



ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD MODERNIZATION

Transforming Health Care for Veterans, Revolutionizing Health Care for All

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is committed to providing seamless care for Veterans, including access to a comprehensive electronic health record (EHR).

In May 2018, VA awarded Cerner Corp. a contract to replace its current EHR systems with the commercial off-the-shelf solution — Cerner Millennium — currently being deployed by the Department of Defense (DOD). The Electronic Health Record Modernization (EHRM) initiative will leverage an existing commercial solution to achieve interoperability within VA, with DOD and with community care providers. A single interoperable solution across VA and DOD will facilitate the secure transfer of active-duty service members' health data as they transition to Veteran status. Health records residing in a common solution will eliminate the reliance on multiple complex clinical interfaces and manual data entry. VA's new EHR solution will provide clinicians with quick and efficient access to the complete picture of Veteran health information, improving VA's delivery of health care to our nation's Veterans.



The Office of Electronic Health Record Modernization (OEHRM) provides program management and oversight to enable the seamless delivery of health care to Veterans and qualified beneficiaries through the EHRM implementation effort.

THE EHRM EFFORT HAS THREE MAJOR COMPONENTS:

1. Implement a new EHR solution that is interoperable with DOD and community care providers, enabling the seamless sharing of records from active duty and beyond.
2. Provide Veterans and clinicians with a complete picture of patients' medical history, driving connections between military service and health outcomes through data analytics.
3. Offer an improved and consistent patient scheduling experience at VA medical facilities and community care partners nationwide.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

The EHRM program will begin going live in October 2020 at VA's initial operating capability (IOC) sites in the Pacific Northwest, but implementation work is already underway. VA has completed the historic migration of 23.7 million Veteran health records (as of November 2019) and created the VA Innovative Training Assessment Lab (VITAL) to train key clinical front-line staff, who will benefit from advanced training to ensure a smooth EHRM deployment. In addition, VA held eight national workshops, through which VA, Cerner and DOD applied lessons learned and industry best practices to design key elements of the new EHR solution.

THE WAY AHEAD

After IOC implementation, VA will deploy its new EHR solution across the VA enterprise in waves over a 10-year period. VA will continue to maintain and support its legacy EHR systems over this period until every VA medical facility has the new EHR solution, ensuring that current patient records are accessible and there is no interruption in the delivery of quality care.

After full deployment, VA clinicians will have a complete and accurate record of patients' health history, improving the overall quality of health care provided to our nation's Veterans.

OEHRM JOURNEY

- **JUNE 5, 2017** - Determinations and Findings
- **MAY 17, 2018** - VA EHR Contract Awarded
- **JUNE 25, 2018** - OEHRM Established
- **SEPTEMBER 24, 2018** - Model Validation Event
- **NOVEMBER 5, 2018** - National Workshop 1
- **JANUARY 14, 2019** - National Workshop 2
- **FEBRUARY 25, 2019** - National Workshop 3
- **APRIL 8, 2019** - National Workshop 4
- **MAY 20, 2019** - National Workshop 5
- **JUNE 11, 2019** - VITAL Session 1
- **JULY 9, 2019** - National Workshop 6
- **AUGUST 20, 2019** - National Workshop 7
- **SEPTEMBER 30, 2019** - National Workshop 8
- **OCTOBER 22, 2019** - VITAL Session 2
- **Mann-Grandstaff Go-Live Activities**
- **DECEMBER 2, 2019** - Integration Validation 1
- **JANUARY 21, 2020** - Super-User Training
- **JANUARY 27, 2020** - Integration Validation 2
- **MAY-JUNE 2020** - End-User Training
- **OCTOBER 2020** - Go-Live at Mann-Grandstaff

Model Validation Event: VA's EHR Councils began the national and local workflow development process, evaluating Cerner's capabilities and implementing commercial best practices while configuring EHR workflows to best serve the needs of Veterans.

National Workshops: Educate diverse clinical end users and validate workflows to ensure VA's new EHR solution meets the department's needs.

VA Innovative Technology Advancement Lab (VITAL): VITAL teaches users how to optimize EHRM by collaboratively solving real-world problems identified by VA participants. VITAL was designed to increase EHRM adoption and speed-to-value, promote standardization and optimize the use of advanced analytics.

Integration Validation: Implementation begins with two rigorous on-site "integration validation" testing events that will ensure information is properly shared between the legacy EHR currently in use and the new EHR system. The team uses real-world scenarios to test that the workflows within the new EHR are working.

Super-User Training: Super users receive enhanced training and practice around EHRM workflows to support their peers during training, go-live and sustainment activities. Super users will be identified by department leads and supervisors.

End-User Training: End users receive EHR training via instructor-led classes, eLearning modules and self-paced learning opportunities ("over-the-shoulder" training). End-user training is for any VA staff member who requires access to an EHR application.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, VISIT: WWW.EHRM.VA.GOV