) eQM measures that affect SAIL are highlighted with an asterisk; (3) eQM does not have data available for most measures in facilities that have transitioned to Cerner EHR (ihd53h\_ec is the only measure with complete data at this time). As such, these facilities will not appear in the matrix and will not be included in the overall VISN scores for measures which data are unavailable.

# CHECK MARK INDICATES LOWER PERFORMANCE



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Cell Details

VISN Name: V04Timeframe: 2022Show Results based on: Minimum Avg. Patients per Month: 30

Select a cell in the matrix to populate

VISN Performance and Disparity Matrix

1 Better than National & Comparator2 Better than National, Worse than Comparator3 Worse than National, Better than Comparator4 Worse than National & Comparator- ≤ min. Avg. Patients per Month

Measure and Facility	Worse than National Overall	Black	Hispanic/Latino	Asian	AI/AN/Indigenous	NH/PI	Female	Lives in rural area	Lives in high poverty area
<input type="checkbox"/> HbA1c less than 8 in patients with diabetes (dmg13h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
(460) Wilmington, DE HCS	✓	4	4	-	-	-	4	3	3
(503) Altoona, PA HCS		2	-	-	-	-	2	1	2
(529) Butler, PA HCS		2	-	-	-	-	2	2	2
(542) Coatesville, PA HCS	✓	1	3	-	-	-	1	4	1
(562) Erie, PA HCS		2	-	-	-	-	2	1	2
(595) Lebanon, PA HCS	✓	4	4	-	-	-	3	4	4
(642) Philadelphia, PA HCS	✓	3	4	3	-	-	3	4	4
(646) Pittsburgh, PA HCS		2	2	-	-	-	1	1	2
(693) Wilkes-Barre, PA HCS	✓	4	4	-	-	-	1	4	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Poor control of HbA1c in patients with diabetes (dmg23h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Blood pressure less than 140/90 in patients with diabetes (dmg27h_ec*)		4	4	2	4	4	4	1	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Controlling high blood pressure in patients with hypertension (ihd53h_ec*)		4	4	4	2	4	4	1	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Statin therapy for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn1_ec*)	✓	1	1	-	-	-	4	4	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Statin adherence for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn4_ec)		4	4	-	-	-	4	1	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Statin therapy for patients with diabetes (statn7_ec*)	✓	3	1	4	4	1	4	4	4
<input type="checkbox"/> Statin adherence for patients with diabetes (statn8_ec)		4	4	2	2	2	4	1	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Max recommended PSA screening in men 70 years and older (psa1_ec)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

NOTES: (1) Comparator groups: Race/Ethnicity subgroups - White; Female - Male; Rural - Urban; High Poverty Area - Low Poverty Area. (2) eQM measures that affect SAIL are highlighted with an asterisk. (3) eQM does not have data available for most measures in facilities that have transitioned to Cerner EHR (ihd53h\_ec is the only measure with complete data at this time). As such, these facilities will not appear in the matrix and will not be included in the overall VISN scores for measures which data are unavailable.



# COLUMNS INDICATE QUALITY & EQUITY

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## Primary Care Equity Dashboard

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### VISN Opportunity Matrix

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VISN Name

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Timeframe

2022

Show Results based on  
Minimum Avg. Patients per Month

30

Reset to default

Cell Details

Select a cell in the matrix to populate

### VISN Performance and Disparity Matrix

1 Better than National & Comparator 2 Better than National, Worse than Comparator 3 Worse than National, Better than Comparator 4 Worse than National & Comparator Avg. Patients per Month

Measure and Facility	White National Overall	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Asian	AI/AN/ Indigenous	NH/PI	Female	Lives in rural area	Lives in high poverty area
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HbA1c less than 8 in patients with diabetes (dmg13h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
(460) Wilmington, DE HCS	✓	4	4	-	-	-	4	3	3
(503) Altoona, PA HCS		2	-	-	-	-	2	1	2
(529) Butler, PA HCS		2	-	-	-	-	2	2	2
(542) Coatesville, PA HCS	✓	1	3	-	-	-	1	4	1
(562) Erie, PA HCS		2	-	-	-	-	2	1	2
(595) Lebanon, PA HCS	✓	4	4	-	-	-	3	4	4
(642) Philadelphia, PA HCS	✓	3	4	3	-	-	3	4	4
(646) Pittsburgh, PA HCS		2	2	-	-	-	1	1	2
(693) Wilkes-Barre, PA HCS	✓	4	4	-	-	-	1	4	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Poor control of HbA1c in patients with diabetes (dmg23h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blood pressure less than 140/90 in patients with diabetes (dmg27h_ec*)		4	4	2	4	4	4	1	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Controlling high blood pressure in patients with hypertension (ihd53h_ec*)		4	4	4	2	4	4	1	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statin therapy for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn1_ec*)	✓	1	1	-	-	-	4	4	3
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statin adherence for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn4_ec)		4	4	-	-	-	4	1	2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statin therapy for patients with diabetes (statn7_ec*)	✓	3	1	4	4	1	4	4	4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statin adherence for patients with diabetes (statn8_ec)		4	4	2	2	2	4	1	2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Max recommended PFA screening in men 70 years and older (paa1_ec)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

NOTES: (1) Comparator groups: Race/Ethnicity subgroups - White; Female - Male; Rural - Urban; High Poverty Area - Low Poverty Area. (2) eQM measures that affect SAIL are highlighted with an asterisk. (3) eQM does not have data available for most measures in facilities that have transitioned to Cerner EHR (ihd53h\_ec is the only measure with complete data at this time). As such, these facilities will not appear in the matrix and will not be included in the overall VISN scores for measures which data are unavailable.

# COMPARATOR GROUPS & CATEGORIES

Minoritized or Underserved Demographic Group	Comparator Group
American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black, Hispanic, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	White
Female	Male
Rural	Urban
High Poverty Area	Low Poverty Area

1	Better than National & Comparator Group
2	Better than National, Worse than Comparator Group
3	Worse than National, Better than Comparator Group
4	Worse than National & Comparator Group
—	Average patients per month in subgroup is less than or equal to the minimum selected

# EXAMPLE

VISN Name

V04

Timeframe

2022

Show Results based on  
Minimum Avg. Patients per Month

30

Reset to default

Cell Details

Select a cell in the matrix to populate

## VISN Performance and Disparity Matrix



1

Better than National & Comparator

2

Better than National, Worse than Comparator

3

Worse than National, Better than Comparator

4


Worse than National & Comparator

-

≤ min. Avg. Patients per Month

Measure and Facility	Worse than National Overall	Black	Hispanic/Latino	Asian	AI/AN/Indigenous	NH/PI	Female	Lives in rural area	Lives in high poverty area
HbA1c less than 8 in patients with diabetes (dmg13h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
(460) Wilmington, DE HCS	✓	4	4	-	-	-	4	3	3
(503) Altoona, PA HCS		2	-	-	-	-	2	1	2
(529) Butler, PA HCS		2	-	-	-	-	2	2	2
(542) Coatesville, PA HCS	✓	1	3	-	-	-	1	4	1
(562) Erie, PA HCS		2	-	-	-	-	2	1	2
(595) Lebanon, PA HCS	✓	4	4	-	-	-	3	4	4
(642) Philadelphia, PA HCS	✓	3	4	3	-	-	3	4	4
(646) Pittsburgh, PA HCS		2	2	-	-	-	1	1	2
(693) Wilkes-Barre, PA HCS	✓	4	4	-	-	-	1	4	1

# CLICK FOR MORE DETAILS



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VISN Name

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Show Results based on

Minimum Avg. Patients per Month

30

Reset to default

Cell Details

Selected: All Black Veterans in VISN 4

Score

66.6%

Comparison Data

Avg. Patients per Month

7,591

National

71.3%

White Veterans

72.4%

VISN Performance and Disparity Matrix

1 Better than National & Comparator

2 Better than National, Worse than Comparator

3 Same as National, Better than Comparator

4 Worse than National & Comparator

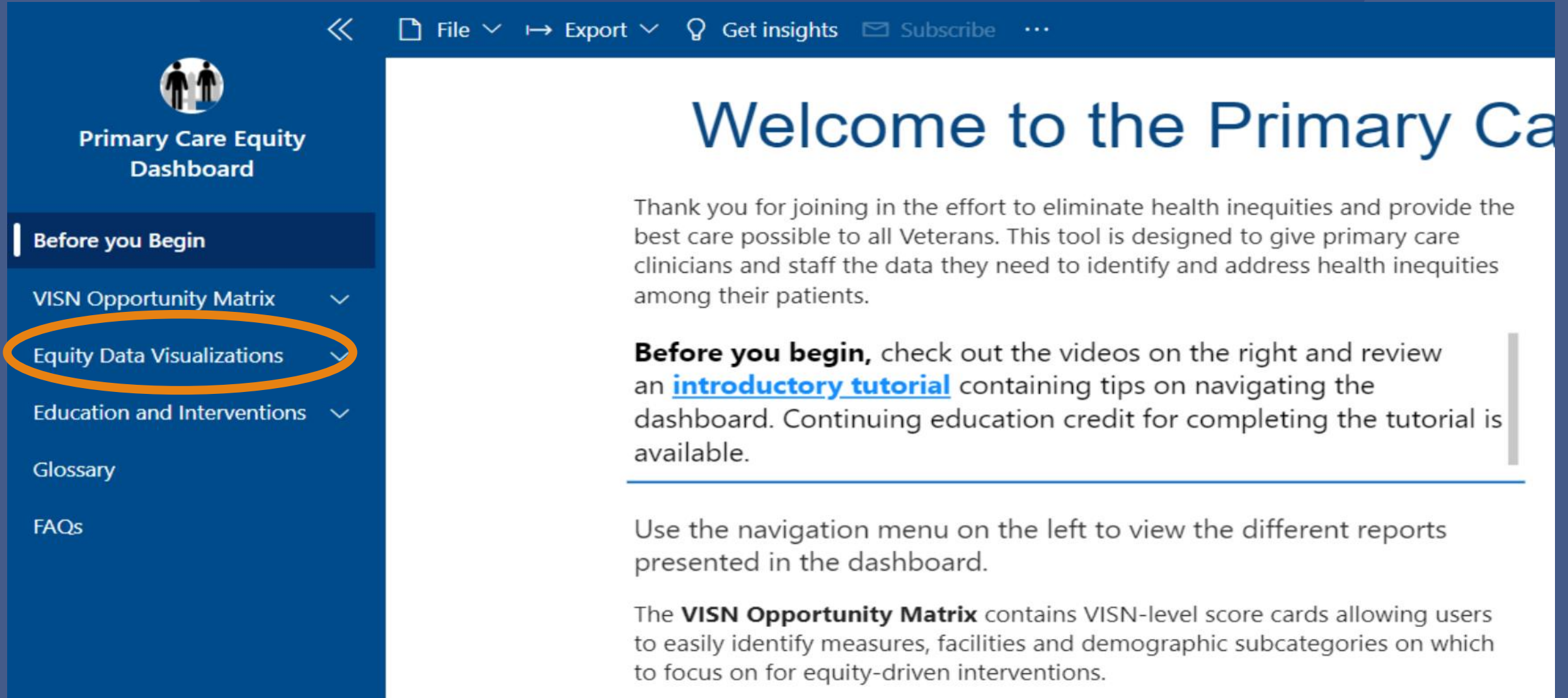
≤ min. Avg. Patients per Month

Measure and Facility	Worse than National Overall	Black	Hispanic/Latino	Asian	AI/AN/Indigenous	NH/PI	Female	Lives in rural area	Lives in high poverty area
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HbA1c less than 8 in patients with diabetes (dmg13h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
(460) Wilmington, DE HCS	✓	4	4	—	—	—	4	3	3
(503) Altoona, PA HCS		2	—	—	—	—	2	1	2
(529) Butler, PA HCS		2	—	—	—	—	2	2	2
(542) Coatesville, PA HCS	✓	1	3	—	—	—	1	4	1
(562) Erie, PA HCS		2	—	—	—	—	2	1	2
(595) Lebanon, PA HCS	✓	4	4	—	—	—	3	4	4
(642) Philadelphia, PA HCS	✓	3	4	3	—	—	3	4	4
(646) Pittsburgh, PA HCS		2	2	—	—	—	1	1	2
(693) Wilkes-Barre, PA HCS	✓	4	4	—	—	—	1	4	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Poor control of HbA1c in patients with diabetes (dmg23h_ec)	✓	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blood pressure less than 140/90 in patients with diabetes (dmg27h_ec*)		4	4	2	4	4	4	1	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Controlling high blood pressure in patients with hypertension (ihd53h_ec*)		4	4	4	2	4	4	1	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statin therapy for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn1_ec*)	✓	1	1	—	—	—	4	4	3
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statin adherence for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn4_ec)		4	4	—	—	—	4	1	2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statin therapy for patients with diabetes (statn7_ec*)	✓	3	1	4	4	1	4	4	4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statin adherence for patients with diabetes (statn8_ec)		4	4	2	2	2	4	1	2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Max recommended PSA screening in men 70 years and older (stat1_ec)		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

NOTES: (1) Comparator groups: Race/Ethnicity subgroups - White; Female - Male; Rural - Urban; High Poverty Area - Low Poverty Area. (2) eQM measures that affect SAIL are highlighted with an asterisk. (3) eQM does not have data available for most measures in facilities that have transitioned to Cerner EHR (ihd53h\_ec is the only measure with complete data at this time). As such, these facilities will not appear in the matrix and will not be included in the overall VISN scores for measures which data are unavailable.



# NAVIGATE THE DASHBOARD



The screenshot shows the 'Primary Care Equity Dashboard' interface. On the left is a dark blue sidebar with a logo of two stylized figures. The sidebar contains a 'Before you Begin' section and a list of navigation items: 'VISN Opportunity Matrix', 'Equity Data Visualizations' (highlighted with an orange circle), 'Education and Interventions', 'Glossary', and 'FAQs'. The top of the dashboard has a dark blue header with navigation links: '<<', 'File', 'Export', 'Get insights', 'Subscribe', and a menu icon. The main content area is white and features a large heading 'Welcome to the Primary Ca', followed by a paragraph of text, a section titled 'Before you begin' with a link to an 'introductory tutorial', and two additional paragraphs of text.

Primary Care Equity Dashboard

Before you Begin

- VISN Opportunity Matrix
- Equity Data Visualizations
- Education and Interventions
- Glossary
- FAQs

<< File Export Get insights Subscribe ...

## Welcome to the Primary Ca


Thank you for joining in the effort to eliminate health inequities and provide the best care possible to all Veterans. This tool is designed to give primary care clinicians and staff the data they need to identify and address health inequities among their patients.

**Before you begin**, check out the videos on the right and review an [introductory tutorial](#) containing tips on navigating the dashboard. Continuing education credit for completing the tutorial is available.

Use the navigation menu on the left to view the different reports presented in the dashboard.

The **VISN Opportunity Matrix** contains VISN-level score cards allowing users to easily identify measures, facilities and demographic subcategories on which to focus on for equity-driven interventions.

# PERFORMANCE SNAPSHOT



Primary Care Equity Dashboard

Before you Begin

VISN Opportunity Matrix

Equity Data Visualizations

**Performance Snapshot**

Equity Deep Dive

Patient Outliers

Performance Trends

Education and Interventions

Glossary

FAQs

<< File Export Get insights Subscribe ...


↺ ⌵ ⌵ ↻

Facility

(V04) (646) Pittsburgh, PA HCS

Timeframe

FY2022 Q2



Distance from National Score by Facility and Division


Facility and Division Data by Measure

	National	Preferred Direction	Score	Average Patients per Month	Absolute Difference from National
HbA1c less than 8 in patients with diabetes (dmg13h_ec)	71.1 %	Higher	75.3 %	6579	4.2 %
Poor control of HbA1c in patients with diabetes (dmg23h_ec)	22.2 %	Lower	18.4 %	6576	3.8 %
Blood pressure less than 140/90 in patients with diabetes (dmg27h_ec*)	66.3 %	Higher	69.5 %	6580	3.1 %
Controlling high blood pressure in patients with hypertension (ihd53h_ec*)	63.3 %	Higher	68.5 %	13931	5.2 %
Statin therapy for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn1_ec*)	86.4 %	Higher	82.7 %	1763	3.6 %
Statin adherence for patients with cardiovascular disease (statn4_ec)	83.3 %	Higher	84.4 %	1319	1.0 %
Statin therapy for patients with diabetes (statn7_ec*)	78.9 %	Higher	78.6 %	4819	0.3 %
Statin adherence for patients with diabetes (statn8_ec)	78.9 %	Higher	82.7 %	3474	3.8 %
Non-recommended PSA screening in men 70 years and older (psa1_ec)	26.3 %	Lower	8.3 %	19892	17.9 %

NOTE: eQM measures that affect SAIL are highlighted with an asterisk.

[Report a bug or enhancement](#)

# EQUITY DEEP DIVE



Primary Care Equity Dashboard

[Before you Begin](#)

[VISN Opportunity Matrix](#)

[Equity Data Visualizations](#)

[Performance Snapshot](#)

**[Equity Deep Dive](#)**

[Patient Outliers](#)

[Performance Trends](#)

[Education and Interventions](#)

[Glossary](#)

[FAQs](#)

[Go back](#)

<<

File

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🔖

⌵

🖨

↷

Facility

(V04) (646) Pittsburgh, PA HCS

Division

All (646) Pittsburgh, PA HCS

Refresh Data

Timeframe

FY2022 Q2

Measure


statn1\_ec: Statin (Population)

Measure Details

Description: Statin therapy for patients with cardiovascular disease

National Score: 86.4%

Preferred Direction: Higher



Distance from National Score and Population Size by Patient Demographics

RACE/ETHNICITY

	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Black	131	87.0 %	0.7 %
Hispanic	12	83.3 %	3.1 %
White	1582	82.6 %	3.8 %

SEX/GENDER

	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Female	31	69.6 %	16.7 %
Male	1735	83.0 %	3.4 %

RURALITY

	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Lives in rural area	390	80.6 %	5.8 %
Lives in urban area	1375	83.4 %	3.0 %


NEIGHBORHOOD POVERTY LEVEL

	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Lives in high poverty area	758	85.3 %	1.0 %
Lives in low poverty area	991	80.8 %	5.5 %

NOTE: If the tables are blank, there were not sufficient observations for the Facility and Division you selected.

[Report a bug or enhancement](#)

# PATIENT OUTLIERS



Primary Care Equity Dashboard

[Before you Begin](#)

[VISN Opportunity Matrix](#)

[Equity Data Visualizations](#)

[Performance Snapshot](#)

[Equity Deep Dive](#)

**[Patient Outliers](#)**

[Performance Trends](#)

[Education and Interventions](#)

[Glossary](#)

[FAQs](#)

[Go back](#)

File Export Get insights Subscribe

Reset to default Bookmarks View

Updated Data as of: Facility

Division: All

Team: All

Measure: statn4\_ec: Statin Adher (Pop)

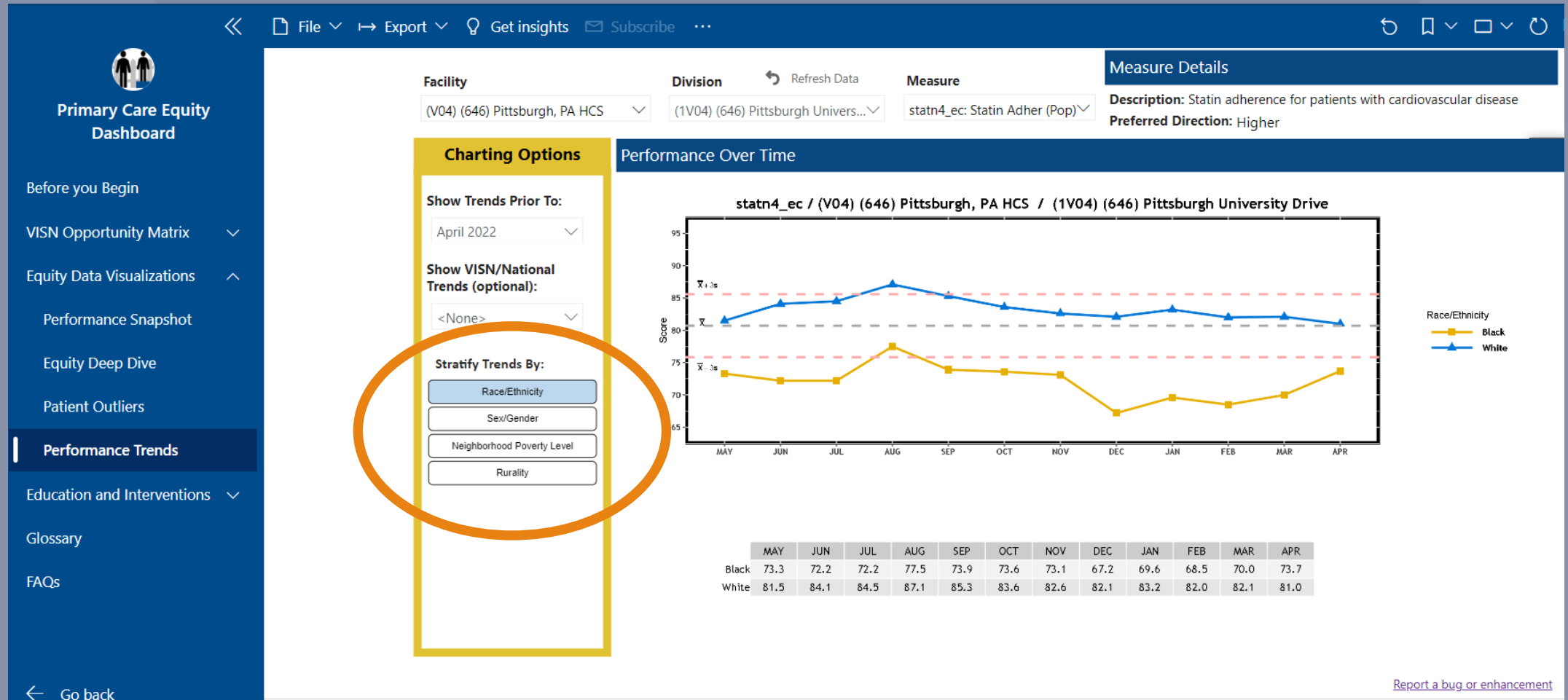
Patient Outliers by Measure

Patient Name	SSN	Phone (cellular or residential)	Sex/ Gender	Race/ Ethnicity	Rurality	Neighborhood Poverty Level	Outlier Reason	Outlier Date	Next Primary Care Appointment	Primary Care Clinic Name	Provider Name
--------------	-----	---------------------------------	-------------	-----------------	----------	----------------------------	----------------	--------------	-------------------------------	--------------------------	---------------

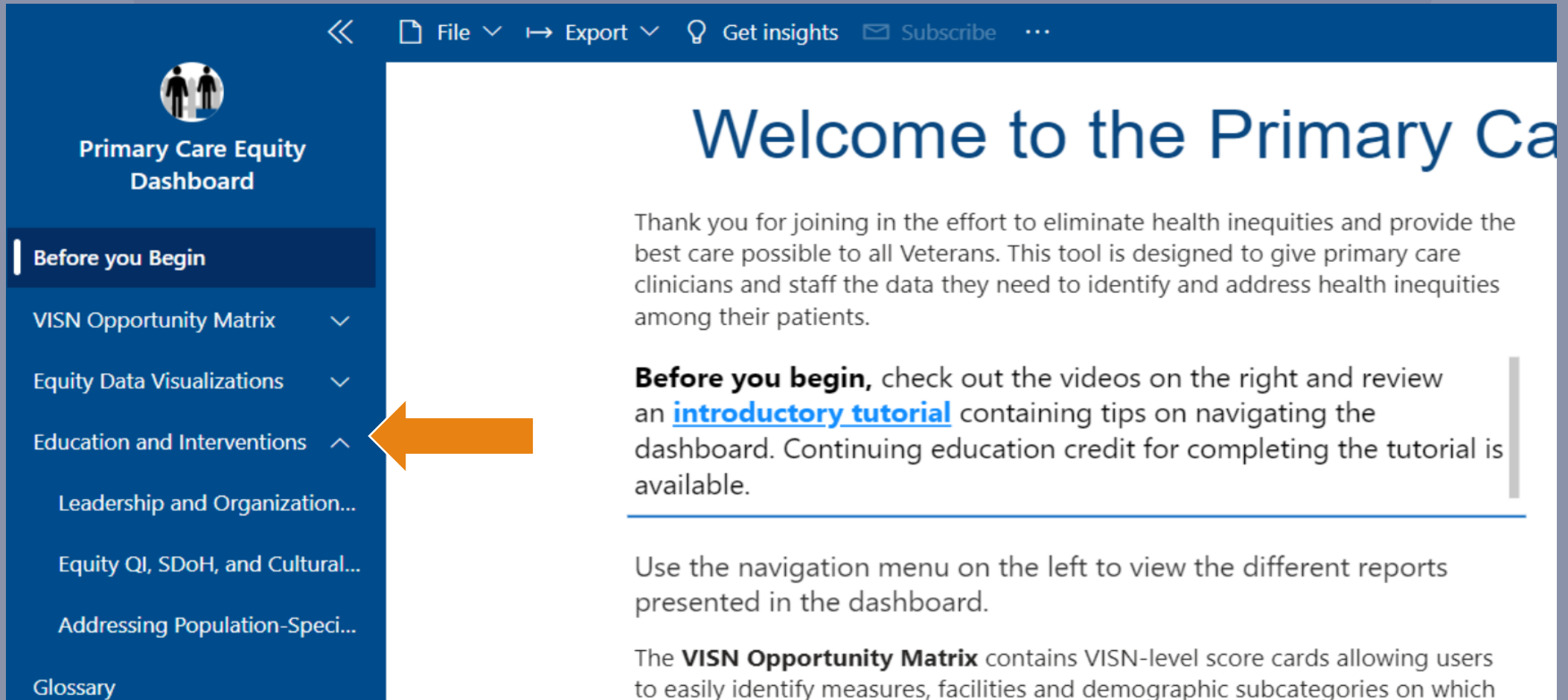
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# PERFORMANCE TRENDS



# EDUCATION AND INTERVENTIONS



Primary Care Equity Dashboard

Before you Begin

VISN Opportunity Matrix

Equity Data Visualizations

Education and Interventions

Leadership and Organization...

Equity QI, SDoH, and Cultural...

Addressing Population-Speci...

Glossary

## Welcome to the Primary Ca


Thank you for joining in the effort to eliminate health inequities and provide the best care possible to all Veterans. This tool is designed to give primary care clinicians and staff the data they need to identify and address health inequities among their patients.

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Use the navigation menu on the left to view the different reports presented in the dashboard.





The **VISN Opportunity Matrix** contains VISN-level score cards allowing users to easily identify measures, facilities and demographic subcategories on which






# LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATIONAL GUIDANCE



## Primary Care Equity Dashboard

- Patient Outliers
- Performance Trends
- Education and Interventions ^
- Leadership and Organizati...**
- Equity QI, SDoH, and Cultur...
- Addressing Population-Spec...
- Glossary
- FAQs

 File  Export  Get insights ...



Filter by Category

Equity Guidance for VA Leaders

### Leadership and Organizational Guidance

Category	Brief Description	Link to Full Text
Equity Guidance for VA Leaders	An overview of Joint Commission Requirements to Reduce Health Care Disparities with rationale and references. (2022, The Joint Commission)	<a href="https://www.jointcommission.org/-/media/tjc/documents/standards/r3-reports/r3_disparities_july2022-6-20-2022.pdf">https://www.jointcommission.org/-/media/tjc/documents/standards/r3-reports/r3_disparities_july2022-6-20-2022.pdf</a>
Equity Guidance for VA Leaders; Equity QI Frameworks and Roadmaps	A collection of resources to support healthcare organizations prepare to meet health equity standards required by the Joint Commission, including strategies for using equity data, addressing health-related social needs, prioritizing and planning evidence-based interventions to reduce disparities, and approaches used in other health systems. (2022, The Joint Commission)	<a href="https://www.jointcommission.org/our-priorities/health-care-equity/accreditation-standards-and-resource-center/">https://www.jointcommission.org/our-priorities/health-care-equity/accreditation-standards-and-resource-center/</a>
Equity Guidance for VA Leaders; Equity QI Frameworks and Roadmaps	An approach for integrating equity into the 5 core concepts of VA's high reliability organization model for improving care for all Veterans over time. (2022, Am J Med Qual)	<a href="https://journals.lww.com/ajmqonline/Fulltext/2022/01000/From_HRO_to_HERO_Making_Health_Equity_a_Core.11.aspx?context=LatestArticles">https://journals.lww.com/ajmqonline/Fulltext/2022/01000/From_HRO_to_HERO_Making_Health_Equity_a_Core.11.aspx?context=LatestArticles</a>
Equity Guidance for VA Leaders	Blog that describes five guiding principles for leaders to make equity a strategic priority. (2022, IHI)	<a href="https://www.ihi.org/communities/blogs/improving-health-equity-5-guiding-principles-for-health-care-leaders">https://www.ihi.org/communities/blogs/improving-health-equity-5-guiding-principles-for-health-care-leaders</a>
Equity Guidance for VA Leaders	A two-page policy brief that outlines challenges and strategies for equity-oriented health systems improvement. (2020, EQUIP Health Care)	<a href="https://equiphealthcare.ca/files/2020/10/EQUIP-Equity-System-Improvement-Policy-Brief-Spring2020.pdf">https://equiphealthcare.ca/files/2020/10/EQUIP-Equity-System-Improvement-Policy-Brief-Spring2020.pdf</a>
Equity Guidance for VA Leaders	Instructions for developing a PDSA action plan focused on identifying, prioritizing and taking action on health equity. (2016, CMS)	<a href="https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/Downloads/Disparities-Impact-Statement">https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/Downloads/Disparities-Impact-Statement</a>
Equity Guidance for VA Leaders	Worksheets to initiate discussion and assess organizational readiness related to 1) health equity, 2) addressing anti-indigenous racism, 3)harm reduction, and 4)trauma-and violence-informed care. (2022, Equip Health Care)	<a href="https://equiphealthcare.ca/resources/rate-your-organization-discussion-tools/">https://equiphealthcare.ca/resources/rate-your-organization-discussion-tools/</a>
Equity Guidance for VA Leaders	VHA's Office of Health Equity website provides reports and one-pagers detailing equity issues for Veterans in a variety of clinical areas and priority populations. (2022, VA-OHE)	<a href="https://www.va.gov/healthequity/">https://www.va.gov/healthequity/</a>
Equity Guidance for VA Leaders	A comprehensive chartbook that reports disparities related to access and quality of healthcare for the Veteran population and for VHA users. (2020, AHRQ, VA)	<a href="https://www.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/research/findings/nhqrdcr/chartbooks/veterans/2020qdr-chartbook-veterans.pdf">https://www.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/research/findings/nhqrdcr/chartbooks/veterans/2020qdr-chartbook-veterans.pdf</a>

# EQUITY QI, SDOH, AND CULTURAL HUMILITY RESOURCES



## Primary Care Equity Dashboard

Performance Snapshot

Equity Deep Dive

Patient Outliers

Performance Trends

Education and Interventions

Leadership and Organiza...

Equity QI, SDoH, and Cu...

Addressing Population-S...



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Filter by Category

Addressing Social Determinants of Health

### Equity QI, SDoH, and Cultural Humility

Category

Brief Description

Link to Full Text

Addressing Social Determinants of Health

Brief overview of the 11-question screening assessment Addressing Circumstances and Offering Resources for Needs (ACORN) which is currently being implemented and evaluated in a variety of clinical settings across VHA to assess nine social determinant domains. (2022, VA-OHE)

[https://www.va.gov/HEALTHEQUITY/docs/ACORN\\_Screening\\_Tool.pdf](https://www.va.gov/HEALTHEQUITY/docs/ACORN_Screening_Tool.pdf)

Addressing Social Determinants of Health

Toolkit for hospitals on 5 key social determinants and related resources. (2020, AHA)

<https://www.aha.org/social-determinants-health>

Addressing Social Determinants of Health

Guidance for care teams on screening for social needs, including how to design, tailor, and scale processes; initiate sensitive conversations with patients, and make appropriate referrals. (2019, AHA)

<https://www.aha.org/system/files/media/file/2019/09/screening-for-social-needs-tool-value-initiative-rev-9-26-2019.pdf>

Addressing Social Determinants of Health

Page 28: An example of how one healthcare system used stratified data (along with neighborhood data) to do an equity-guided QI project to improve rates of cervical cancer screening. (2020, NCQA)

[https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/:b/r/sites/VACOVHAOHE/SiteAssets/SitePages/Social-Determinants-of-Health-Resource-Guide/369619996220201009\\_SDOH-Resource\\_Guide.pdf?](https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/:b/r/sites/VACOVHAOHE/SiteAssets/SitePages/Social-Determinants-of-Health-Resource-Guide/369619996220201009_SDOH-Resource_Guide.pdf?)

Addressing Social Determinants of Health

Primary care practices that support team-based approaches to addressing SDOH. (2018, AAFP)

[https://www.aafp.org/dam/AAFP/documents/patient\\_care/everyone\\_project/team-based-approach.pdf](https://www.aafp.org/dam/AAFP/documents/patient_care/everyone_project/team-based-approach.pdf)

Addressing Social Determinants of Health

Virtual Modules on how clinicians can address SDOH with an introduction to the approach of Upstream Quality Improvement. (2019, AHA & HealthBegins)

<https://www.aha.org/physicians/SDOH>

Addressing Social Determinants of Health

Role of nurses as leaders in advancing health equity for women by screening for social determinants. (2020, Nursing for Women's Health)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1751485119302284>

Addressing Social Determinants of Health

Role of physicians in addressing SDOH with a discussion of barriers and ways they can have an impact in this area. (2020, JAMA)

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/2764320>

Addressing Social Determinants of Health

Prevalence of food insufficiency and impact on health outcomes for women Veterans. (2018, WHI)

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29475630/>

Addressing Social Determinants of Health

Veteran prevalence and characteristics of social determinants of health, with a discussion on how SDOH relate to access, outcomes and engagement in VA care. (2017, VA HSR&D-ESPC)

<https://www.hsr.dva.gov/publications/esp/socialdeterminants.cfm>

Addressing Social Determinants of Health

SDOH barriers and challenges for rural residents and potential impacts on health. (2020, RHI Hub)

<https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/topics/social-determinants-of-health>





# ACORN

*(Assessing Circumstances & Offering Resources for Needs)*

**Systematically identify and address unmet social needs among all Veterans to improve health and advance health equity**

<https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VACOVHAOHE/SitePages/Social-Determinants-of-Health.aspx>

# ADDRESSING POPULATION-SPECIFIC DISPARITIES



## Primary Care Equity Dashboard

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Equity QI, SDoH, and Cul...

Addressing Population-Specific Disparities

File Share Export Get insights

Filter by Disease: Multiple selections Resource Type: All

Addressing Population-Specific Disparities

Disease	Demographic Group(s)	Resource Type	Brief Description	Link to Full Text
Heart Disease	Race/Ethnicity	Evidence-based Interventions	Tools developed as part of a primary care project aimed at reducing disparities in statin adherence for Black Veterans, including a sample script used for patient education visits and sample language used to document educational visits in the medical record.	<a href="https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VACOVHAOHE/SitePages/Statin.aspx">https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VACOVHAOHE/SitePages/Statin.aspx</a>
Heart Disease	Race/Ethnicity	Evidence-based Interventions	Young African Americans live with diseases more common in whites at older ages, with tips for what can be done to address this disparity. (2017, CDC)	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/pdf/2017-05-vitalsigns.pdf">https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/pdf/2017-05-vitalsigns.pdf</a>
Heart Disease	Race/Ethnicity	Tailored Education Materials	A culturally tailored educational booklet for African Americans on heart healthy living. (2008, NHLBI)	<a href="https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health-topics/all-publications-and-resources/move-better-heart-health-african-americans">https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health-topics/all-publications-and-resources/move-better-heart-health-african-americans</a>
Heart Disease	Race/Ethnicity	Tailored Education Materials	Fact sheet for patients on risks and benefits of taking a statin. (2018, DHHS-Million Hearts)	<a href="https://millionhearts.hhs.gov/files/Scoop_on_Statin-508.pdf">https://millionhearts.hhs.gov/files/Scoop_on_Statin-508.pdf</a>
Heart Disease	Race/Ethnicity	Tailored Education Materials	Fact sheet targeted to Latinos/Latinas with 4 key steps to heart health and blood pressure control. (2016, DHHS-Million Hearts)	<a href="https://millionhearts.hhs.gov/files/4_Steps_Forward_English.PDF">https://millionhearts.hhs.gov/files/4_Steps_Forward_English.PDF</a>
Heart Disease	Race/Ethnicity	Tailored Education Materials	Fotonovela that depicts the story of a Latino family as they find ways to control fat and cholesterol to prevent heart disease. (2019, DHHS)	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/cholesterol/docs/fotonovela_cholesterol.pdf">https://www.cdc.gov/cholesterol/docs/fotonovela_cholesterol.pdf</a>
Heart Disease; Hypertension	Race/Ethnicity	Evidence-based Interventions	Review of the multilevel factors contributing to hypertension disparities and a variety of effective approaches including social determinants of health assessment, community outreach and culturally tailored interventions that address barriers to hypertension control. (2021, JACC)	<a href="https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0735109721053821?via%3Dihub">https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0735109721053821?via%3Dihub</a>
Hypertension	Race/Ethnicity	Evidence-based Interventions	A multi-level hypertension control program tailored for Asian Americans. (2017, Trans Behav Med)	<a href="https://academic.oup.com/tbm/article/7/3/444/4644899">https://academic.oup.com/tbm/article/7/3/444/4644899</a>
Hypertension	Race/Ethnicity	Evidence-based Interventions	Addressing upstream determinants of cardiovascular health including income, education, employment, neighborhood factors and minority status. (2019, Curr HTN Rep)	<a href="https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31190099/">https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31190099/</a>

# PCED Users Across VISNs and VACO

1406 unique users  
(FY23 Q2)

VISN	Frequency	Percent
1	72	5.1
2	74	5.3
3	2	0.1
4	106	7.5
5	65	4.6
6	53	3.8
7	79	5.6
8	69	4.9
9	41	2.9
10	74	5.3
11	1	0.1
12	51	3.6
15	209	14.9
16	36	2.6
17	124	8.8
18	3	0.2
19	29	2.1
20	39	2.8
21	94	6.7
22	68	4.8
23	78	5.5
VACO	39	2.8
Total	1,406	100

# Summary and Upcoming Updates

- PCED is a user-friendly tool that is being used to identify and support equity-guided improvement at VA facilities
- Available to all VHA employees, it is being used in VA facilities across the country
- Next release (anticipated Fall, 2023) will include more eQM measures and increased patient outlier access for individuals supporting multiple VA medical centers

# Additional Resources Available on SharePoint

<https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VACOVHAOHE/SitePages/Test.aspx>



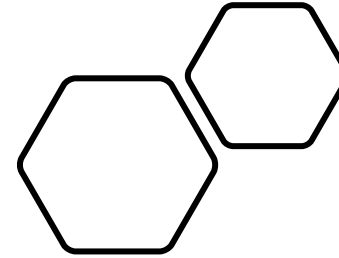
- [PCED SharePoint](#)
- [Introductory Tutorial](#) (CE credit available)
- [Guide for Facilitating Implementation](#) of PCED
- Webinars, case examples, and links to other equity resources in VA



- Email: [VHAACORN@va.gov](mailto:VHAACORN@va.gov)
- [ACORN Screening Tool](#)
- [ACORN SharePoint](#)
- [VHA Office of Health Equity](#)
- [VHA Social Work](#)

From *Desperation* to Innovation!

Improving Hypertension and  
Racial Disparities in Veterans at  
an Academic VA Clinic via a  
targeted Population Health  
Strategy



- **Rhonda Hamilton, MD MPH**
- Primary Care, Medical Director,  
VA Palo Alto
- Clinical Asst. Prof.  
(affiliated/Clinician Ed) Medicine &  
Primary Care/Population Health at  
Stanford Univ. School of Medicine



# Blood Pressure (DM) Metric

## 7/15/21

Rationale	Goal is to increase number of DM patients with BP <140/90
Numerator	Patients with DM and declines BP med; age <75 with either SBP <140 or DBP <90
Denominator	Patients with DM, and age 75 or below
Target	75%
Score Direction	Higher is better

SAIL - eQM					
Definition - ⓘ		Score Date 7/15/2021			
Division	Score	Target	Numerator	Actionable Patients	Denominator
DM: BP< 140/90 (dmg27h_ec) ⓘ					
(640) Palo Alto HCS (Palo Alto CA)	44.8 ❌	75	2,400	2,960	5,360
PALO ALTO, CAC	50.7 ❌	75	37	36	73
PALO ALTO, FOC	49.3 ❌	75	458	471	929
PALO ALTO, FRC	34.7 ❌	75	107	201	308
PALO ALTO, LD	45.8 ❌	75	132	156	288
PALO ALTO, MOC	39.5 ❌	75	307	471	778
PALO ALTO, PAD	48.7 ❌	75	492	519	1,011
PALO ALTO, SJC	38.6 ❌	75	321	511	832
PALO ALTO, SOC	41.9 ❌	75	99	137	236
PALO ALTO, STC	49.2 ❌	75	442	457	899

# Blood Pressure (HTN) Metric

## 7/15/21

Rationale	Goal is to increase number of HTN patients with BP <140/90
Numerator	Patients with either SBP <140 or DBP <90
Denominator	Patients with HTN diagnosis and age 85 or below
Target	89%
Score Direction	Higher is better

Definition - ⓘ		Score Date 7/15/2021				
Division		Score	Target	Numerator	Actionable Patients	Denominator
HTN: Dx HTN with BP less than 140/90 (lhd53h_ec) ⓘ						
(640) Palo Alto HCS (Palo Alto CA)		59.4 (X)	89	3,570	2,443	6,013
PALO ALTO, CAC		66.5 (X)	89	103	52	155
PALO ALTO, FOC		62.7 (X)	89	694	413	1,107
PALO ALTO, FRC		46.9 (X)	89	113	128	241
PALO ALTO, LD		66.0 (X)	89	200	103	303
PALO ALTO, MOC		51.0 (X)	89	374	359	733
PALO ALTO, PAD		64.4 (X)	89	820	454	1,274
PALO ALTO, SJC		56.8 (X)	89	429	326	755
PALO ALTO, SOC		44.8 (X)	89	197	243	440
PALO ALTO, STC		63.7 (X)	89	643	367	1,010

Veterans w/DM2 & HTN with  
controlled BP 10/2021-01/2022

Considered  
Equity at the  
start of our  
intervention

Slide from  
**Leslie Hausmann PhD**, Asst. Dean Medical  
Student Research, Univ. Pittsburgh Sch Med  
**Ernest Moy, MD** Exec.Dir. Office of Health  
Equity, VHA,

Facility

(V21) (640) Palo Alto, CA HCS

Timeframe

FY2022 Q1

Division

(V21) (640) Palo Alto, CA

Measure

dmg27h\_ec: BP lt 140/90 (DM)

Refresh Data

Measure Details

Description:

Blood pressure less than 140/90 in patients with diabetes

National Score:

66.2%

Preferred Direction:

Higher

Distance from National Score and Population Size by Patient Demographics

RACE/ETHNICITY

	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Asian	102	62.4 %	3.9 %
Black	183	57.8 %	8.4 %
Hispanic	138	59.2 %	7.1 %
HI/Pac Island	38	50.0 %	16.2 %
White	442	62.9 %	3.3 %

SEX/GENDER

	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Female	87	71.3 %	5.1 %
Male	924	59.3 %	7.0 %

RURALITY

	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Lives in rural area	95	57.7 %	8.5 %
Lives in urban area	915	60.6 %	5.6 %

NEIGHBORHOOD POVERTY LEVEL

	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Lives in low poverty area	986	60.3 %	5.9 %

# Veterans w/HTN with controlled BP

10/2021-01/2022

Effectiveness of  
our Institution  
relies on Honest  
Assessment of  
Disparity

Facility	Division	Refresh Data	Measure Details
(V21) (640) Palo Alto, CA HCS	(V21) (640) Palo Alto, CA		Description: Controlling high blood pressure in patients with hypertension
Timeframe	Measure		National Score: 66.8%
FY2022 Q1	ihd53h_ec: BP (18-85 DM,Non-DM)		Preferred Direction: Higher
Distance from National Score and Population Size by Patient Demographics			
RACE/ETHNICITY			
	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Asian	108	68.7 %	2.0 %
Black	222	61.1 %	5.7 %
Hispanic	100	70.5 %	3.7 %
HI/Pac Island	31	69.7 %	3.0 %
White	563	71.3 %	4.6 %
SEX/GENDER			
	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Female	87	72.4 %	5.6 %
Male	1061	68.0 %	1.3 %
RURALITY			
	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Lives in rural area	102	71.5 %	4.7 %
Lives in urban area	1046	68.0 %	1.3 %
NEIGHBORHOOD POVERTY LEVEL			
	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Lives in low poverty area	1112	68.7 %	1.9 %

Slide from  
**Leslie Hausmann PhD**, Asst. Dean Medical  
Student Research, Univ. Pittsburgh Sch Med  
**Ernest Moy, MD** Exec.Dir. Office of Health Equity,  
VHA,





## Student Volunteer Training











Putting Training into  
Action

Color coding spreadsheet (Who needs a BP cuff sent? Who needs a call back to gather the self-reported BP log?)





Students  
Strategizing:  
PDCA (Plan,  
Do, Check,  
Act)

# Script Amended to meet Veteran's Needs

*Call begins*

**Student:** Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_, I am a student volunteer working with your primary care team here at the VA Palo Alto. Is this \_\_\_\_ (patient's name)? Great! I am calling because your primary care team would like to collect home blood pressure readings. Is that ok with you and is this a good time to talk?

**Patient:** Yes/no

**If no:** What is the best day and time to call you back?

**If yes:** Wonderful! Your Care team would like for you to log your blood pressure 10x, which should take about a week.

**Student:** Do you have a VA issued blood pressure cuff at home?

**Patient:** Yes/no

**If no:** That's okay. I will make sure to let your PACT team know, and we will send another one to you free of charge. It will be there in 1-2 weeks and we can schedule a follow up appointment in 2-3 weeks so that we can collect those blood pressure readings. Are you available at \_\_\_\_ (this time and date)? (skip to highlighted part at the bottom)

**If yes:** Perfect!

**Student:** Do you have any recent blood pressure readings that you can give us now?

**Patient:** Yes/no

**If no:** That's okay we can schedule a follow up appointment in one week to collect the blood pressure readings. Are you available at \_\_\_\_ (this time and date)?  
Great! There are a few steps to make sure that we can get an accurate reading for your blood pressure.

First, make sure to rest for 5 to 10 minutes before you take your BP. Make sure to wait until you feel completely relaxed.

Second, make sure that your arm is at the same level as your heart.

The easiest way to do this is to rest your arm on a counter. Then you can push start.

# Blood Pressure (DM) Metric

## 7/15/21 – Highest Risk group, poor control

Rationale	Goal is to increase number of DM patients with BP <140/90
Numerator	Patients with DM and declines BP med; age <75 with either SBP <140 or DBP <90
Denominator	Patients with DM, and age 75 or below
Target	75%
Score Direction	Higher is better

SAIL - eQM					
Definition - ⓘ		Score Date 7/15/2021			
Division	Score	Target	Numerator	Actionable Patients	Denominator
DM: BP< 140/90 (dmg27h_ec) ⓘ					
(640) Palo Alto HCS (Palo Alto CA)	44.8 (X)	75	2,400	2,960	5,360
PALO ALTO, CAC	50.7 (X)	75	37	36	73
PALO ALTO, FOC	49.3 (X)	75	458	471	929
PALO ALTO, FRC	34.7 (X)	75	107	201	308
PALO ALTO, LD	45.8 (X)	75	132	156	288
PALO ALTO, MOC	39.5 (X)	75	307	471	778
PALO ALTO, PAD	48.7 (X)	75	492	519	1,011
PALO ALTO, SJC	38.6 (X)	75	321	511	832
PALO ALTO, SOC	41.9 (X)	75	99	137	236
PALO ALTO, STC	49.2 (X)	75	442	457	899

# Blood Pressure (DM) Metric

## 8/26/22 – Exceeding Expectations!

SAIL - eQM					
Definition - ⓘ			Score Date 8/25/2022		
Division	Score	Target	Numerator	Actionable Patients	Denominator
DM: BP < 140/90 (dmg27h_ec) ⓘ					
(640) Palo Alto HCS (Palo Alto CA)	68.2 ❌	75	4,489	2,097	6,586
PALO ALTO, CAC	63.1 ❌	75	53	31	84
PALO ALTO, FOC	63.4 ❌	75	711	411	1,122
PALO ALTO, FRC	58.3 ❌	75	235	168	403
PALO ALTO, LD	77.6 ✔️	75	309	89	398
PALO ALTO, MOC	63.5 ❌	75	587	337	924
PALO ALTO, PAD	77.0 ✔️	75	1,018	304	1,322
PALO ALTO, SJC	66.8 ❌	75	659	327	986
PALO ALTO, SOC	67.5 ❌	75	181	87	268
PALO ALTO, STC	68.4 ❌	75	733	338	1,071



# Blood Pressure (HTN) Metric

## 7/15/21 – Poor HTN control across the board

Rationale	Goal is to increase number of HTN patients with BP <140/90
Numerator	Patients with either SBP <140 or DBP <90
Denominator	Patients with HTN diagnosis and age 85 or below
Target	89%
Score Direction	Higher is better

Definition - ①		Score Date 7/15/2021				
Division		Score	Target	Numerator	Actionable Patients	Denominator
HTN: Dx HTN with BP less than 140/90 (lhd53h_ec) ②						
(640) Palo Alto HCS (Palo Alto CA)		59.4 (X)	89	3,570	2,443	6,013
PALO ALTO, CAC		66.5 (X)	89	103	52	155
PALO ALTO, FOC		62.7 (X)	89	694	413	1,107
PALO ALTO, FRC		46.9 (X)	89	113	128	241
PALO ALTO, LD		66.0 (X)	89	200	103	303
PALO ALTO, MOC		51.0 (X)	89	374	359	733
PALO ALTO, PAD		64.4 (X)	89	820	454	1,274
PALO ALTO, SJC		56.8 (X)	89	429	326	755
PALO ALTO, SOC		44.8 (X)	89	197	243	440
PALO ALTO, STC		63.7 (X)	89	643	367	1,010

# Blood Pressure (HTN) Metric 8/26/22 – Exceeding expectations!

SAIL - eQM					
Definition - ⓘ		Score Date 8/25/2022			
Division	Score	Target	Numerator	Actionable Patients	Denominator
HTN: Dx HTN with BP less than 140/90 (ihd53h_ec) ⓘ					
(640) Palo Alto HCS (Palo Alto CA)	65.2 ✓	63	8,360	4,465	12,825
PALO ALTO, CAC	61.2 ✗	63	170	108	278
PALO ALTO, FOC	58.2 ✗	63	1,297	930	2,227
PALO ALTO, FRC	56.9 ✗	63	449	340	789
PALO ALTO, LD	74.0 ✓	63	608	214	822
PALO ALTO, MOC	56.8 ✗	63	868	660	1,528
PALO ALTO, PAD	80.5 ✓	63	1,884	455	2,339
PALO ALTO, SJC	65.4 ✓	63	1,271	672	1,943
PALO ALTO, SOC	57.5 ✗	63	473	350	823
PALO ALTO, STC	64.5 ✓	63	1,343	740	2,083

*“A Rising Tide Lifts all Boats.”*

Intervention Shaped to meet the needs of Black veterans – improved care for all veterans

Diabetic patients w/HTN Jan 2022- Black pts 8.4 % below National Average of 66.2%

#### RACE/ETHNICITY

	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Asian	102	62.4 %	3.9 %
Black	183	57.8 %	8.4 %
Hispanic	138	59.2 %	7.1 %
HI/Pac Island	38	50.0 %	16.2 %
White	442	62.9 %	3.3 %

Diabetic patients w/HTN 8/2022- Blacks pts only 0.6% below National Average of 68.7%

#### RACE/ETHNICITY

	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Asian	118	70.7 %	11.1 %
Black	221	68.1 %	0.6 %
Hispanic	159	71.6 %	3.0 %
HI/Pac Island	50	58.9 %	9.8 %
White	579	71.3 %	2.6 %

# Closing Disparities, one Veteran at a time!

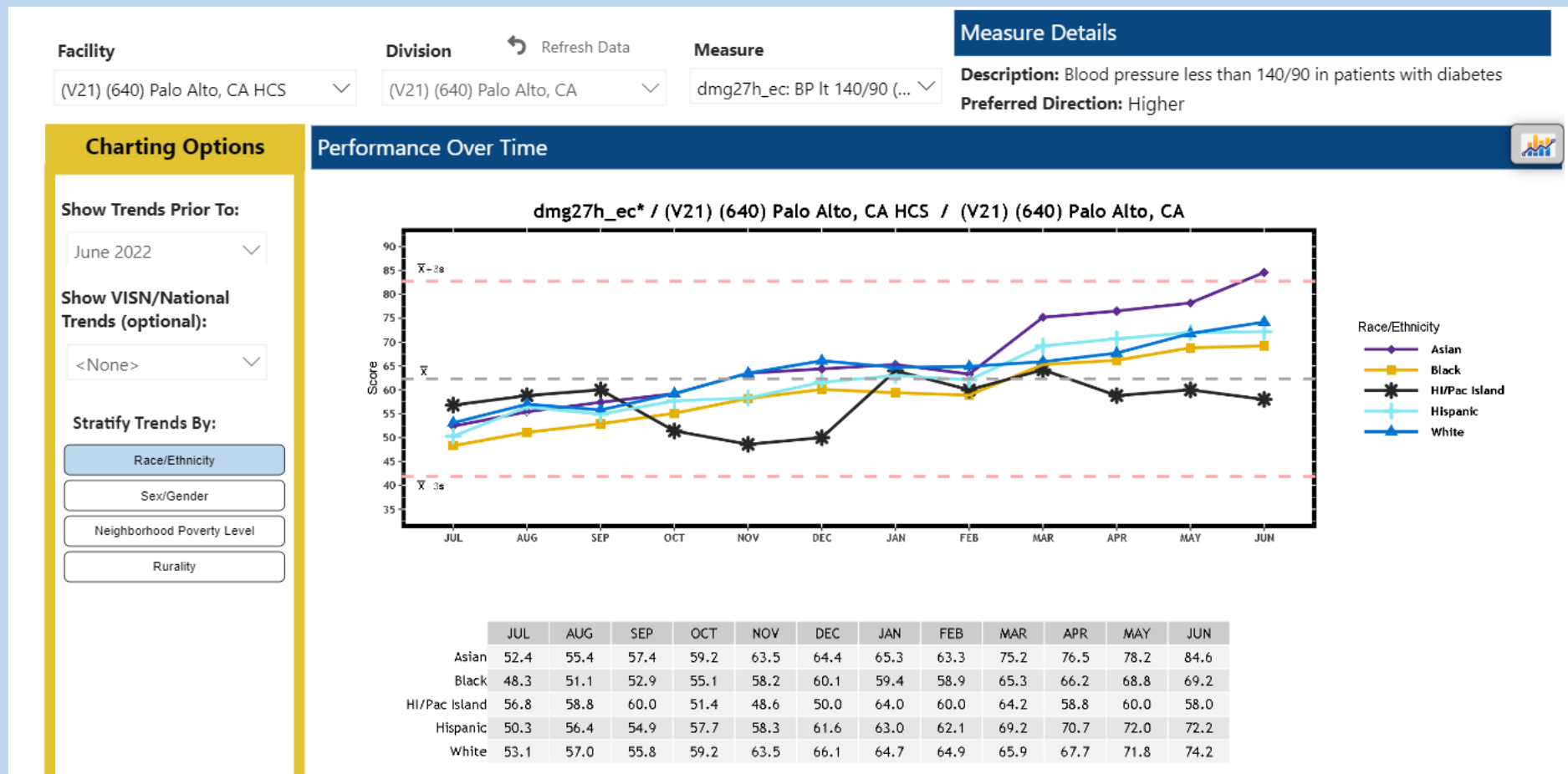
Veterans w/HTN (all comers) Jan 2022 – 5.7%  
Disparity (compared to Nat'l avg of 66.8%)

RACE/ETHNICITY			
	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Asian	108	68.7 %	2.0 %
Black	222	61.1 %	5.7 %
Hispanic	100	70.5 %	3.7 %
HI/Pac Island	31	69.7 %	3.0 %
White	563	71.3 %	4.6 %

- Veterans w/HTN (all comers) Aug 2022- Disparity Closed! (compared to Nat'l avg of 65.9%)

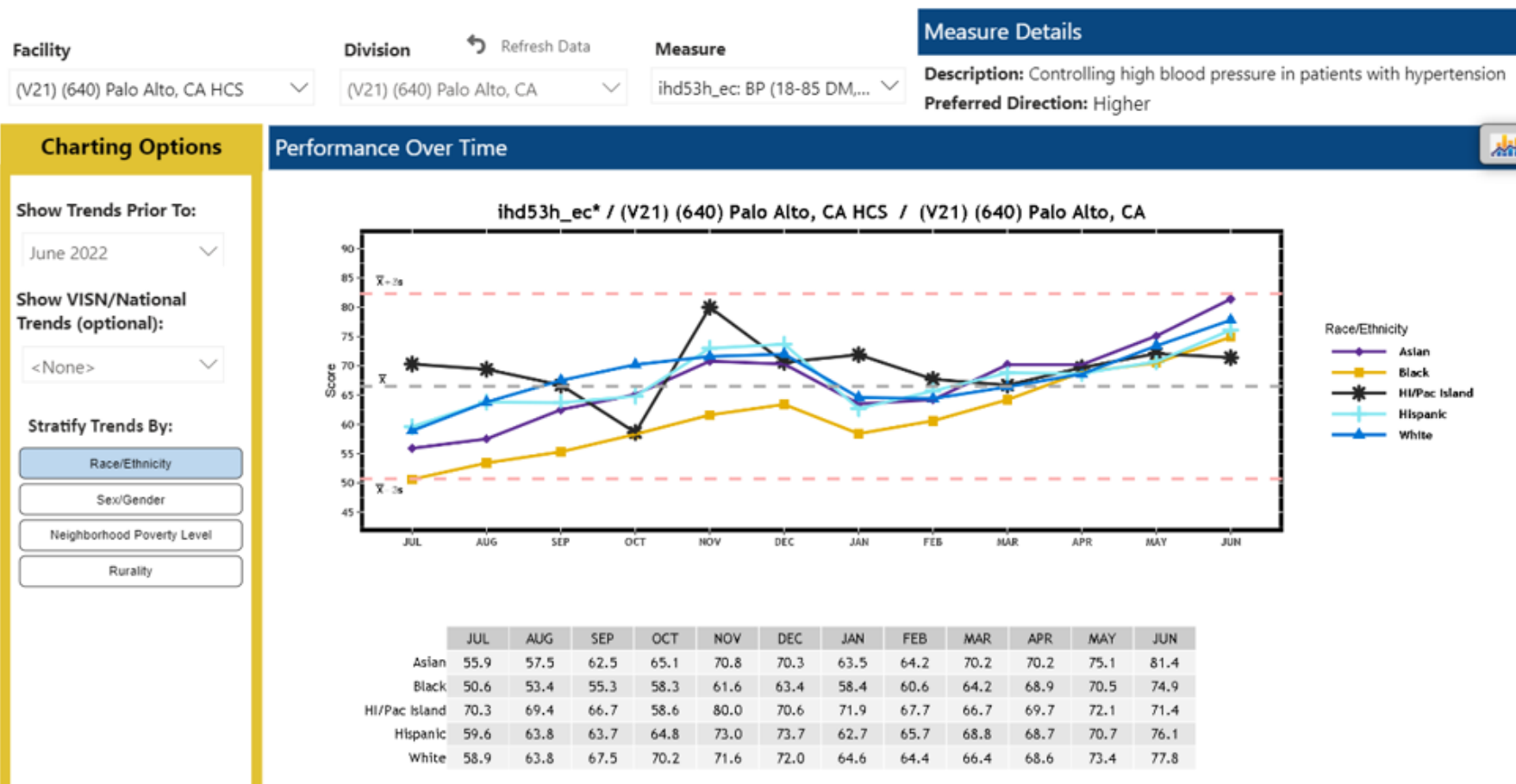
RACE/ETHNICITY			
	Avg. Patients per Month	Score	Absolute Diff. from National
Asian	202	75.6 %	9.7 %
Black	367	71.4 %	5.5 %
Hispanic	199	71.8 %	5.9 %
HI/Pac Island	68	71.1 %	5.2 %
White	1164	73.3 %	7.4 %

## Trends-Race/Ethnicity: Jun 2022 and prior year, Palo Alto Division, Blood pressure in patients with diabetes



\*Trends data thru June 2022 is the most recent PCED has available

## Trends-Race/Ethnicity: Jun 2022 and prior year, Palo Alto Division, Blood pressure in patients with hypertension



\*Trends data thru June 2022 is the most recent PCED has available



# Prevention Clinic

The Asynchronous  
Resolution of Reminders!!

## Clinical Reminders

Reminder	Due Date
Alcohol Use Screen (AUDIT-C)	Oct 05, 2019
Avg Risk Colorectal Cancer Screen	Apr 01, 2019
COVID-19 Immunization	DUE NOW
Depression Screening	Oct 05, 2019
Suicide Screen	DUE NOW
Health Habits Screening	Oct 05, 2019
Herpes Zoster (Shingles) Vaccine	DUE NOW
Homelessness/Food Insecurity Screen	Oct 05, 2020
Influenza Immunization	DUE NOW
Lipid Measurement	Jul 03, 2020
Mammogram Screening	Aug 06, 2020
Medication Reconciliation (OUTPT)	Oct 06, 2018
My HealtheVet Information	Oct 05, 2020

## Vitals

# SAIL Metrics Are Captured by *CLINICAL REMINDERS!*

	Tobacco Cessation - Discussed Cessation
	Tobacco Use - Screened for Use - NEXUS (Output)
	Veterans Screened for Alcohol Misuse w/ score GE
	Veterans Screened Annually for Alcohol Misuse-Output
p61h	Colorectal Cancer Screening Ages 50-75
p61h	Colorectal Cancer Screening Ages 50-75
mdd40	Screened annually for depression
cssrs1	Annual Suicide Risk Screen
ptsd51	PTSD Screening
p44h	Cervical Screen age 21-64 (includes hrHPV test age 30 and
dms40_ec	PHQ-9 Utilization ( eMeasure )
dmg31h	DM: Retinal exam, timely by disease (OP)
ihd53h_ec	Controlling High Blood Pressure ( eMeasure )
statn1_ec	Statin Therapy for patients with cardiovascular disease (
statn7_ec	Statin therapy for patients with diabetes ( eMeasure )
pvc12	Pneumococcal Immunization (OP) EPRP sample
p32h	Breast Cancer Screening including tomography for Women
p32h	Breast Cancer Screening including tomography for Women
p42	Cervical Cancer Screening Women age 21-29y
p44h	Cervical Screen age 21-64 (includes hrHPV test age 30 and
p42	Cervical Cancer Screening Women age 21-29y
p44h	Cervical Screen age 21-64 (includes hrHPV test age 30
	Tobacco Use Treatment Provided or Offered

# Hard Wire Improving Disparities

Measure & Assess Equity & Disparities at our Institution to inform each Health Care initiative to improve our Organization's Effectiveness

Integrate Asynchronous Prevention Clinic into Stanford Residency Rotations & forge relationships w/Nursing/PA Schools

Recruit Student Volunteers from Communities of Color, Community Colleges, Churches