



PROVEN

Coordinating Hub to Promote Research
Optimizing Veteran-centric EHR Networks

PROVEN Hub Newsletter

August 2021

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 Cerner Millennium EHR throughout VA.

Save the date!

PROVEN Virtual EHRM Research Summit

Friday, October 29th, 2021

12:00-4:00 pm EST/9:00 am-1:00 pm PST

Mark your calendar and plan to join us for a half-day virtual meeting about the current state and future directions of EHRM research in the VA. Meeting agenda and registration details coming soon!

HSR&D Research and EHR Synergy Cyberseminar Series

We are taking a break for the month of August. Catch up on the [archive](#) of previous presentations. VIREC will kick things off again in September.

EHRM in the News

The VA EHRM effort has been in the spotlight this summer, with hearings taking place in both the House of Representatives and Senate in July. A report on the strategic review was also released. The following resources have more details.

- Philipps, D. (2021, July 9). Hidden costs and flawed training plague the VA's huge software upgrade. *New York Times*.
<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/07/09/us/va-health-software-problems.html>
- Ogrysko, N. (2021, July 14). 'Missteps were ours,' VA's McDonough says of initial EHR rollout. *Federal News Network*.

<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/veterans-affairs/2021/07/missteps-were-ours-vas-mcdonough-says-of-initial-ehr-rollout/>

- Rein, L. (2021, July 14). VA chief halts rollout of massive digital health system for veterans, citing serious flaws. *Washington Post*.
https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/va-veterans-records-system/2021/07/14/fd508732-e4e9-11eb-8aa5-5662858b696e_story.html
- Ogrysko, N. (2021, July 21). VA will pause EHR deployments through at least 2021, department says. *Federal News Network*.
<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/veterans-affairs/2021/07/va-will-pause-ehr-deployments-through-at-least-2021-department-says/>
- Baker, R. (2021, August 4). How VHA can succeed with its EHR mega-program. FCW (Federal Computer Week).
<https://fcw.com/Articles/2021/08/04/veterans-affairs-ehr-baker-solutions.aspx?Page=1>

Be sure to check out the **EHRM Research Updates** from our colleagues at [VIReC](#) for the most up-to-date Cerner Millennium rollout schedule.

EHRM Patient Safety Research Workgroup

We invite VA researchers with a specific interest in EHRM-related patient safety issues to join a new research workgroup. The goal of the workgroup is to help investigators develop research ideas in this space that lead to funded projects. It will be initially co-facilitated by Becky Yano, PhD, MSPH and Hardeep Singh, MD, MPH. If you are interested in participating, please email Alison Cogan (alison.cogan@va.gov) with your VA location and a few sentences about your area of interest. *Please note that this group is currently open to VA researchers only.*

VA EHRM Researcher Spotlight

Drs. Kristen Gray and Kristine Lynch are Co-PIs of a PROVEN Rapid Pilot Project entitled, *Identifying clinical informatics solutions to coordinating mammograms performed outside of VA.*

Kristen Gray, PhD, MS



Kristen Gray, PhD, MS, is a Core Investigator at the HSR&D Center of Innovation for Veteran-Centered and Value-Driven Care at VA Puget Sound, Seattle and a Research Assistant Professor in Health Services at the University of Washington. Dr. Gray is the recipient of an HSR&D Career Development Award in which she is developing and pilot testing a virtual weight management intervention for Veterans that incorporates a support person to improve behavioral and weight loss outcomes. In addition, Dr. Gray is PI of an HSR&D Research to Impact for Veterans award evaluating the impact of VA's electronic health record modernization (EHRM) on women's health care coordination and Multiple-PI with Dr. Kristine Lynch of an HSR&D Rapid Pilot Project under VA's Coordinating Hub to Promote Research Optimizing Veteran-centric EHR Networks (PROVEN) exploring EHR-based informatics

solutions to mammogram care coordination. She earned her master's and doctoral degrees in epidemiology from the University of Washington where her research and training focused on women's reproductive health and maternal and child health.

Kristine Lynch, PhD, MS



Kristine E. Lynch, PhD, MS is an epidemiologist with VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure (VINCI) in Salt Lake City, Utah and a Research Assistant Professor at the Utah School of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Epidemiology. At VINCI Dr. Lynch leads the quality assurance of the transformation of CDW data to the Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership (OMOP) common data model as well as the development and maintenance of the COVID-19 Shared Data Resource. Dr. Lynch's research is focused on how to best leverage electronic health record data to better understand the healthcare needs of veterans from marginalized populations (e.g., gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender) and enhance patient-centered care for these individuals.

VA EHRM Research Updates

- Check out the PROVEN [Project Registry](#) for current information on EHRM projects
- EHRM & Research SharePoint has research resources related to the Cerner Millennium implementation, including a video demonstration of Cerner Power Trials (Intranet only):
<https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VHAPugResearch/RRG/Pages/EHRM-Research.aspx>
- New **Researcher's Notebook** issues from VIREC explain how to use PowerForms to explore Cerner Millennium data (Intranet only):
https://vaww.virec.research.va.gov/Notebook/RNB/RNB21-MDD-Exploring-Cerner-Millennium-Data-with-PowerForms_Prt1.pdf
- Set up an account to access Cerner [Research Resources](#)

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

New EHRM Publications

Please see the attached Excel file with a listing of recent publications on EHR implementation and transitions that may be of interest to the research community.

Do you have recent EHRM-related publications?

Let us know at provenhub@va.gov

<https://www.hsrp.research.va.gov/centers/proven/default.cfm>

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