



Greetings Colleagues,

The 2018 VHA Shark Tank Competition application is now open! The Diffusion of Excellence Team would like your assistance promoting the Competition. Please consider submitting a practice or encourage team members to submit their promising practices to the Competition. To compete, applicants must submit their successfully implemented practice by completing the [application form](#) by **11:59 PM PT on April 27, 2018**.

On behalf of the Diffusion of Excellence Team, I would also like to invite you to serve as Evaluators in the 2018 VHA Shark Tank Competition. Application evaluation will take place between May 3, 2018 and May 18, 2018. Your evaluations will assist us in the selection of Semifinalist practices.

If you would like to serve as an Evaluator, please complete this brief [profile form](#) by **11:59 PM PT on April 23, 2018**. You can elect how many applications you will evaluate based on your availability. If you register as an Evaluator, the Diffusion of Excellence Support Team will send you a confirmation email and a calendar invitation to attend an Evaluator Informational Session at 2:00 PM ET on April 25, 2018.

If you have any questions, please email the [Diffusion of Excellence Support Team](#).

Sincerely,

David Atkins MD, MPH  
Director, Health Services Research &  
Development  
Veterans Health Administration

Ryan Vega, MD, MSHA  
Director, Diffusion of Excellence Initiative  
Veterans Health Administration

About the Diffusion of Excellence Initiative:

Through the Diffusion of Excellence model, VHA empowers frontline employees to solve some of the organization's toughest challenges and improve care and experiences for Veterans across the system. The Diffusion of Excellence identifies and spreads field-developed promising practices that promote positive outcomes for Veterans and VHA employees.