



# VIREC DATA ACCESS MINISERIES

Session #: 1

## VA Data Access for Research

September 6, 2023

Hosted by  VIREC

Angela Jannotta, BA

Data Access and Policy Specialist



# VIReC DATA ACCESS MINISERIES

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

## **Topics Include:**

VA Data Access for Research

VA Data Access for Preparatory to Research

VA Data Access for Operations





## UPCOMING DATA ACCESS SESSIONS

All session below will be held from 3:00pm-4:00pm ET

Date	Topic
9/6/23	VA Data Access for Research
10/4/23	VA Data Access for Preparatory to Research
11/1/23	VA Data Access for Operations

Visit the [VIReC Cyberseminars](#) page for more information & registration links.

Visit [HSR&D's VIReC Cyberseminar Archive](#) page to watch previous sessions.



Where can I  
download a  
copy of the  
slides?

VA HSR&D

CYBERSEMINARS



## SAMPLE EMAIL

**A Practical Approach to Working with VA-Purchased Community  
Care Data**

Thursday, October 13, 2022

2:00 PM | (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada) | 1 hr

Please download today's slides

Please click here for today's live captions

Join webinar

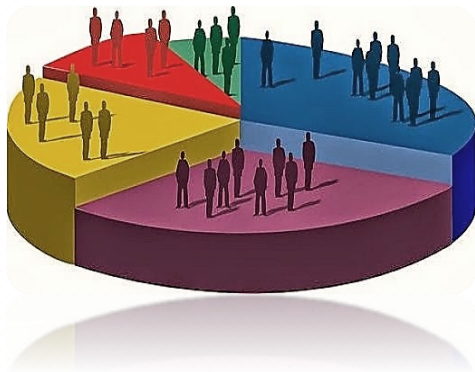
More ways to join:

Join from the webinar link

<https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/j.php?>

# Poll #1:

*What is your primary **role** in projects using VA data?*

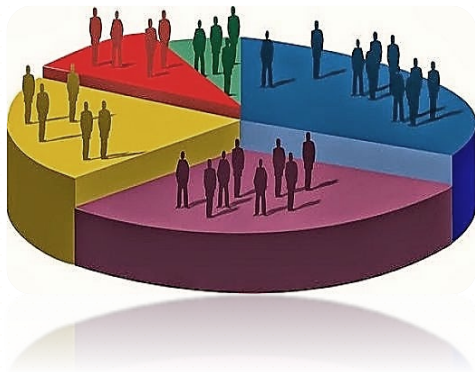


- Investigator, PI, Co-I
- Statistician, methodologist, biostatistician
- Data manager, analyst, or programmer
- Project coordinator
- Other – please describe via the chat function



## Poll #2:

*How many **years of experience** working with VA data?*



- None – I'm brand new to this!
- 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





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# Session roadmap

- VA Data Use and How VA Defines “Research”
- Essentials for Research Data Access
- Data Sources and Tools for Research
- Pathways to Data Content & Access
- Submitting a DART Request
- Non-DART Research Data Access Requests





# Session roadmap

- **VA Data Use and How VA Defines “Research”**
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# VA Data

VHA maintains patient health information and other data used for a variety of purposes, such as program administration, healthcare quality improvement, program evaluation, and research. The process for requesting access to data is based on how the data will be used.

Kok, L. [Research vs Operations Decision Tool](#). Hines IL: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Health Services Research & Development Service, VA Information Resource Center; March, 2017.



# How does VA define research?

“Research” is...



“A systematic investigation (including research development, testing, and evaluation) designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge” or “to expand the knowledge base of a scientific discipline (or other scholarly field of study).”



Funded or otherwise supported as **research** by the Office of Research & Development (ORD) or any other entity

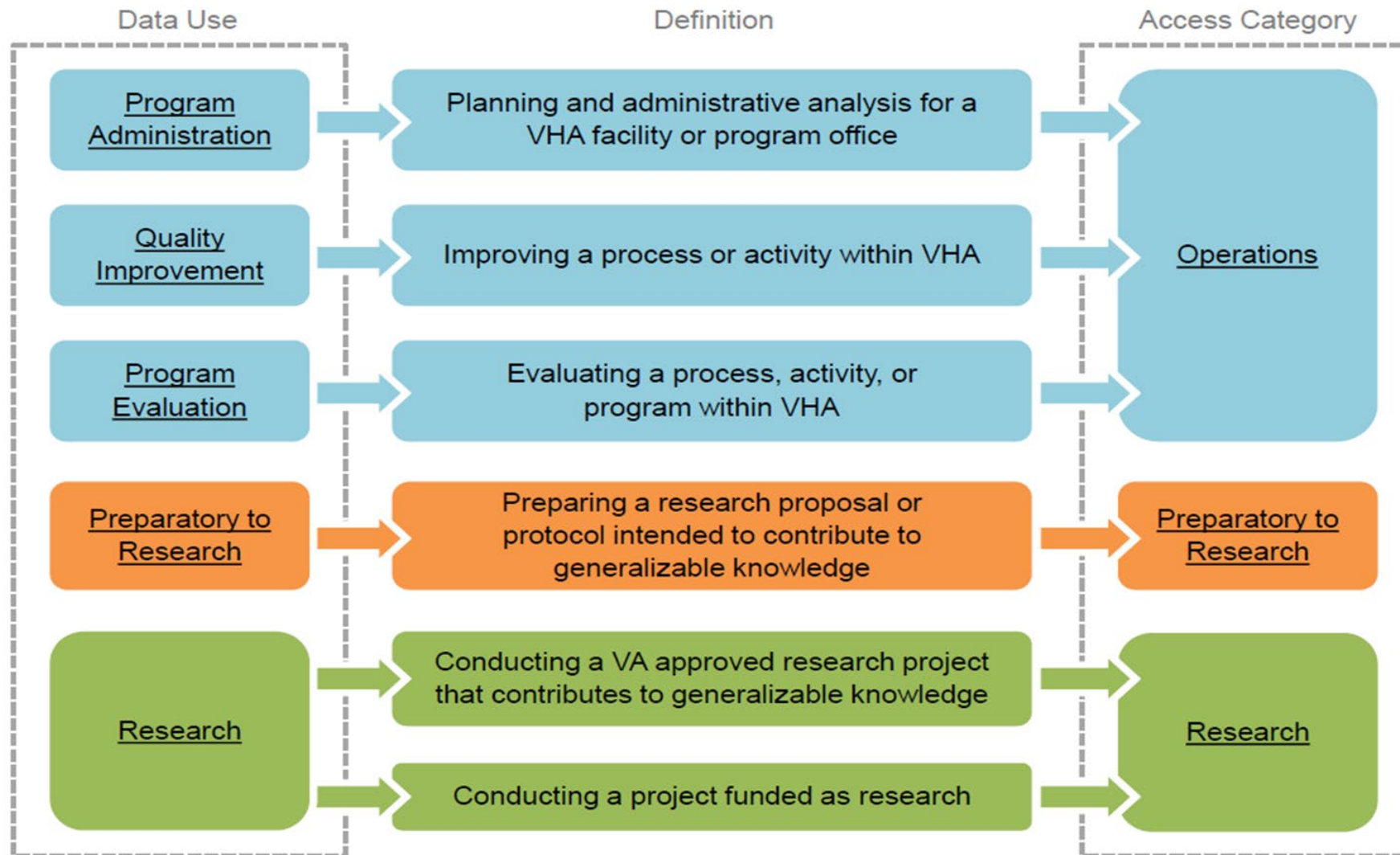


Clinical investigations as defined under Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations



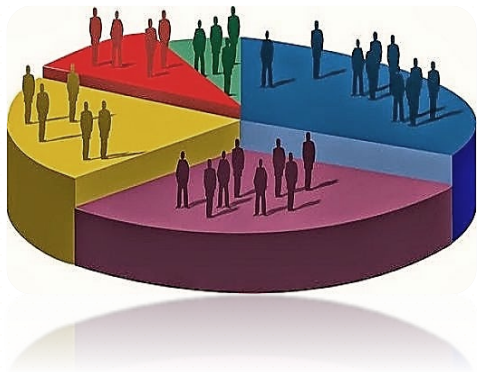
# Access Category Finder Tool

<https://vaww.virec.research.va.gov/Access/Research-vs-Operations-Decision-Tool.pdf?pdf=Decision-Tool>



## Poll #3:

*Have you ever submitted a request for research access to VA data?*



- Yes
- No



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# What is needed to prepare for research that uses VA data?

1.

A protocol that includes the types of data needed that has been reviewed and approved by your VA facility officials (IRB where applicable and R&DC).

2.

Information on where to find all the types of data that are needed.

3.

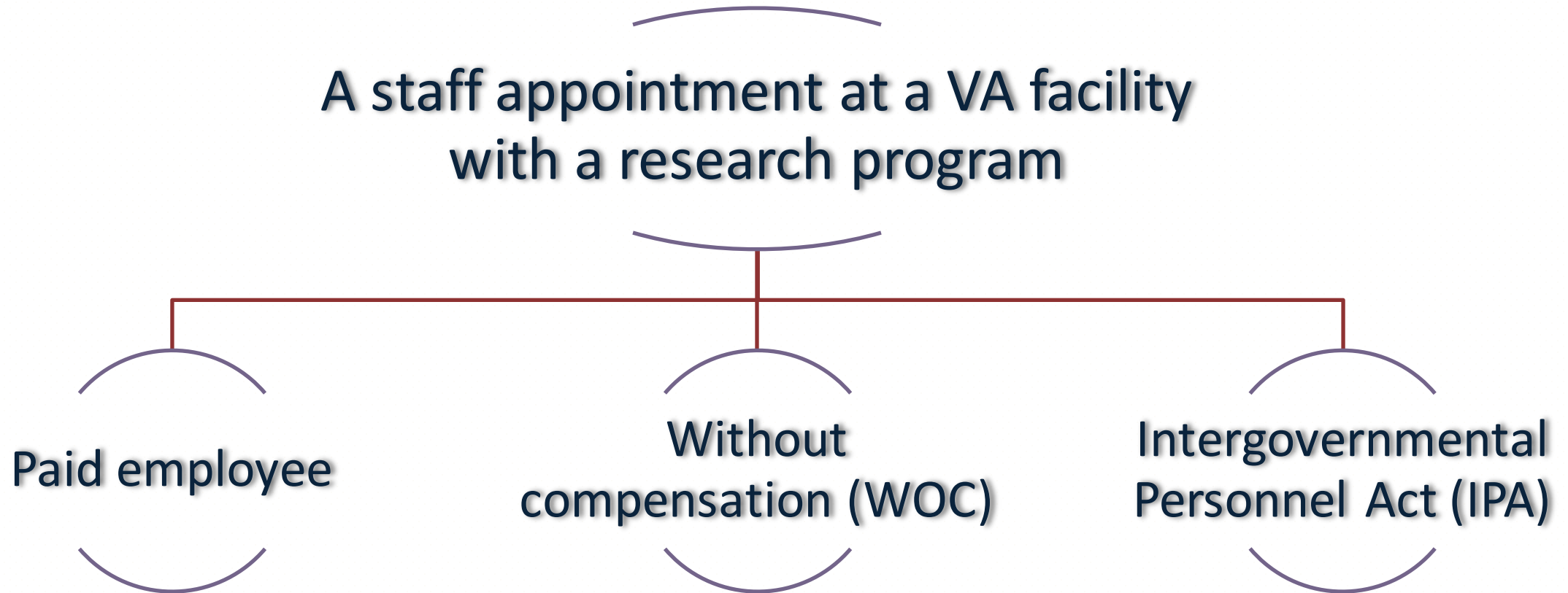
Data access request(s) for the VA data source(s) needed for your study.

4.

A data storage and analytic platform, e.g., a VINCI workspace.



# Requirement for Engaging in VA Research





# Principle-based Ethics Framework for VA Data Access and Use



## [The National Center for Ethics in Health Care \(NCEHC\)](#)

- Honor Veterans' values, goals, and preferences by driving healthcare ethics standards and nurturing strong healthcare ethics communities



## [AR52-Final Rule-Principle-Based Ethics Framework for Access to and Use of Veteran Data](#)

- Final rule effective as of July 7, 2022

Questions: [vhaethics@va.gov](mailto:vhaethics@va.gov)



# Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects = The Common Rule

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) Common Rule (Title 45 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 46, Subpart A) – “Basic HHS Policy for Protection of Human Research Subjects”

The Common Rule is codified for VA at [Title 38 CFR, Chapter 1, Part 16](#) – “Protection of Human Subjects”

The “Revised Common Rule” or “2018 Common Rule” includes new exemption categories and rules for continuing reviews

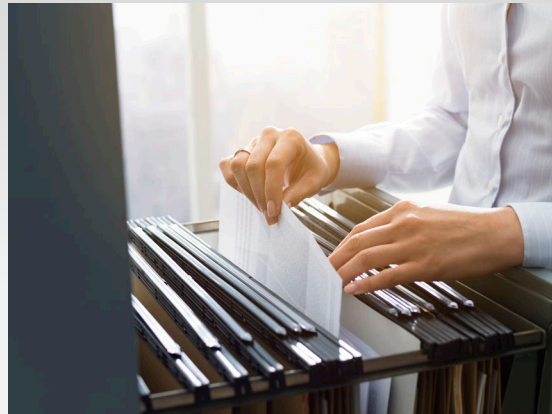


# HIPAA: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act

The **HIPAA Privacy Rule** applies to all use of protected health information (PHI) by HIPAA-covered entities including health plans, health care providers, and health care clearinghouses who electronically transmit claims information to a health plan.

Requirements for use of PHI differ based on whether the data is used for research or operations (non-research).

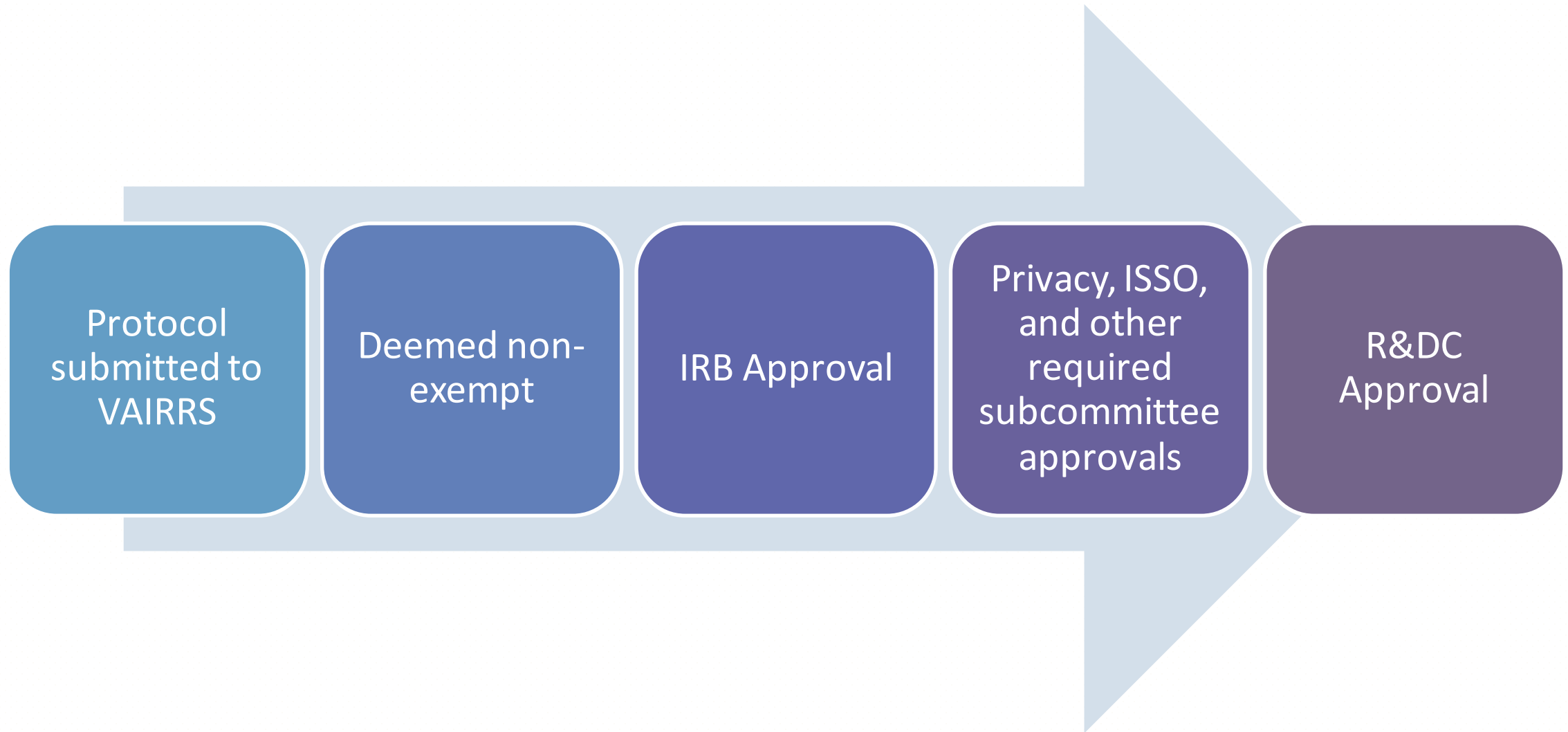
Use or disclosure of PHI for research studies may be done only with patient authorization -- or with a waiver, partial or for the entire study – approved by an IRB or Privacy Board.



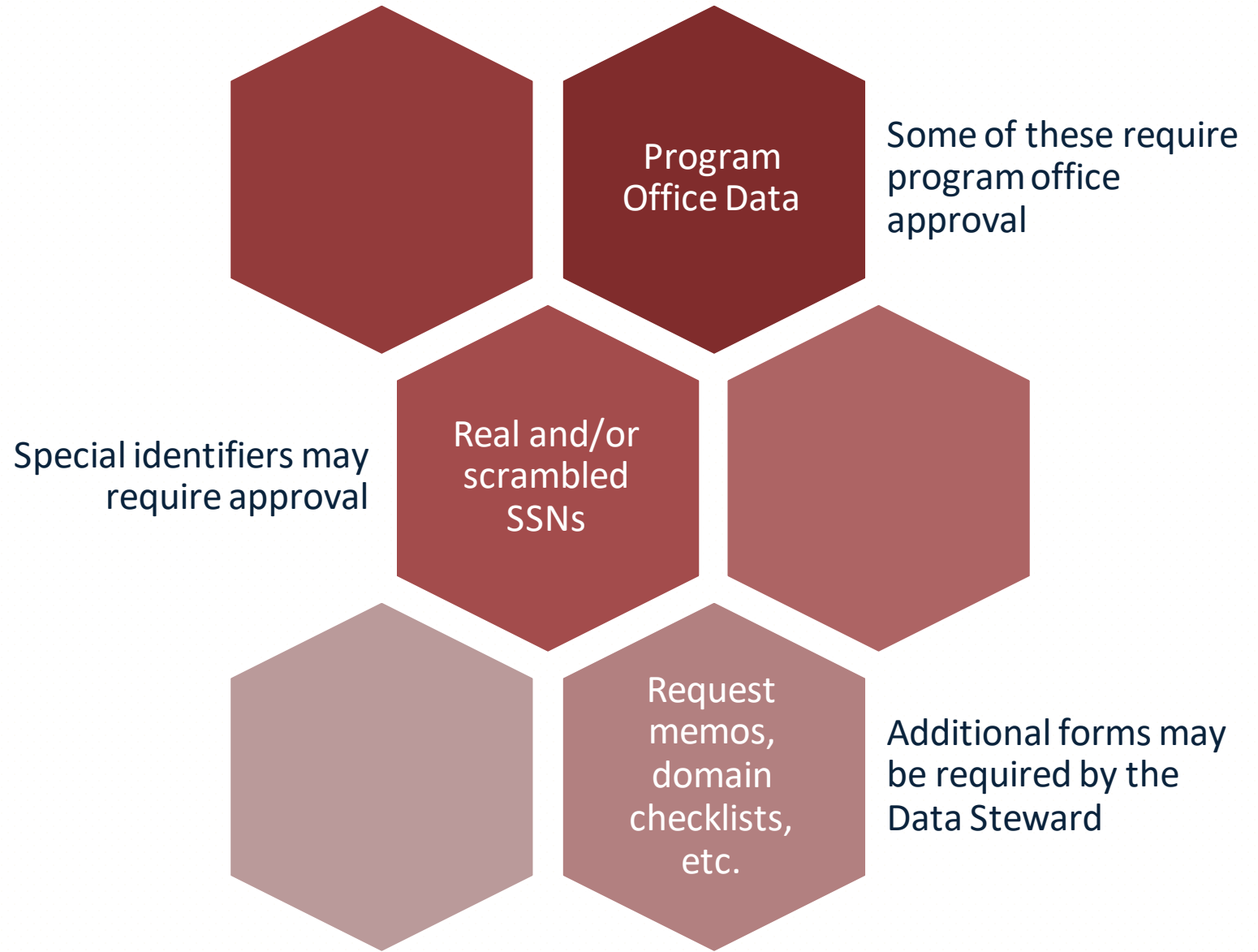
HIPAA research requirements also apply to research exempt from initial IRB review



# VA Innovation and Research Review System (VAIRRS)



Are any other documents needed?



# Session roadmap

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# Data Sources

Currently there are  
30+ VA data sources  
available including:



# Data Tools

Systems for  
accessing or  
analyzing data

Electronic Patient  
Health Records

Computerized Patient  
Record System  
(CPRS/VistA)

Cerner  
Millenium  
(local)

Joint Longitudinal  
Viewer (JLV)  
(national & local EHR)

Data Storage &  
Analytic Platforms

SAS Grid  
Computing Environment

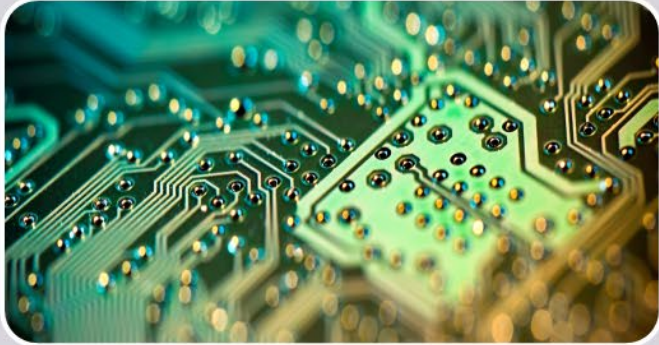
VA Informatics  
and Computing  
Infrastructure (VINCI)

Prospect – Research  
analytic environment in  
VA Enterprise Cloud





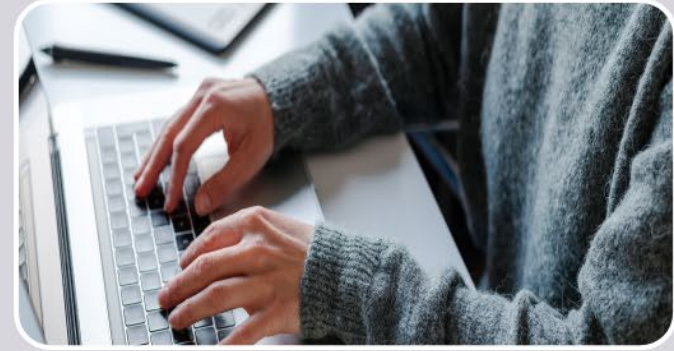
# Workspace on a Data Storage & Analytic Platform, e.g., VINCI



The VINCI project workspace is a VA-hosted computing environment that is accessed through a secure remote connection



It provides a centralized, consolidated, and secure development and research platform for conducting VA studies



VINCI automatically grants access for approved project staff to a VINCI project workspace following DART approval



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# Information on Where to Find Types of Data Needed

**VIREc** INTRANET

**VA INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER (VIREc)**

VIREc Home  
 About Us  
 VA/CMS Data for Research  
 VHA Data Portal  
 New Users of VA Data  
 FAQs  
 Acronym Lookup  
 HelpDesk  
 Report Broken Link  
 How are we doing?

Quick tips on popular topics related to using VA data for research. [Learn more...](#)

**New from VIREc**

We're Hiring!

CONVERSATIONS ABOUT VA DATA

HSRI

VIREc Website  
various data resources

Department of Veterans Affairs  
**VHA Data Portal**

Data Sources | Data Access | Tools & Applications

## Welcome to the VHA Data Portal

The VHA Data Portal promotes a knowledge-sharing culture that supports the needs of VHA data users. The Portal integrates information from multiple sources into a single location to promote a comprehensive knowledge base and to facilitate positive end user experiences.

VHA Data Portal  
data source content



**VIREC** INTRANET

Search All VA Web Pages  Search [Open Advanced Search](#)

**VA INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER (VIREC)**

VIREC Home  
 About Us  
 VA/CMS Data for Research  
 VHA Data Portal  
 New Users of VA Data  
 FAQs  
 Acronym Lookup  
 HelpDesk  
 Report Broken Link  
 How are we doing?

**Quick tips on popular topics related to using VA data for research. [Learn more...](#)**

**Data Issues Brief**  
**Upcoming Cyberseminars**  
**Real SSN Data Request Process**  
**VA REDCap Project**  
**Data Tip of the Month**

**New from VIREC**

**We're Hiring!**  
 Check out the [Announcements page](#) on our Internet site to see descriptions of currently open positions and required skills.

**Data Issues Brief**  
 The [Summer Issue](#) delivers the most recent data news, including EHRM in action, data updates, and more.

**Upcoming Cyberseminars**  
 - Sent 6: VA Data Access for Research

**VIREC Resources**

**Meet VIREC, The Researcher's Guide to VA Data:**  
 Learn about us, our products, and how to navigate our web environments.

**Learn about VA data:**

- [+ Data Sources](#)
- [+ Data Topics](#)
- [+ Data Tools](#)

**EHRM Resources:**

**CONVERSATIONS ABOUT VA DATA**  
**HSRData Listserv**

**CURRENT VA DATA NEWS**  
**Data Issues Brief**

## VIREC Website

A key source of data knowledge and guidance regarding VA data and information systems.

<http://https://vaww.virec.research.va.gov/Index.htm>



The VIREC website offers a wide variety of supportive resources for all VA data users.

If you need information about additional data sources for research available through DART, visit the VHA Data Portal.

## VIREC Resources

[Factbooks](#): Describe tables, columns, and values in select CDW Domains.

[Research User Guides](#): Detailed information on select data sources, including variable descriptions.

[The Researcher's Notebook](#): Practical information on using data from researchers in the field.

[Cyberseminars](#): Expert discussion and guidance on key issues related to using VA data.

[Quick Peek Videos](#): Short demonstrations on various aspects of VA data or VA data resources.

[Data Reports](#): Technical reports, data investigations, data reviews, and data quality updates.

[Summary Information](#): Current and historical information about dataset variables, counts, and frequencies.



# VHA Data Portal

Your best source for learning about VA data sources and how to request access.

<http://vaww.vhadataportal.med.va.gov/>

The screenshot shows the VHA Data Portal website. At the top right, there is a navigation menu with links: Home, About Us, Contact Us, FAQ, and Report Broken Link. Below this is the Department of Veterans Affairs logo and the text "Department of Veterans Affairs VHA Data Portal". To the right of the logo is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar is a horizontal navigation menu with tabs: Data Sources, Data Access, Tools & Applications, Resources, Training, Policy & Admin, and Support.

**Welcome to the VHA Data Portal**

The VHA Data Portal promotes a knowledge-sharing culture that supports the needs of VHA data users. The Portal integrates information from multiple sources into a single location to promote a comprehensive knowledge base and to facilitate a positive end-user experience.

**The one-stop-shop for data users' needs.**

Our home page is designed to help get you the information you need. The badges below link to access information and other relevant resources for a particular data use need. Check out the top navigation menu to locate resources by category. [Tell us what you think.](#)

**New Data User**

**Research**

**COVID-19**

The [COVID-19 Shared Data Resource](#) is a new data domain containing information related to COVID-19 in and outside of VA. It is comprised of data from various sources and uses case definitions, concept definitions, VA data mappings, and other information that are collected, validated, and updated collaboratively across VA.

COVID-19 information and resources for VA research administrators, investigators, and staff including funding opportunities, links to webinars, and other resources are available from the [ORD COVID-19 for the VA Research Community SharePoint site](#) and [COVID-19 Resources for the HSR&D Research Community web page](#).

**Upcoming Events**

- + [Cyberseminars](#)
- + [VINCI Training Hour](#)

**News**





# Department of Veterans Affairs VHA Data Portal

Data Sources

Data Access

Tools & Applications

Resources

Training

Policy & Admin

Support

Data Sources Overview

ADUSH Enrollment File

Bereaved Family Survey

CAN Scores

CART Program Data

CDW

COVID-19 Shared Data Resource

DAVINCI

eQM Data

HBPC Masterfile

HERC Cost Data

Homeless Registry

LCSDP Cohort

MCA (formerly DSS) NDEs

MCA (formerly DSS) Web Reports

Medical SAS Inpatient & Outpatient Data Sets

NPCD

## VHA Data Portal

edge-sharing culture that  
he Portal integrates  
single location to promote  
to facilitate a positive end-

### users' needs.

ou the information you  
nformation and other  
se need. Check out the  
by category. Tell us what



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- + [VINCI Training Hour](#)



### News





[Data Sources](#)
[Data Access](#)
[Tools & Applications](#)
[Resources](#)
[Training](#)
[Policy & Admin](#)
[Support](#)
[Data Sources](#) > [CDW](#)

#### Quick View

CDW is an evolving repository of national VHA data. It is a physical implementation of a logical data model at the enterprise level for VHA.

#### CDW

[Overview](#)  
[Content](#)  
[Structure](#)  
[Requesting Data Access](#)  
[Resources](#)

## Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)

### Overview

VHA's Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW) is a national repository comprising data from several VHA clinical and administrative systems, including the Electronic Health Record (EHR). The objective of CDW is to facilitate reporting and data analysis at the enterprise level by incorporating data from multiple data sets throughout the VHA into one standard database structure. CDW provides data and tools to support management decision making, performance measurement, and research objectives.

### Content

CDW is an evolving repository of national VHA data containing clinical, enrollment, financial, administrative, utilization, Veteran benefits information and more. Data are available from October 1999 to present. Visit the [CDW SharePoint site](#) and [VINCI-CDW Data Sources](#) page for more information about CDW data.

**CDW Production Data Domains** - Allergy, Appointment, Consult, CPRS Orders, Dental, Dimensions (CDW), Health Factors, Immunization, Inpatient, Lab Chemistry, Lab Microbiology, Mental Health Assessment, Outpatient, Patient, PCMM, Pharmacy BCMA (Bar Code Medication Administration), Pharmacy Outreach, Purchased Care (Fee), SPatient, Staff, SStaff, and Vital Signs.

**CDW Raw Data Domains** - Beneficiary Travel (CBO), Bill Claims (CBO), Compensation & Pension Exam, Echocardiogram, Emergency Dept. Int. Software (EDIS), Equipment Inventory, IFCAP, Intravenous Meds (IV), Unit Dose, MyHealthe Vet, Non-VA Meds, Oncology, Paid, Prosthetics, Radiology, and Surgery.





## Structure

CDW uses multiple servers to store data. Data on these servers are stored in relational databases organized into data domains. Each domain comprises logically or conceptually related sets of data tables. Domains generally indicate the VistA application from which most of the data elements originate (e.g., Vital Signs or Mental Health Assessment).

CDW SQL databases are categorized as production or raw.

- **CDW Production** - Data on the CDW-prod servers are mostly uploaded from VistA with no filtering of records, editing, or business rules applied. These data are modeled and indexed to promote efficient querying.
- **CDW Raw** - CDW-Raw refers to data from the source (e.g., VistA). These data are not modeled or indexed.

## Requesting Data Access

VHA grants access to data based on how it will be used. These uses are organized into data access categories, which determine the appropriate process for requesting permission to access data. Select a category below for information on requesting access privileges to the CDW production and raw databases. If you're not sure which option to choose, visit the [Data Access Overview](#) page for additional guidance.


- [+ Operations/ Non-Research](#)
- [+ Preparatory to Research \(PTR\)](#)
- [+ Research](#)

## Resources

- The [CDW SharePoint site](#) contains information on newly released and missing data, an up-to-date list of data domains, structural documentation, and more.
- VIREC provides several resources supporting the use of CDW:
  - [CDW Factbooks](#) describe of tables, columns, and values in select CDW Domains and include domain-specific SQL "starter language" for those new to CDW, relational databases, and SQL.
  - Issues of *The Researcher's Notebook* describe methodological approaches to working with CDW data.
  - [Getting Started with CDW Data Cyberseminars](#) provide an introductory foundation aimed at making CDW and relational data less intimidating.



Home About Us Contact Us FAQ Report Broken Link


 Department of Veterans Affairs  
**VHA Data Portal**

[Data Sources](#)
[Data Access](#)
[Tools & Applications](#)
[Resources](#)
[Training](#)
[Policy & Admin](#)
[Support](#)

Data Access ► Research Access

#### On This Page

[Overview](#)  
[Requesting Access](#)  
[Data Sources](#)  
[Tools](#)

#### Did You Know?

Research data users may request access to CDW data with either real or scrambled SSNs. There are specific additional access requirements for Vital Status and DSS NDE data domains.

#### Tips for Requestors

Research data users do not access CDW data directly.

## Research Access

### Overview

VHA Researchers can request access to VHA data sources and data access tools for a research protocol approved by a VA Research and Development (R&D) Committee and reviewed by an Institutional Review Board (IRB). VHA data, along with other types of health information, enable VHA investigators to conduct groundbreaking research that improves the delivery of health care to Veterans and the general public.

**Note:** The following resources provide information on determining whether a VHA operations activity constitutes research:

- [Research vs Operations Decision Tool](#)
- [Program Guide 1200.21: VHA Operations Activities That May Constitute Research](#) (Jan 2019)

### Types of Data Access

Expand or select a data source in the list below to view an outline of its data request process.

- [Direct Access](#)
- [Data Extracts](#)



## Requesting Access

Access to data sources and data access tools is available through several request processes, including:

- [Data Access Request Tracker \(DART\) Research Request Process](#)
- [Patient Care Services \(PCS\) Request Process](#)
- [Pharmacy Benefits Management \(PBM\) Request Process](#)
- [VIReC's CMS and USRDS Data for Request Process](#)
- [VINCI Workspace Request Process](#)
- [Local National Social Security Database \(NSSD\) POC Request Process](#)

Determining which process to use for requesting

### **Data Source Request Processes**

Expand or select a data source in the list below to view an outline of its data request process.

-  [Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health \(ADUSH\) Enrollment Files](#)
-  [Bereaved Family Survey \(BFS\) Database](#)
-  [Care Assessment Need \(CAN\) Scores](#)

### **Tools Request Processes**

Expand or select a data access tool in the list below to view an outline of its access request process.

-  [CAPRI](#)
-  [CPRS](#)
-  [Joint Legacy Viewer \(JLV\)](#)
-  [SAS/GRID](#)



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- [VINCI Workspace Request Process](#)
- [Local National Social Security Database \(NSSD\) POC Request Process](#)

Determining which process to use for requesting access depends on the data source or data access tool:

## DART Research Request Process

Overview

Submitting a Request

Documents & Forms

Request Metrics

Resources

### Submitting a DART Request

This is a general overview of the process for submitting a DART research request. Data source specific tips and essential information for requesting access are available from each [data source page](#).

The [DART User Guide](#) and [video tutorials for IRB research requests](#) provide detailed instructions and walk you through each step of the process.

#### Getting Started

1. [Launch DART.](#)





HOME &gt; DART Dashboard

[DART User Guide](#)To-Do List **0**Requests **0**

Requests

[Create a New Request](#)

Filter

All

Preparatory to Research

Research

Tracking #

Name

Type

Contact

Submitted

Status

Actions



**VINCI** Data Access Request Tracker (DART) Welcome *Jammotta, Angela M.*

HOME > DART Dashboard [DART User Guide](#)

To-Do List **0** Requ

**Requests** [Create a New Request](#)

Filter All Preparatory to Research

Tracking #	Name	Status	Actions
------------	------	--------	---------

### New Request ✕

**Official Study Name \***

**Request Type**

\* Required

[Cancel](#) [Create Request](#)





Information

Participants

Data

Documents

Submit

2022-03-050-D

Using VA Research Data to Compare COPD Symptoms and Treatment in Female Veterans



History



Communication

## **i** Activity Information

### REQUEST INFORMATION



Short Name \*

COPD in Female Veterans

Does your project have an IRB or other Project Number?

 Yes  
 No

IRB or Project Number \*

2022XYZ123

Does your project have an IRB or R&amp;D Committee approval expiration date?

 Yes  
 No

IRB or R&amp;D Committee Approval Expiration Date \*

10/27/2022



Study Start Date \*


10/30/2020

Anticipated Study Close Date \*

12/15/2025





 **Exemptions & Informed Consent \***

1. Has your study been determined to be an exempt human subjects study?  
 Yes  
 No
- 1a. Does your study require subjects to give informed consent orally or in writing - or a HIPAA authorization in writing?  
 Yes  
 No
- 1b. Does your study have IRB approval for a full Waiver of Informed Consent?  
 Yes  
 No

 **HIPAA Authorization \***

2. Does your study have IRB or Privacy Board approval for a Waiver of HIPAA authorization?  
 Yes  
 No
- 2a. Is the Waiver of HIPAA authorization only for recruiting or determining subject's eligibility?  
 Yes  
 No
- 2b. Is the Waiver of HIPAA authorization for the entire study?  
 Yes  
 No

\* Required

Select responses applicable to approved project

 ← Previous

Validate

Save Draft

Next →

**VINCI** Data Access Request Tracker (DART) Welcome *Jannotta, Angela M.*

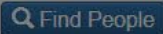
HOME > DART Dashboard > Requests

Information **Participants** DART User Guide

2022-03-050-D Using VA Research Data

## Participants

PARTICIPANTS & LOCATIONS

Name	AD Alias	Location
		

← Previous Validate Save Draft Next →

### Find People By Name (Last Name, First Name)

Name  Find Now

Click or use the enter key on any row to select a person.

Full Name	Username
Jannotta, Angela M.	VHAHINJannoA

Cancel



Information

Participants

Data

Documents

Submit



History



Communication

2022-03-050-D

Using VA Research Data to Compare COPD Symptoms and Treatment in Female Veterans

## Participants

### PARTICIPANTS & LOCATIONS

Name	AD Alias	Location	Notifications	Data Access	CAPRI/JLV Application Account	Delete
Jannotta, Angela M.	VHAHINJannoA	(578) Hines, IL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Kok, Linda	VHAHINKokL	(578) Hines, IL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Weismantle, Katrine W	VHAANNWeismK	(578) Hines, IL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ippolito, Dolores	VHAHINIppolD	(578) Hines, IL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Select a Location

Primary	Location	Principal Investigator
★	(578) Hines, IL	Jannotta, Angela M.





Information

Participants

Data

Documents

Submit



History



Communication

2022-03-050-D

Using VA Research Data to Compare COPD Symptoms and Treatment in Female Veterans

## Data Sources

Data Storage Location \*

- VINCI
- Other Server Location

Name of facility \*

Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital

Address \*

5000 S. 5th Ave Hines, IL 60141

Building

18

Room #

125B



Will data be transferred external to the VHA? \* 

*Currently CDW cannot approve a research request that would include disclosing the CDW data (identifiable or de-identified) outside of VHA without a signed research consent and HIPAA authorization from the individual because of the risk of re-identification. The data may be used (internally or within VHA) for the approved protocol. If "finder" files are to be sent out to Federal or state agencies for the purpose of the Federal or state agency disclosing information on the individual back to VA per SOR 34VA12, a DUA between the PI and the external agency must be submitted with the DART application.*

- No  
 Yes (DUA is required)

Name of  
Company/Agency\*

Loyola University Medical Center

Street \*

2160 S 1st Ave

City \*


Maywood

State \*

IL

Zip Code \*

60153

Data Access Systems 

- SAS Grid



IDENTIFIERS [\(More about identifiers\)](#)

- Real SSN
- Scrambled SSN
- Identifiable data but no real or scrambled SSNs

## REQUESTED DATA SOURCES

- ADUSH Enrollment Files
- Bereaved Family Survey
- CAPRI & Joint Legacy Viewer (JLV) - Individuals needing system access are selected on the Participants page and require Real SSN approval
- Care Assessment Need Score (CAN Score) - Scrambled SSN approval required
- Clinical Assessment Reporting and Tracking (CART) CV

## Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)

- Production Domains
- Raw Domains
- Text Integration Utility (TIU) Text Notes - Real SSN approval required
- COVID-19: Shared Data Resource
- DoD-VA Infrastructure for Clinical Intelligence (DAVINCI)

## Geriatrics and Extended Care (GEC)

- Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) Masterfile





## Documents

**NOTICE:** Always check the Data Steward's web site ([DART Process and Forms](#)) for the latest version of forms. Outdated forms will not be accepted. If a required document is actually several documents, such as an IRB and a Continuing IRB, combine them into one document before uploading. When you are required to replace documents after submission, it is easier for the reviewer if you replace all the documents that are changing at one time.

### Required Documents

#### REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

##### 🚩 (578) Hines, IL ( Primary Site )

###### Research Request Memo

Required for Web Reports - Real SSN approval required, CAPRI & JLV, Production Domains, Text Integration Utility (TIU) Text Notes - Real SSN approval required, Vital Status

[Upload](#)

###### Research Study Institutional Review Board (IRB) Approval Letter or other research determination document

Required for Web Reports - Real SSN approval required, CAPRI & JLV, Production Domains, Text Integration Utility (TIU) Text Notes - Real SSN approval required, Vital Status

[Upload](#)

###### Sample Informed Consent and HIPAA Authorization

Required for Web Reports - Real SSN approval required, CAPRI & JLV, Production Domains, Text Integration Utility (TIU) Text Notes - Real SSN approval required, Vital Status

[Upload](#)

Research and Development (RD) Committee Approval Letter  
Required for Web Reports - Real SSN approval required, CAPRI & JLV,  
Production Domains, Text Integration Utility (TIU) Text Notes - Real SSN  
approval required, Vital Status

Data Use Agreement  
Required for Web Reports - Real SSN approval required, CAPRI & JLV,  
Production Domains, Text Integration Utility (TIU) Text Notes - Real SSN  
approval required, Vital Status

IRB Approval of Waiver of HIPAA-Compliant Authorization  
Required for Web Reports - Real SSN approval required, CAPRI & JLV,  
Production Domains, Text Integration Utility (TIU) Text Notes - Real SSN  
approval required, Vital Status

Research Protocol  
Required for Web Reports - Real SSN approval required, CAPRI & JLV,  
Production Domains, Text Integration Utility (TIU) Text Notes - Real SSN  
approval required, Vital Status

CDW-Domain Checklist  
Required for Production Domains

Real SSN Access Request  
Required for Web Reports - Real SSN approval required, CAPRI & JLV,  
Production Domains, Text Integration Utility (TIU) Text Notes - Real SSN  
approval required, Vital Status

2022-03-050-D RD Letter-(578) Hines, IL.pdf  
(View) Upload

V1 ▾ Uploaded Mar 18 2022 11:53AM by Jannotta,  
Angela M.

2022-03-050-D DUA-(578) Hines, IL.pdf (View)  
Upload

V1 Uploaded 03/20/22 05:15PM by Jannotta, Angela M.

2022-03-050-D Waiver of HIPAA Auth-(578)  
Hines, IL.pdf (View) Upload

V2 ▾ Uploaded Mar 18 2022 11:53AM by Jannotta,  
Angela M.

2022-03-050-D Research Protocol-(578) Hines,  
IL.pdf (View) Upload

V1 ▾ Uploaded Mar 18 2022 11:54AM by Jannotta,  
Angela M.

2022-03-050-D CDW-Domain Checklist-(578)  
Hines, IL.pdf (View) Upload

V1 ▾ Uploaded Mar 18 2022 11:54AM by Jannotta,  
Angela M.

2022-03-050-D Real SSN Access Request-  
(578) Hines, IL.pdf (View) Upload

V1 ▾ Uploaded Mar 18 2022 11:54AM by Jannotta,  
Angela M.





Jannotta, Angela M. ( Primary Investigator )



Vital Status Rules of Behavior  
Required for Vital Status

2022-03-050-D Vital Status ROB-Jannotta,  
Angela M..pdf (View) Upload

V1 ▾ Uploaded Mar 18 2022 11:55AM by Jannotta,  
Angela M.

EHR Access Request Form  
Required for CAPRI & JLV

2022-03-050-D EHR Access Request Form-  
Jannotta, Angela M..pdf (View) Upload

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Angela M.

Ippolito, Dolores



Vital Status Rules of Behavior  
Required for Vital Status

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Dolores.pdf (View) Upload

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Angela M.





Information

Participants

Data

Documents

Submit



History



Communication

2022-03-050-D

Using VA Research Data to Compare COPD Symptoms and Treatment in Female Veterans

## ✓ Submit

### SUBMIT REQUEST

**Request form incomplete!** You may submit your request when all required information has been entered. ✕

Error: Request must specify at least one Data Storage Location (VINCI or Local VA Server Location).

Error: Document must be uploaded: Vital Status Rules of Behavior

Error: Document must be uploaded: Vital Status Rules of Behavior

Error: Document must be uploaded: Vital Status Rules of Behavior

Error: Document must be uploaded: Vital Status Rules of Behavior

Error: Document must be uploaded: EHR Access Request Form

Error: Document must be uploaded: EHR Access Request Form

Error: Document must be uploaded: EHR Access Request Form

Error: Document must be uploaded: Research Request Memo

Error: Document must be uploaded: Research Study Institutional Review Board (IRB) Approval Letter or other research determination document

Error: Document must be uploaded: Sample Informed Consent and HIPAA Authorization

Error: Document must be uploaded: Research and Development (RD) Committee Approval Letter

Error: Document must be uploaded: IRB Approval of Waiver of HIPAA-Compliant Authorization

Error: Document must be uploaded: Research Protocol

Error: Document must be uploaded: Real SSN Access Request



[HOME](#) > [DART Dashboard](#) > [Requests](#)[DART User Guide](#)[Information](#)[Participants](#)[Data](#)[Documents](#)[Submit](#)[History](#)[Communication](#)

2022-03-050-D

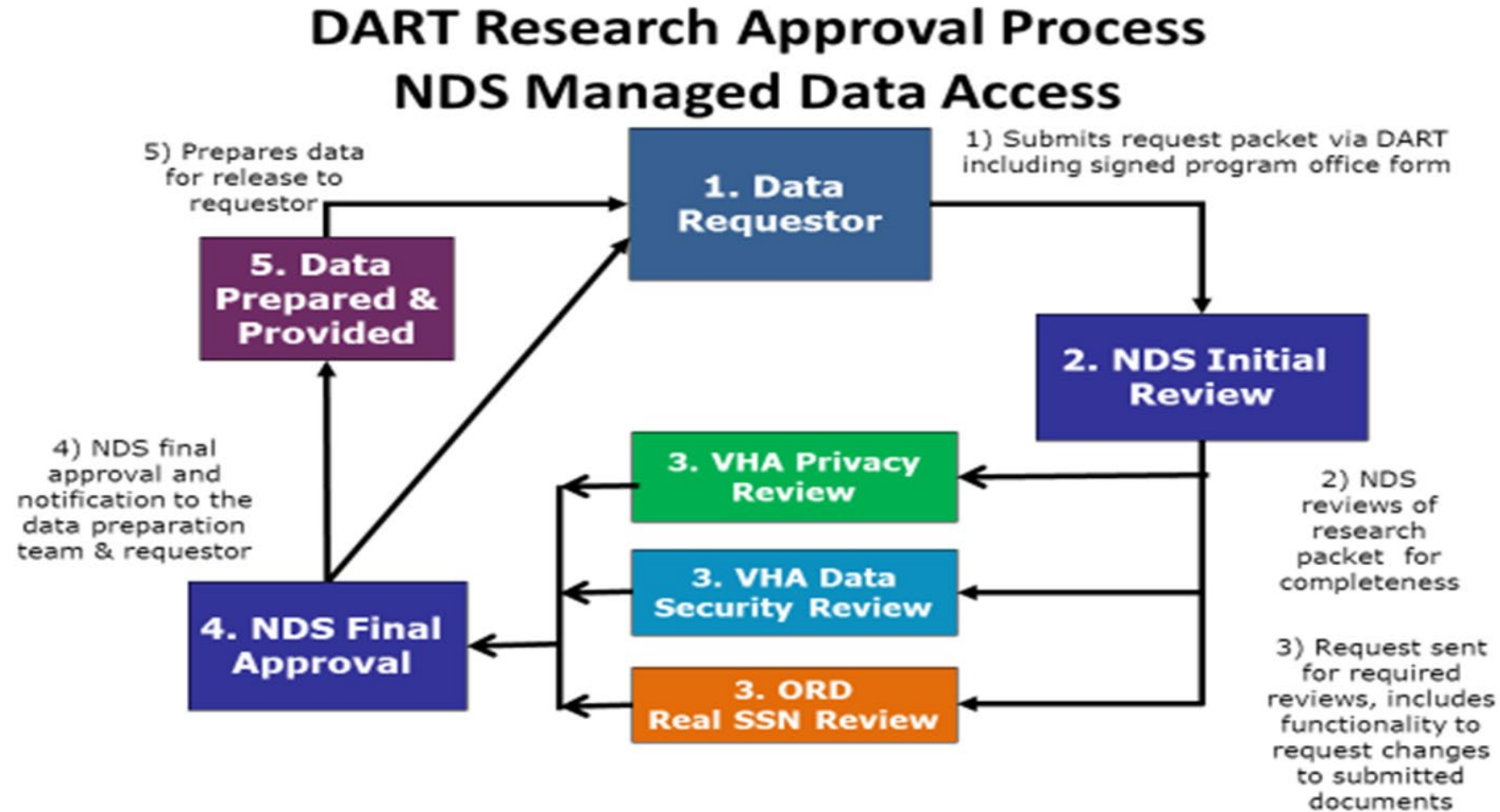
Using VA Research Data to Compare COPD Symptoms and Treatment in Female Veterans

**Submit**

SUBMIT REQUEST

**Request form complete!** You may now submit your request. [Submit Request](#)

# NDS DART Research Review Process



# Data Provisioning for Research

VINCI data managers  
prepare approved cohort  
data sets (views) for  
approved data sources.

Delivered to a VINCI project  
workspace



# Session roadmap

- VA Data Use and How VA Defines “Research”
- Essentials for Research Data Access
- Data Sources and Tools for Research
- Pathways to Data Content & Access
- Submitting a DART Request
- **Non-DART Research Data Access Requests**



# Non-DART Request Processes for VA Research Data Access

Pharmacy Benefits  
Management  
(PBM)

VA/CMS & USRDS  
Data for Research

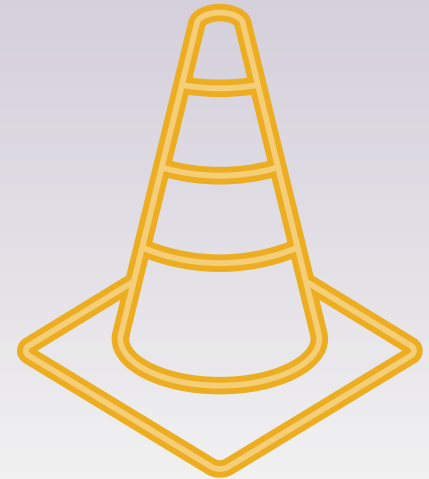
VA/DoD Mortality  
Data Repository



# Pharmacy Benefits Management (PBM) Requests

The PBM program office is in the process of rebuilding the website that houses PBM data web content.

In the interim, please contact [Nikia.Griffith@va.gov](mailto:Nikia.Griffith@va.gov) with questions and for information on requesting access to PBM data.





# CMS & USRDS Data for VA Research

Acquired by VA from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and United States Renal Data Systems (USRDS)

Familiarize yourself with VIREC's [VA/CMS Data for Request](#) page and the [CMS and USRDS Data](#) page on the VHA Data Portal

Schedule a pre-request consultation before getting any approvals on your CMS and USRDS research data access request forms

Data access forms must be signed by the PI and facility officials

Project Information & Authorization Form

Data Security Compliance Form

Data Description Form

VA/CMS Rules of Behavior



# Mortality Data Repository Requests

Administered jointly by VHA's Suicide Prevention Program and the Department of Defense (DoD)

Contains records for all deaths (not limited to suicides) occurring after 01/01/1979 for all Veterans, service members, and VHA users identified in electronic records provided by VA and DoD partners

Data are updated annually

Contact [VHACANMDRDataRequests@va.gov](mailto:VHACANMDRDataRequests@va.gov)

- Most current year available
- Request application materials
- Assistance with submissions
- More information



THANK YOU!  
Questions?



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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**Linda Kok**

Senior Analyst for Data Access and Policy  
linda.kok@va.gov

**Tim Trautman**

VINCI Program Manager  
VINCIServices@va.gov

**Andrew Holbrook**

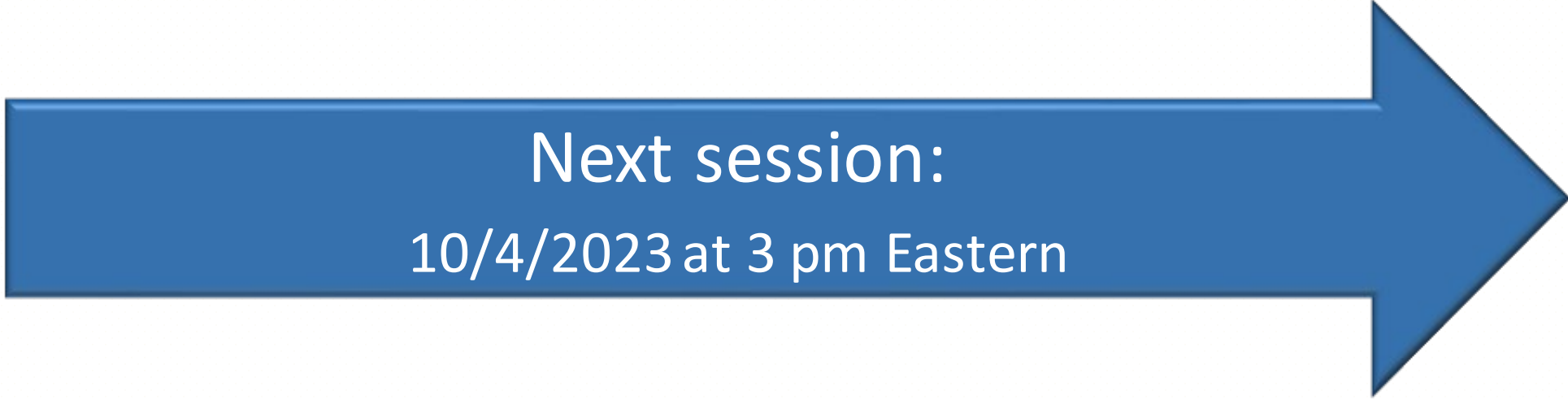
VINCI Data Manager, QA and Training Lead  
VINCIServices@va.gov





## VIREC DATA ACCESS MINISERIES

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Next session:  
10/4/2023 at 3 pm Eastern

VA Data Access for Preparatory to Research





# RESEARCH DATA ACCESS BONUS SLIDES



# Resources Specific to VA Data Access for Research

[VHA Directive 1200.01, Research and Development Committee](#) (01/08/2021) – Outlines the requirement that every VA facility engaged in research establish a Research and Development Committee (R&DC).

[VHA Directive 1200.02, Research Business Operations](#) (09/06/2017) – Establishes standards and requirements for the proper and efficient operation of a VA facility's research service and offices.

[VHA Directive 1200.05, Requirements for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research](#) (07/13/2023) – Outlines the requirements for the protection of human subjects in VA research.

[ORD Program Guide 1200.21, VHA Operations Activities That May Constitute Research](#) (01/09/2019) – Establishes criteria for determining whether a VHA operations activity constitutes research.

[Research vs. Operations Decision Tool](#) – Aids the user in differentiating between the three types of data access (research, preparatory to research, and operations/QI).

[Research Access](#) – Provides information about and instructions for requesting VA data for approved research projects.

[DART Research Request Process](#) – Walks the user through the DART request process and provides links for downloading current versions of data specific request forms.

[DART User Guide](#) – Explains everything about creation, submission, and management of DART requests and amendments.

[VINCI Workspace User Guide](#) – Provides user instructions on accessing and using the VINCI Workspace.

[PBM](#) – “Pharmacy Benefits Management (PBM) Database” data source page.

[Mortality Data Repository](#) – Guide to accessing and understanding VA Mortality Data.

[VIReC Cyberseminar Archive](#) – HSR&D directory for viewing past cyberseminars hosted by VIReC that may be useful in research.



# Regulatory Reminders for VA Research

The VA Exempt Determination Application (VAEDA) can be used to determine whether a project is research or operations, and if research, the type of reviews required.

## Protocol Review Types:

- Convened: Requires review by a convened IRB meeting
- Expedited: Requires review by a designated member of the IRB
- Exempt:
  - With limited IRB review
  - Without limited IRB review (may be reviewed under sole oversight of R&DC)

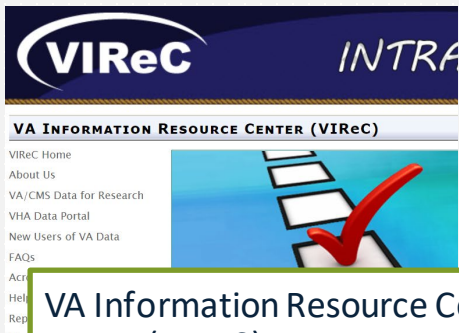
Significant protocol amendments should be submitted to both IRB and R&DC as described in your facility's standard operating procedures (SOPs) for research.





# Resources for VA Data Users

Select image to visit page



VA Information Resource Center (VIReC) (VA Intranet)



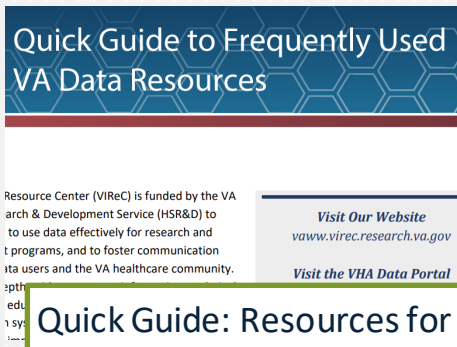
VHA Data Portal (VA Intranet)



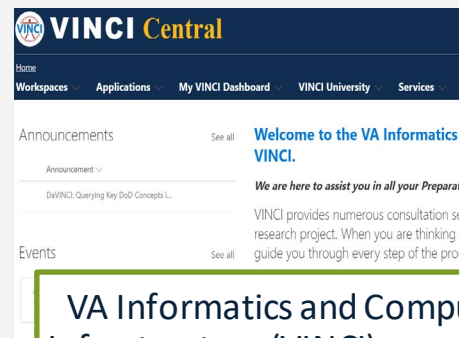
VIReC Cyberseminars



VA Millennium EHR Data Documentation (VA Intranet)



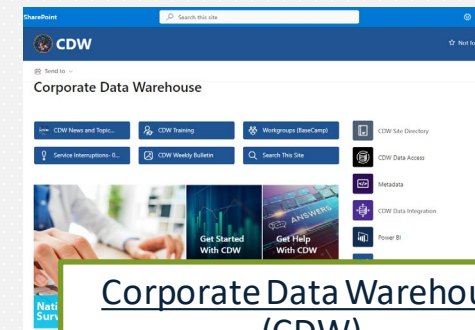
Quick Guide: Resources for Using VA Data (VA Intranet)



VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure (VINCI) (VA Intranet)



Health Economics Resource Center (HERC) (VA Intranet)



Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)



## Questions about using VA Data?

### HSRData Listserv

- Community knowledge sharing
- ~1,400 VA data users
- Researchers, operations, data stewards, managers
- Subscribe by visiting  
[vaww.virec.research.va.gov/Support/HSRData-L.htm](http://vaww.virec.research.va.gov/Support/HSRData-L.htm) (VA Intranet)

### VIReC HelpDesk

- Individualized support
- Request Form:  
[varedcap.rcp.vaec.va.gov/redcap/surveys/?s=KXMEN77LXK](http://varedcap.rcp.vaec.va.gov/redcap/surveys/?s=KXMEN77LXK) (VA Intranet)

