

Disrupted Care Related Projects (as of February 2023)

Funding Source	PI	PI Institution	Project Title	Aims or Brief Summary of Activities
HSR&D	Abigail Baim-Lance	Bronx	Optimizing Patient-Centered Routine Care at a Distance for Veterans with Chronic Conditions	To promote 'customer service,' and HSR&D's scientific priorities to improve telehealth's effectiveness, and to use primary care to optimize complex chronic disease management; also aligns with ongoing activities in the Veterans Experience Office using journey mapping to understand Veteran experiences of VA care
HSR&D	Christopher Bowling	Durham	Characterize the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on social participation, function, and access to necessary services among older adults with advanced CKD	1. To identify older Veterans with advanced CKD at highest risk for restricted community mobility and functional decline during COVID-19 social distancing. 2. To identify the association between restricted community mobility and access to healthcare, food, and information during the COVID-19 pandemic
HSR&D	Bryann DeBeer	Aurora	Impact of COVID-19 and Social Distancing on Mental Health and Suicide Risk in Veterans	Assess experiences of Veterans during the COVID-19 pandemic, changes in their social networks over time due to social distancing via a social network analysis, and modifiable treatment factors to inform intervention development
HSR&D	Claudia Der-Martirosian	West Los Angeles	Use of VA Telehealth Services at VAGLAHS during the COVID-19 Pandemic	To understand telemedicine capabilities at VHAGLA's primary, cardiology, and HBPC clinics; and to understand how telemedicine capabilities at these three clinics were implemented in response to the COVID-19 crisis
HSR&D	Johanne Eliacin	Indianapolis	Expanding VA Peer Support Workforce Capacity to Facilitate Increased Access to VHA Mental Health Services and Continuity of Care for Veterans with Mental Illness During The COVID-19 Pandemic	Aim 1. Describe changes in peer programs' structures, peers' roles, and activities in mental health settings during the COVID-19 pandemic, and characterize programmatic adaptations made to maintain and/or enhance mental health care services delivery to Veterans; Aim 2. Identify and describe successful strategies for enhancing peer support capacity in mental health care during the COVID-19 pandemic
HSR&D	Jamie Estock	Pittsburgh	Pandemic-Related Disruptions in care for Veterans on Insulin Pumps (PD-VIP): A Mixed Methods Analysis	Aim 1. Characterize the pandemic's impact on VIP outcomes, including process of care and clinical outcomes; Aim 2. Examine VIPs' and providers' experiences and satisfaction with insulin pump management before and during the COVID-19 pandemic and identify barriers to and facilitators of safe and effective remote care; and Aim 3. Develop recommendations to advance telehealth processes and tools for safe and effective remote insulin pump management.

HSR&D	Angela Fagerlin	Salt Lake City	Veterans Experiences During the COVID-19 Pandemic	(1) To identify challenges and facilitators of Veterans engaging in physical distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic, and their psycho-social predictors to understand Veteran needs during a 2nd COVID-19 wave; (2) identify Veterans' access to medical care within and outside of the VHA during the COVID-19 pandemic; specifically, their experience with telehealth; and (3) assess the impact of social isolation on loneliness and emotional coping during the COVID-19 pandemic
HSR&D	Jennifer Funderburk and Robyn Shepardson	Syracuse	Piloting a Self-Help Intervention to Improve Veteran Mental Health During the COVID-19 Pandemic	1) Use mixed methods to evaluate implementation outcomes related to delivery of MEDIC; 2) Evaluate whether Veterans receiving MEDIC experience decreases in psychological distress and increases in overall well-being; and 3) Explore differences in outcomes between those who received self-help vs. individual or group support.
HSR&D	Marinella Galea and Andrea Finlay	Bronx and Palo Alto	Disruption of Health Services: The Impact of COVID-19 on Veterans with SCI/D	Aim 1. Identify COVID-19 related disruptions and adaptations in health services utilization and mortality and morbidity among Veterans with SCI/D; Aim 2. Qualitatively evaluate Veterans' and providers' perspectives on how health services utilization changed during the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent impact on mortality and morbidity; and Aim 3. Examine Veterans experiences and decision-making during the COVID-19 pandemic.
HSR&D	Karleen Giannitrapni	Palo Alto	A Needs Assessment for Facilitating the Role of VA Occupational Health Providers during COVID-19	Aim 1. Needs Assessment: Understand challenges and opportunities facing occupational health providers assuming new roles in their facility following distribution of COVID-19 guidance; Aim 2. Real Time Dissemination: Partner with national OH leadership to facilitate real-time dissemination of findings and shared learnings across sites; Aim 3. Survey Development: Develop and pilot a survey to capture OH provider role and site readiness for implementing COVID-19 Guidance
HSR&D	Anouk Grubaugh	Charleston	Impact of COVID-19 on Continuity of Care for Veterans on Antipsychotic Medications	Aim 1: To assess the impact of COVID-19 related care disruptions on healthcare use and outcomes for Veterans on antipsychotic medications using robust statistical methods and national level data; Aim 2: To assess whether the impact of COVID-19 related care disruptions differ by race/ethnicity, gender, age, and rural/urban status using national level data; Aim 3: To conduct thematic interviews with provider and patient stakeholder groups at the national level to better understand COVID-19 related care disruptions

HSR&D	Kelly Hunt	Charleston	Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on chronic disease care within the VA	Primary objective is to build capacity for a robust evaluation of the impacts of the pandemic on chronic medical conditions using diabetes as a template
HSR&D	Sylvia Hysong	Houston	Maintaining Preventive Care during Public Health Emergencies through Effective Coordination	Aim 1. Compare coordination across screening performance patterns (high, low, improving, plummeting, variable) (a) as a team to conduct screening services, and (b) with specialty care teams at their facility to conduct screening services; and Aim 2. Compare team, facility, and system-based barriers, facilitators, and strategies for continuing screening services across screening performance patterns (high, low, improving, plummeting, variable)
HSR&D	Eric Jutkowitz and Jack Tsai	Providence West Haven	Evaluating the Impact of COVID-19 on Case Management, Health Care Utilization, and Housing Outcomes for HUD-VASH Veterans	Aim 1. Determine the effect of HUD-VASH's shift to virtual care during the COVID-19 pandemic on case management services and Aim 2. Evaluate the effect of HUD-VASH's shift to virtual care during the pandemic on Veteran's health care utilization and continuity of care
HSR&D	Nipa P. Kamdar	Houston	Seeking Food Assistance: Food Insecure Veterans' Experiences Navigating through Systems	Through qualitative, in-depth 1:1 interviews with food insecure Veterans (n=40), we will visually map food insecure Veterans' experiences with seeking food assistance. These journey maps will be aggregated and analyzed to identify barriers and facilitators to improve access to food assistance for Veterans living with food insecurity.
HSR&D	Eve Kerr and Sameer Saini	Ann Arbor	Developing effective strategies to improve access in the COVID-19 system recovery phase	This project examined strategies used in VA to systematically track delayed care and evaluated the potential impact of countermeasures to improve access in the COVID-19 recovery phase, using gastrointestinal endoscopy as an exemplar.
HSR&D	Bo Kim	Boston	Applying the After-Action Review Methodology to Examine Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation and Treatment Programs' Response to the COVID--19 Crisis	Aim 1. Assess how R RTP operations have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and Aim 2. Deliver an actionable report of findings from Aim 1, along with other key changes and concerns identified
HSR&D	Lucinda Leung	Los Angeles	Leveraging COVID-19 to Modernize Depression Care for VA Primary Care Populations	Aim 1. To examine engagement in guideline concordant care for depression (virtual or in-person) following screening, before and during the pandemic; Aim 2. To compare psychiatric emergency/hospital visits and mortality from suicide between Veterans who screened positive and were detected versus not detected to have depression by clinicians; Aim 3. To understand VA patients' and providers' current perspectives

				on addressing new depressive episodes using virtual and in-person modalities during the pandemic and eventual recovery.
HSR&D	Marianne Matthias	Indianapolis	Impacts of COVID-19 on African American Veterans with Chronic Pain	Aim 1. Understand the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, including the disease itself, stay-at-home orders, and changes in healthcare delivery related to COVID-19, on African American Veterans with chronic pain; and Aim 2. Identify African American Veterans' needs, both in the short-term and long-term, to improve their pain and other healthcare
HSR&D	Alan McGuire and Marianne Matthias	Indianapolis	COVID-19 Impact on Pain management: Highlighting, Explaining, and Realigning services (CIPHER)	Addresses priorities in HSR&D's Targeted Solicitation on Opioid Safety and Opioid Use Disorder. Specifically, this project is responsive to priority area E, "examination of the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency on the effective treatment of chronic pain, including effects on access to care, medication and treatment modalities, patient function and satisfaction."
HSR&D	Diana Mendez	Orlando	Changes in the Delivery of Evidenced Based Psychotherapies for Depression and PTSD as the Result of COVID-19 Pandemic	Aim 1. Comparison of the EBP dropout rate in Veterans with Major Depression Disorder and PTSD pre-and post-COVID-19 pandemic onset; and Aim 2. Compare the outcomes of EBPs for Depression and PTSD between telephone and Video delivery modalities during and following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic
HSR&D	Lillian Min	Ann Arbor	Resilience to Covid-19 Disrupted Chronic Condition Care for Older Veterans At Risk of Hospitalization: Role of VA Ambulatory Care and VA Extended Care Home and Community-Based Care Supports	Aim 1A: Examine the effect of disrupted ambulatory care visits on chronic condition management (CCM) for older Veterans. Aim 1B: Test whether facilities who were able to maintain better access to HBCS mitigated the effect of disrupted ambulatory care on performance of chronic condition care management. Aim 2: Examine the effect of chronic condition management disruption on hospitalizations for ACSCs and acute fall injuries.
HSR&D	Brent Moore and William Becker	West Haven	Virtual Pain Care for High-Risk Veterans on Opioids during COVID-19 (and beyond)	The objectives of this project were to examine the feasibility and acceptability of Video-Telecare Collaborative Pain Management (VCPM) among 60 Veterans on risky LTOT using a quality improvement framework and develop decision aids for ascertaining patient preference for communication and care delivery and examine feasibility of virtual outcome assessment as part of clinical care.
HSR&D	Ursula Myers	Charleston	A Mixed-Methods Pilot Study of the Impacts of Tele mental Healthcare for High-Risk Veterans	Develop methods required to conduct robust analyses assessing the impact of COVID-19 and related changes in policy and service design on

			with Opioid Use Disorder during COVID-19	access to care and medication management for Veterans with OUD
HSR&D	Dennis Oh	San Francisco	Improving Dermatology Access by Direct-to-Patient Teledermatology and Computer-Assisted Diagnosis	1. Assess the impact of direct-to-patient teledermatology on access and health system utilization; 2. Assess, refine, and augment computer-assisted evaluation of patient-submitted images; and 3. Assess readiness of VA and Veterans' acceptance to implement direct-to-patient care
HSR&D	Elizabeth Oliva	Palo Alto	Strategies to improve Utilization of Post-overdose Evidence-based Risk mitigation among Non-fatal Overdoses in VA (NOVA)	Will characterize non-fatal opioid-, stimulant-, and combined opioid and stimulant overdoses among VHA patients and the extent to which they receive recommended post-overdose care
HSR&D	Richard Owen	Little Rock	Adapting and Implementing the Blended Collaborative Care Model in CBOCs	Adapt and deploy the tele-PCMHI toolkit, providing technical assistance and expertise, in collaboration with OMHSP and the Center for Integrated Healthcare (CIH) to aid VHA sites nationally with implementation of PCMHI virtually.
HSR&D	Prasad Padala and Hillary Lum	Little Rock	COVID-19 Impact on Biopsychosocial Factors of Loneliness in Rural Older Veterans and Caregivers	To understand COVID-19 induced/exacerbated loneliness and social isolation experienced by rural older veterans and their caregivers, reduce the impact of biopsychosocial risk factors, and identify capacity for telehealth interventions or VA-community partnerships, we propose to conduct a two phase, mixed methods study.
HSR&D	Lauren Penney	San Antonio	The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Veteran Caregivers: A Mixed Methods Study to inform the VA Caregiver Support System	Learn about an essential ally in the care of Veterans, and the ways in which the VA system can enhance their support for Veterans experiencing functional and clinical impairment. We uniquely combine an ecological systems framework and the concept of “cascading effects” from disaster research to help us frame and understand the different complex short- and long-term effects caregivers may experience.
HSR&D	Laura Petersen	Houston	Rapid assessment of national surges and variations in COVID-19 inpatient nurse staffing using a big data approach	Aim 1. Adapt methods for assessing inpatient staffing to real-time or near-real-time data and provide reports to operational leaders; and Aim 2. Obtain input from operational leaders on their preferences for staffing report features and incorporate prioritized and feasible items into staffing reports
HSR&D	Ashok Reddy	Puget Sound	COVID-19 Preventive Health Inventory: Evaluating a primary care approach to catching-up on needed	Aim 1. Identify key factors associated with use of PHI at 1 year as a care coordination intervention to improve coordination of chronic and preventive disease in primary care; Aim 2. Understand implementation of the PHI to deliver chronic and preventive care from the

			chronic and preventive care for Veterans	perspectives of a) clinic frontline staff b) Veterans who received the PHI; and Aim 3. Examine impact of PHI tool on primary care quality (diabetes, hypertension, and colon cancer screening) and potentially preventable utilization
HSR&D	James Rudolph	Providence	COVID-19 in the VA Community Living Centers (CLCs)	Study the vital sign trend for CLC Veterans, individually, and as a ward, to determine whether it can effectively identify Veterans and their CLC units with and without COVID-19
HSR&D	Lisa Silbert	Portland	Impact of Social Distancing During the COVID-19 Pandemic on Cognitive, Physical, and Mental Health in Urban and Rural Veterans in the Pacific Northwest	Results from this secondary data analysis will significantly advance our understanding of the impact of COVID-19 policies of reducing contact on the well-being of older Veterans. Ultimately, findings from this study will inform the need for greater VHA services
HSR&D	Katie Suda	Pittsburgh	The Broken Drug Supply Chain: The Impact of COVID-19 on Drug Shortages and Veteran Health	Aim 1. Determine the impact of the COVID pandemic on the drug supply chain in VA; Aim 2. Assess the impact of drug shortages on outpatient medication treatment disruption in the VA; and Aim 3. Determine the association between drug shortage-related treatment disruption in outpatient prescription refills and serious adverse clinical outcomes
HSR&D	Alan Teo	Portland	Adapting Caring Contacts to Counteract Adverse Effects of Social Distancing Among High-Risk Veterans During the COVID-19 Pandemic	Aim 1. Convene a panel of subject matter experts and Veterans who will develop an adapted intervention ("Crisis Caring Contacts"); Aim 2. Identify a cohort of high-risk Veterans from which to recruit participants for an RCT of Crisis Caring Contacts; and Aim 3. Create data collection instruments, human subjects and safety protocols, and all other procedures and documents required for conduct of a pragmatic randomized controlled trial (RCT) of Crisis Caring Contacts
HSR&D	Anita Vashi	Palo Alto	Impact of COVID-19 on ED and UC Use and Veteran Outcomes	Compare the proportion of patients who visit ED and UC clinics with (1) respiratory conditions, including COVID-19 related diagnoses; (2) ambulatory care-sensitive conditions (ACSCs); and (3) emergency care-sensitive conditions (ECSCs), or conditions where timely emergency care impacts morbidity and mortality before and during the COVID-19 outbreak
HSR&D	Stephen Waldo and Paul Hess	Denver	Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Cardiovascular Healthcare Utilization, Quality of Care, and Clinical Outcomes	Aim 1: Compare inpatient and outpatient utilization (clinic visits / hospitalizations / diagnostic testing / procedural care) among Veterans with common cardiovascular diagnoses (atrial fibrillation / coronary artery disease / heart failure) during the COVID-19 pandemic compared with expected utilization based on the

				<p>corresponding 3-year period preceding the pandemic.</p> <p>Aim 2: Compare quality of care (guideline indicated medication / transitions of care) among Veterans with common cardiovascular diagnoses (atrial fibrillation / coronary artery disease / heart failure) during the COVID-19 pandemic with that expected based on the corresponding 3-year period preceding the pandemic.</p> <p>Aim 3: Evaluate whether potential pandemic-related changes in healthcare utilization and/or process of care quality metrics are associated with an increased risk for the clinical outcomes of all-cause mortality and/or cardiovascular mortality among Veterans with common cardiovascular diagnoses.</p>
HSR&D	Virginia Wang and Amal Trivedi	Raleigh and Providence VAMC	Impact of COVID-era Disrupted Care on Disparities in Outcomes among Veterans with Kidney Failure	Longitudinal cohort study of all VA-enrolled patients with end-stage kidney disease receiving VA-financed dialysis care between 2018 and 2022 to observe care patterns before the pre-COVID-19 phase (Jan 2018-Feb 2020)
HSR&D	Renda Weiner and Amy Linsky	Boston	Impact of COVID-19 on Implementation and Outcomes of VA's Life-Sustaining Treatment Decisions Initiative	1. Examine how the COVID-19 pandemic affects LSTDI implementation across VA facilities; 2. Assess how the COVID-19 pandemic affects quality of GoCCs in the outpatient setting; and 3. Characterize implementation at selected sites to identify best practices to improve frequency and quality of GoCCs
HSR&D	David Winchester	Gainesville	Effectiveness of telehealth to adequately manage ACSC such as admission for congestive heart failure (CHF)	To address how VHA can better prepare for future infectious disease outbreaks by comparing qualitative and quantitative outcomes between facilities with strong existing telehealth use and those forced to adopt telehealth in response to COVID-19
HSR&D	Celina Yong	Palo Alto	Delaying Cardiovascular Procedures to Curb the Spread of COVID-19 among Veterans: Variation in VHA Practice Patterns and Outcomes	Aim 1. To describe the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on cardiovascular procedural volumes across the VHA nationally; Aim 2. To assess whether there were differences in procedural treatment among vulnerable populations within the VHA comparing the pre to post-COVID-19 period; and Aim 3. To compare downstream outcomes in Veterans hospitalized with incident STEMI, NSTEMI, severe aortic stenosis, and AV block before and after the COVID-19 pandemic and to determine if inpatient procedure use mediates those outcomes
VISN 7 RDA Award	Ruth Adelunke	Charleston	Intersecting epidemics of SARS-CoV-2 and HIV may have uniquely placed persons living	Aim 1. To assess how COVID-19 has impacted HIV care retention and medication adherence nationally and Aim 2. To perform interviews to identify and describe facilitators and barriers

			with HIV (PLWH) vulnerable to both the direct and indirect effects of the pandemic	preventing engagement and retention in care for VLWH using qualitative content analysis methodology
COIN – Ci2i	Matthew Boden	Palo Alto	Addressing the mental health impact of COVID-19 through population health	Distinguish between infected/recovered adults and other populations in my own meta-analysis, and when looking at the current pandemic literature
CDA	Samantha Connolly	Boston	Provision of high quality telemental health care during COVID-19 and beyond	Aim 1: Examine quality outcomes of phone, video, and in-person MH care (e.g., differences in MH hospitalization rates); Aim 2: Qualitative interviews with MH patients, providers, and leadership; and Aim 3, synthesize Aim 1 and 2 findings to develop and pilot implementation strategies at one VISN 1 MH site to improve care modality decision-making, with a focus on increasing video use when appropriate
VA Office of Connected Care	Claudia Der-Martirosian and Lucinda Leung	Los Angeles	Leveraging rapid COVID-driven telehealth expansion to optimize delivery of in-person and virtual services in VA primary care	Examine site, provider, and patient differences in telehealth adoption (all different telehealth modalities) within primary care (PC) clinics nationwide, using VA administrative and clinical data files
Primary Care Analytics Team/ Office of Primary Care	Emily Franzosa	Bronx	VA-paid Home Health Aides' role in facilitating access to and coordination of primary care for vulnerable older Veterans during COVID-19	Collect formative information about the role HHAs are playing in supporting veterans' health and access to primary care during the COVID-19 pandemic and identify opportunities to improve service coordination between aides, agencies, and primary care teams through semi-structured interviews with VA contracted home health agencies, Bronx VA geriatric primary care providers and home health aides
GECDAC/ NIA	Orna Intrator	Canandaigua	(Not provided)	Conducting analyses for GEC and ORH looking at changes in telehealth and non-telehealth modalities among Veterans enrolled in Home-Based Primary Care and Medical Foster Home care; also, working with Durham Gerofit program (Miriam Morey, PI) on efforts to provide fitness classes to Veterans, identifying those Veterans who might be eligible with respect to COVID-19 and otherwise.
CDC	Mark D. Schwartz	New York	Impact of Community Factors on Geographic Disparities in Diabetes and Obesity Nationwide	Study the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on diabetes care and outcomes
NIH-NIDA	Emily Williams and Jennifer Chen	Seattle	Applying Critical Race Theory to investigate the impact of COVID-19-related policy changes on racial/ethnic disparities in medication	Aim 1: Examine how changes in receipt of MOUD and retention following COVID-19 MOUD policies differ between Black and Hispanic/Latinx compared to non-Hispanic White patients with OUD; Aim 2: Examine how community-level sequelae of structural racism influence pre/post

			treatment for opioid use disorder (MOUD)	COVID-19 changes in MOUD receipt for Black and Hispanic/Latinx patients with OUD; and Aim 3: Qualitatively examine experiences of OUD care and perceptions of implementation of COVID-19-related policies among a sample of Black and Hispanic/Latinx patients with OUD
Office of Primary Care	Jean Yoon	Palo Alto	Use of Virtual Care and Adherence to Chronic Medications During the COVID-19 Crisis	Determine whether risk factors for poor adherence and other patient characteristics were related to utilization of virtual VA primary care and its specific modalities during the COVID-19 crisis; examine whether patients who received more frequent virtual VA primary care; and determine whether facility strategies such as use of CPS in PACT teams and enrollment of patients in CCHT programs was associated with higher levels of adherence to chronic medications during the COVID-19 crisis