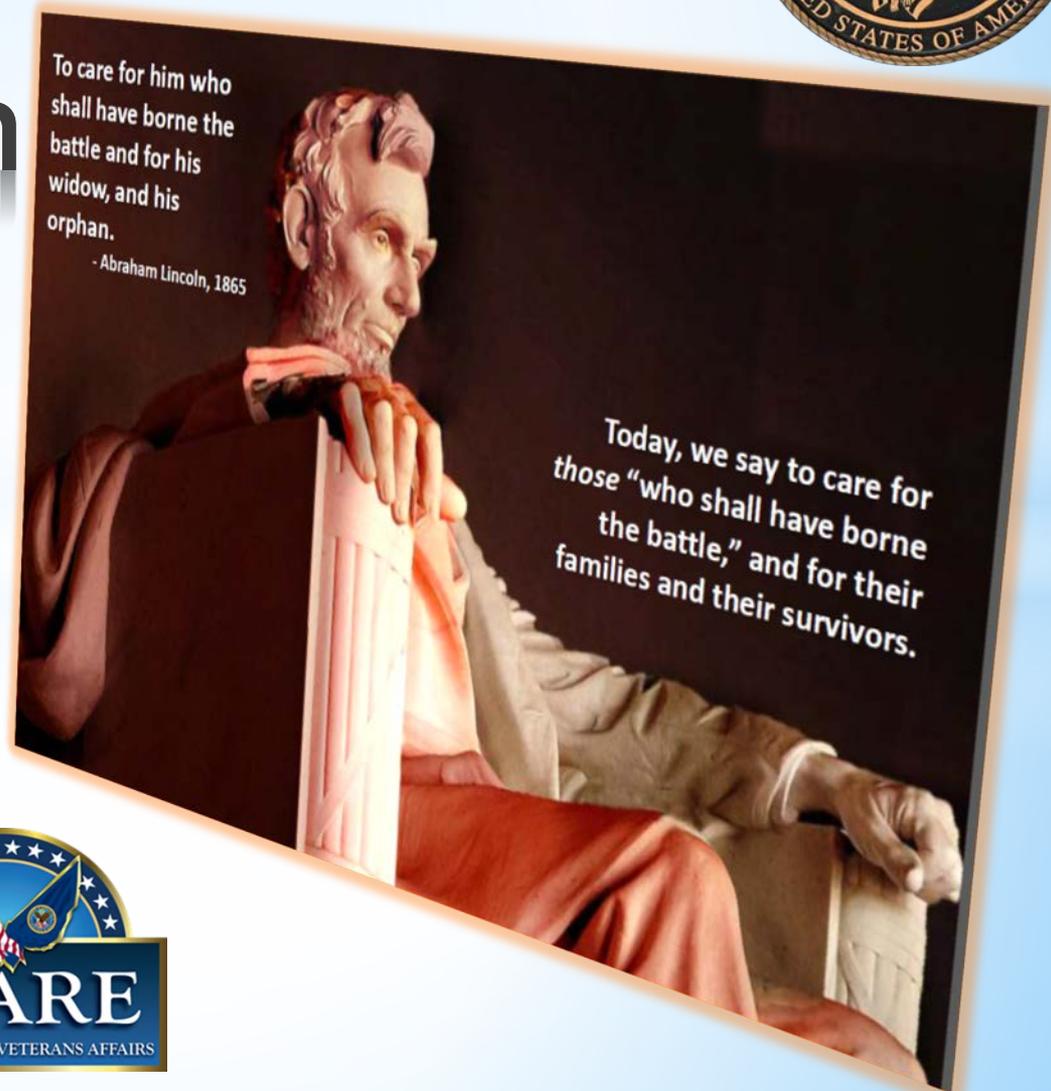


* Office Health Equity briefing: Commission on Care



Uchenna S. Uchendu, MD
Executive Director
Office of Health Equity



Veterans Health Administration
Office of Health Equity

- ❑ Office of Health Equity (OHE) - Scope & Background
- ❑ Health Equity Definitions including Equity Vs Equality
- ❑ Select Project Highlights
- HCV- ALD Disparities Dashboard-
 - Demo of updated version
 - Release on Data.gov to meet Presidential Initiative
- AJPB Special Edition on Veterans Health Equity
- Health Equity Environmental Scan
- Human Rights Campaign Health Care Equality index (HEI)
- Partnered Evaluation Center
- ❑ Challenges & Future Plans
- ❑ Recommendations
- ❑ Appendix - Other Program Office info

* **IN THIS SESSION...**



□ Initial - FY2013:

8 FTEs as of February 2013



□ Current - FY2016:

2 FTEs + 1 detail as of
December 2015

- Executive Director
- Administrative Officer
- Program Analyst
- Staff Assistant
- Program Officer
- Program Management Officer
- Program Analyst
- Training Specialist

- Executive Director
- Program Analyst
- Health Science
Researcher (Detail)

* OFFICE OF HEALTH EQUITY STAFF



* OHE PROGRAM OFFICE SCOPE

□ OHE champions the advancement of health equity and reduction of health disparities through 5 key focal areas*:

- I. Leadership
- II. Awareness
- III. Health Outcomes
- IV. Diversity and Cultural Competency of the Workforce
- V. Data, Research, and Evaluation

□ Strategic Alignments

- VHA Strategic Plan Objective 1(e)—*Quality & Equity: Veterans will receive timely, high quality, personalized, safe, effective and equitable health care, irrespective of geography, gender, race, age, culture or sexual orientation*
- Blueprint for Excellence strategies 2.2a, 3.2a and 7.2b

*VHA Health Equity Action Plan



* VHA BLUEPRINT FOR EXCELLENCE - HEALTH EQUITY

□ Transformational Actions

- 2.2.a. VHA will aspire to the “Triple Aim” (Better Health, Care, and Value), and Focus Performance Measurement on Strategic Outcomes.
- 3.2.a. Implement a Population Health Program.
- 7.2.b. Advance Knowledge on Improving Individual and Population Health.
 - 6.2.d. Implement Personalized Health Plans.
 - 7.2.h. Rapidly Translate Research Findings and Evidence-Based Treatments into Clinical Practice.
 - 8.2.d. Collaborate Authentically with State and Community-based Organizations that Serve Veterans.
 - 8.2.f. Encourage More Effective Integration of Care with Community Partners through Data Sharing.



- ❑ **Awareness:** Crucial Strategic Partnerships within and outside VA
- ❑ **Leadership:** Health equity impact assessed for all policies, EDMs, memos, handbooks, procedures, directives, action plans and NLC decision
- ❑ **Health System Life Experience:** Incorporate social determinants of health in Personalized Health Plan
- ❑ **Cultural and Linguistic Competency:** Education & training on health equity, cultural competency to include unconscious bias, micro inequities, diversity & inclusion
- ❑ **Data, Research and Evaluation:** Develop common definitions and measures of disparities and inequities; Develop strategies for capturing data on race, ethnicity, language, and socioeconomic status and other variables needed to stratify the results for all quality measures and to address disparities; Incorporate health equity into SAIL and Balanced Score

* VA HEALTH EQUITY ACTION PLAN



Veterans Health Administration
Office of Health Equity

- * Healthcare Agenda
- * Partnerships
- * Media
- * Communication
- * Capacity Building
- * Funding Priorities
- * Health in all Policies
- * Community-Originated Intervention Strategies
- * Access to Care
- * Quality of Care
- * Education
- * Social and Economic conditions
- * Workforce Diversity & Competency
- * Data - Collection, Reporting, Monitoring
- * Research + Translation & Adoption
- * Community-Based Research & Action
- * Population & preventive Health
- * Community Health Workers

* HHS ACTION PLAN TO REDUCE RACIAL AND ETHNIC HEALTH DISPARITIES

http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/npa/files/plans/hhs/hhs_plan_complete.pdf



*HEALTH EQUITY - DEFINITIONS

- ❑ Health equity is attainment of the highest level of health for all people. ~HP 2020**
- ❑ A health disparity is a particular type of health difference that is closely linked with social or economic disadvantage. ~HP 2020**
- ❑ Socio-demographic refers to a variety of socioeconomic (e.g., income, education, occupation) and demographic factors (e.g., age, race, ethnicity, primary language). ~NQF***
- ❑ Vulnerable populations –systematically experienced greater social and/or economic obstacles to health and/or a clean environment based on these membership of a group...

**Healthy People 2020

***National Quality Forum



* VA VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- Racial or Ethnic Group
- Gender
- Age
- Geographic Location
- Religion
- Socio-Economic Status
- Sexual Orientation
- Military Era
- Disability - Cognitive, Sensory, Physical
- Other characteristics historically linked to discrimination or exclusion



* APPLYING AN EQUITY LENS

□ EQUALITY □ EQUITY



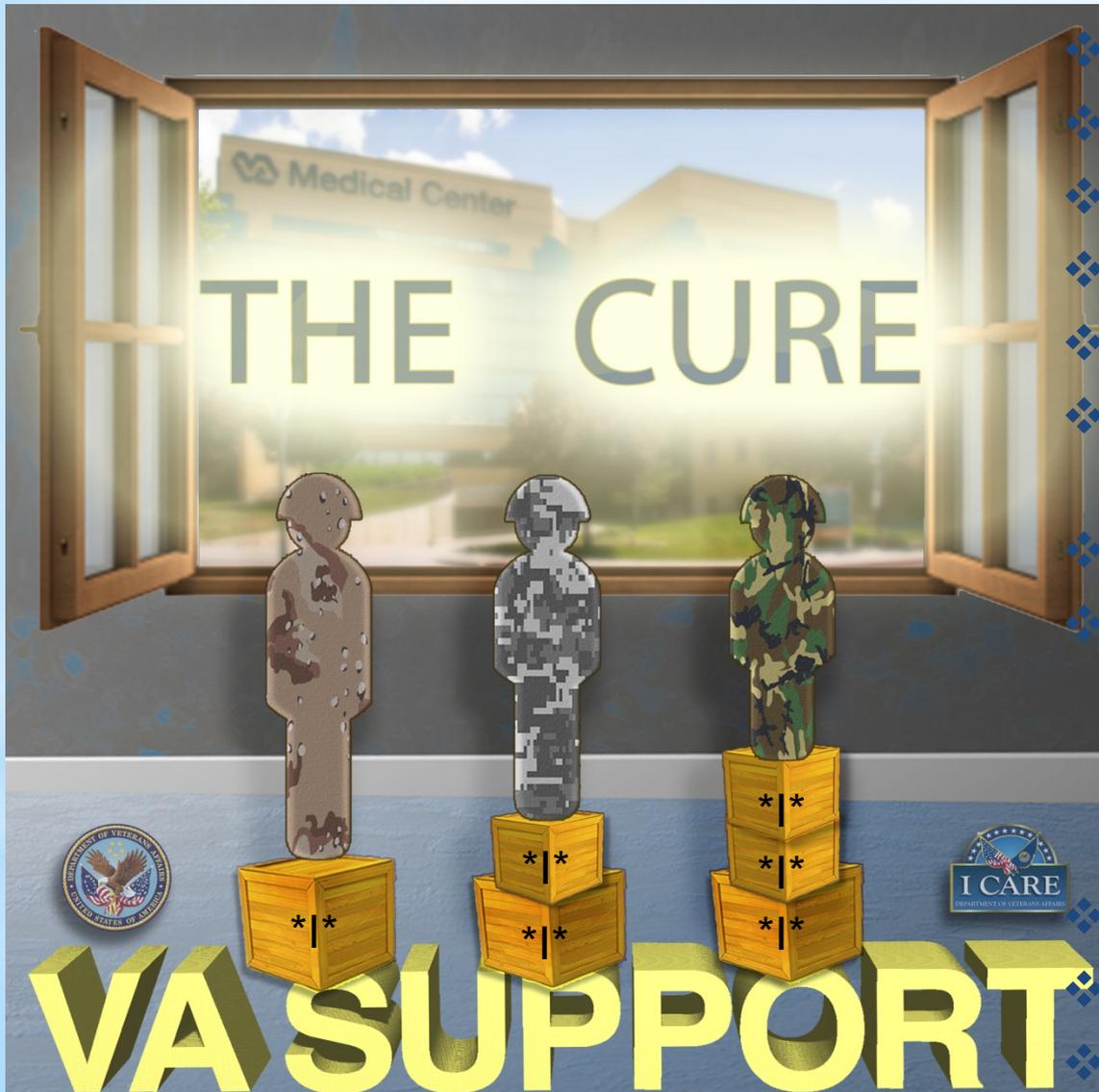
| = Intervention

*Designed by the Office of Health Equity and VACO Broadcast Center



Veterans Health Administration
Office of Health Equity

* APPLYING EQUITY - INTERVENTION



- ❖ Outreach
- ❖ Awareness
- ❖ Advocacy
- ❖ Care Coordination
- ❖ Cultural Competency
- ❖ Personalized Treatment/Health Plan
- ❖ Patient Activation
- ❖ Support:
 - ❖ Family
 - ❖ Community
 - ❖ Economic
- ❖ Policy
- ❖ Operations
- ❖ Resources

12/14/2015

| = Intervention

* Designed by the Office of Health Equity and VACO Broadcast Center

- * Health Equity Coalition and the Health Equity Action Plan (HEAP)
- * VA Medical Centers Highlighted in Healthcare Equality Index (HEI) as “Leaders in LGBT Healthcare Equality” 2013 & 2014 complete. 2015 promising results pending. Training Accessed 2015: 5100
- * Publications:
 - * American Journal of Public Health supplemental issue & Veterans Health Equity Collection Page <http://ajph.aphapublications.org/toc/ajph/104/S4>
 - * Health Disparities Evidence Synthesis Review Reports 2014, 2015 & 2016
 - * Transgender Veterans Research Protocol
- * Select Projects:
 - * VHA Health Equity Quality Improvement Projects FY 2014, 2015 & 2016
 - * VHA-wide Health Equity Environmental Scan 2015
 - * Disparities in VBA Compensation and Pension Benefits (Tasked by Sec VA Bob McDonald)
 - * Hepatitis C Virus - Advanced Liver Disease Hepatitis C Disparities Dashboard
 - * Data.Gov Public Release November 18, 2015 < Presidential Open Data Initiative
 - * Health Equity Awareness and Foundational Work
 - * OHE-QUERI Partnered Evaluation Center
 - * Clinical Look at Unconscious Biases (CLUB) trainings, tools and video resources
 - * Health Equity Cyber seminars and Presentations within and outside the VA
 - * Strategic Partnerships - FIHET/CMS/IOM for Awareness/Projects/Funds etc.
 - * Health Equity Virtual Patient Clinical Cases - coming soon
 - * VHA National Health Equity Report ~ coming soon

* OHE ACCOMPLISHMENTS



* Office of Health Equity



* SELECT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS





* Office of Health Equity

* HEPATITIS C Virus - ADVANCED LIVER DISEASE DASHBOARD



- ❑ Congress authorizes \$500,000,000 on July 31, 2015 for HCV treatments through October 1, 2015.
- ❑ VA National Center for Ethics in Health Care develops *Protocol for Prioritizing HCV Treatment: An Ethical Framework*.
- ❑ Participating stakeholders generally agreed that the clinical inclusion criteria should prioritize “sickest patients who will benefit from the treatment to receive priority over those who are less ill.”
- ❑ VHA provides patient list to VISNs of patients with Advanced Liver Disease due to HCV on August 7, 2015.

* ACCELERATION OF VHA HCV TREATMENT



Office of Health Equity is not HCV expert

Role :

○ Bring focus to disparity in vulnerable groups

○ Catalyze action

○ Equity Lens on emerging issue proactively

Imperative :

○ Moral

○ Ethical

○ Cost implications : pharmaceutical, missed opportunities, incomplete treatment, liver transplant etc.

* HEALTH EQUITY & HCV- ALD DASHBOARD - WHY?



- ❑ The OHE obtained the list of Veterans meeting the set criteria that the VHA provided to the VISNs and facilities as of August 7, 2015.
- ❑ Using the VHA Corporate Data Warehouse, the sample was further drilled down to identify *vulnerable Veteran groups* within the cohort as defined by *age, gender, geography, military era/service and race/ethnicity*.
- ❑ OHE plans to track and trend this cohort

* DASHBOARD BACKGROUND



□ OHE Advance Liver Disease Dashboard depicts

- * VISN
- * Facility
- * Overall
- * Facilities by VISN tables

□ The data is also compared to FY14 VHA unique outpatient encounters to provide context as the demographics of the regions vary.

* **DASHBOARD DATA**



* Office of Health Equity

* DEMO HCV- ALD DASHBOARD



* Office of Health Equity
Hepatitis C Virus-Advanced
Liver Disease Disparities
Dashboard

Public Data Available @

<http://catalog.data.gov/dataset/hepatitis-c-advanced-liver-disease-disparities-dashboard>



Veterans Health Administration
Office of Health Equity



* Office of Health Equity

* HCV- ALD DASHBOARD SCREEN





OHE HCV-ALD DASHBOARD SCREENSHOT A

Browser window showing https://vha-healthequity.shinyapps.io/HCV_shiny. The page title is "shinyapps.io" and it is powered by R Studio.

Hepatitis C Virus-Advanced Liver Disease Dashboard



The purpose of the Dashboard is to promote equitable diagnosis and treatment of underserved Veterans with hepatitis C and advanced liver disease. The Dashboard utilizes a set of demographic slicers (age, gender, geography, service era, race/ethnicity) to characterize Veteran groups with ALD due to hepatitis C who may require targeted intervention to improve their health. The Dashboard advances the vision for quality care and improved access to care as identified in the [VA Blueprint for Excellence](#) and [VHA's Health Equity Action Plan](#).

For more information about HCV-ALD Dashboard contact the Office of Health Equity at VHA10A6Action@va.gov.

Select Observation Level

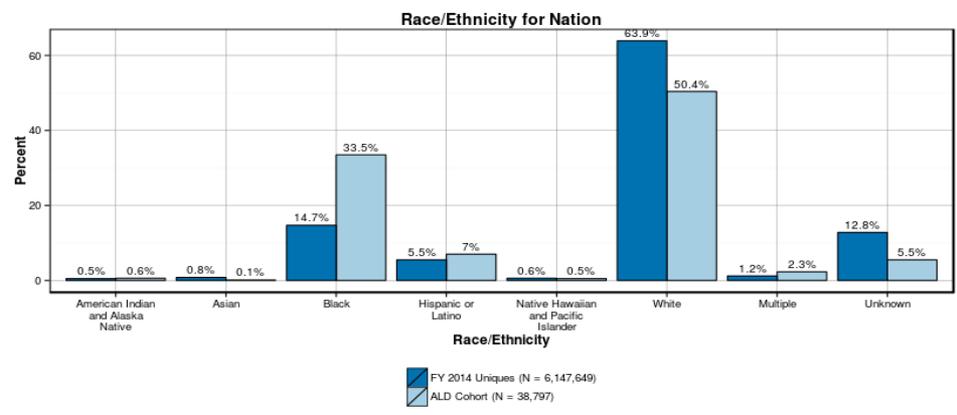
Nation

Select Patient Group

Race/Ethnicity

- Birth Year
- Gender
- Geography
- Military Era
- Race/Ethnicity

Main Table Map Resources



Race/Ethnicity	FY 2014 Uniques (N = 6,147,649)		ALD Cohort (N = 38,797)	
	n	%	n	%
American Indian and Alaska Native	32,583	0.5	223	0.6
Asian	50,737	0.8	58	0.1
Black	903,666	14.7	13,003	33.5
Hispanic or Latino	338,989	5.5	2,721	7.0
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	35,981	0.6	203	0.5
White	3,925,616	63.9	19,572	50.4
Multiple	74,632	1.2	892	2.3
Unknown	785,445	12.8	2,125	5.5

Note: (B6) - Cell sizes less than 11 not shown.



Veterans Health Administration
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OHE HCV-ALD DASHBOARD SCREENSHOT B

https://vha-healthequity.shinyapps.io/HCV_shiny

shinyapps.io Powered by R Studio

Hepatitis C Virus-Advanced Liver Disease Dashboard



The purpose of the Dashboard is to promote equitable diagnosis and treatment of underserved Veterans with hepatitis C and advanced liver disease. The Dashboard utilizes a set of demographic slicers (age, gender, geography, service era, race/ethnicity) to characterize Veteran groups with ALD due to hepatitis C who may require targeted intervention to improve their health. The Dashboard advances the vision for quality care and improved access to care as identified in the *VA Blueprint for Excellence* and *VHA's Health Equity Action Plan*.

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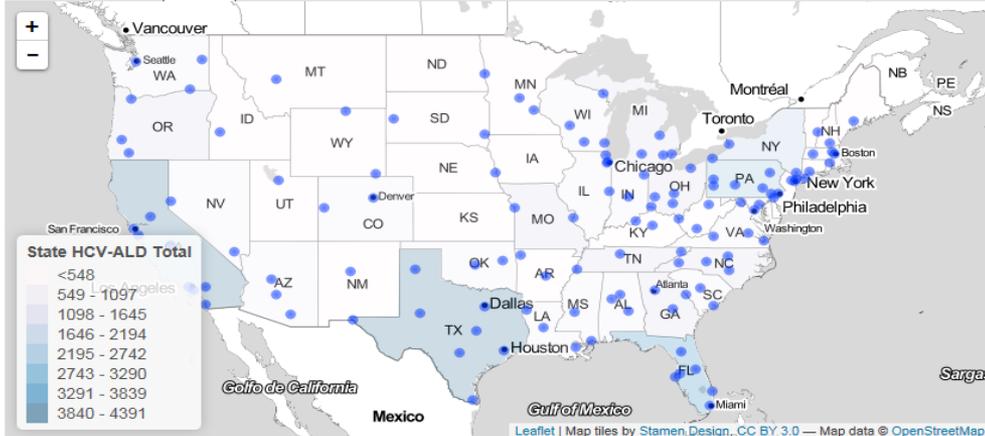
Nation

Select Patient Group

Birth Year

Session: Thu Nov 19 18:08:33 2015

Main Table Map Resources



<548
549 - 1097
1098 - 1645
1646 - 2194
2195 - 2742
2743 - 3290
3291 - 3839
3840 - 4391

Leaflet | Map tiles by Stamen Design, CC BY 3.0 — Map data © OpenStreetMap



Veterans Health Administration
Office of Health Equity

*WHAT'S NEXT?

- ❑ Outreach - internal and external to VA
 - Cyber seminar/ ACMV/CoC/IOM / FIHET/ VACI/CTO/ VHA Clinicians etc.
- ❑ Provide patient specific data directly to VHA facilities POC for any of the vulnerable Veteran groups represented
- ❑ Work directly and collaborate with VA offices, programs, medical centers and other stakeholders to address any identified disparities and refine the current dashboard
- ❑ Dashboard Refinement
 - Incorporation of treatment data
 - Trend data for this cohort
 - Make latest version widely accessible with IT support



Share

Tweet

+1

Share

Share

Email

Print

Meeting

Committee on a National Strategy for the Elimination of Hepatitis B & C--Meeting 2

When: December 16, 2015 (8:45 AM Eastern)
Where: Keck Center • 500 Fifth St. NW, Washington, DC 20001

Topics: Public Health, Diseases, Select Populations and Health Disparities
Activity: A National Strategy for the Elimination of Hepatitis B and C
Board: Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice

The second meeting of the Committee on a National Strategy for the Elimination of Hepatitis B & C will concentrate on the scientific, clinical, logistical, and social aspects of the feasibility of eliminating HCV.

Previous Meetings for this Activity

National Strategy on the Elimination of Hepatitis B & C, Meeting 1

November 30, 2015 - December 1, 2015 (9:00 AM Eastern)

[VIEW AGENDA](#) | [ADDITIONAL MEETING RESOURCES](#)

Reports of Interest



Attend this Meeting

Register for this Meeting

Add This Meeting to Your Calendar

Other Meeting Resources

Agenda

Study Staff

Gillian Buckley, Study Director
View Full Study Staff Roster

Activity Contact Information

For More Information Contact:

Hope hare
Phone: 202-334-3435
Email: Hhare@nas.edu

Mailing Address
Keck Center
874
500 Fifth St. NW
Washington, DC 20001



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the AAMC Reporter website. The URL in the address bar is <https://www.aamc.org/newsroom/reporter/november2015/448920/veterans.html>. The page features a blue header with the AAMC logo and navigation links for Government Affairs, Newsroom, Meetings, and Publications. Below the header is a dark blue navigation bar with links for Initiatives, Data and Analysis, Services, Member Center, and About Us. On the left side, there is a sidebar with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Email, Print, and a plus sign for more options. The main content area displays the article title, author information (Kim Krisberg), and the text of the article. A quote from Leonard Egede, MD, MS, is featured on the right side of the article.

Addressing Social Determinants of Health: Equity Research Among Veterans Provides Unique Insights

AAMC Reporter: November 2015

—By Kim Krisberg, special to the Reporter

Editor's Note: Throughout 2015, the Reporter will explore how medical schools and teaching hospitals are using research, education, and clinical care to address social determinants of health in their communities.

Compared with their urban counterparts, rural Americans often face more barriers to good health and quality health care. Unfortunately, rural veterans are no exception.

For veterans living in rural communities, access to medical care—particularly mental health care—can be a challenge. The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Office of Rural Health reports a number of “important barriers” that rural veterans face, including long distances to Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities, lack of specialty and urgent care within rural VA facilities, and shortages of health care providers. Such barriers can adversely affect the health of rural veterans, who typically report lower health-related quality of life than veterans living in urban areas.

To help overcome one barrier, Leonard Egede, MD, MS, director of the VA’s Health Equity and Rural Outreach Innovation Center in Charleston, S.C., led a study on the use of videoconferencing to deliver psychotherapy to older veterans with major depression. The study of more than 200 veterans found the telemedicine technique was just as effective as face-to-face therapy. Egede said the results, recently published in the Lancet, could help “change the landscape for mental health care for veterans.”

“Right now... it’s not feasible to have enough slots to see patients in the office on a regular basis,” he said. “Having a system that allows you to reach into [people’s] homes will make a huge difference. It will transform the way we deal with access issues.”

Egede’s study is only one example of the wealth of research that the VA is spearheading on equity, disparities, and the social determinants of health. In fact, Uche Uchendu, MD, executive director of the

November 2015 Home

“Having a system that allows you to reach into [people’s] homes will make a huge difference.”

— Leonard Egede, MD, MS

* AAMC NEWSREPORT Nov. 2015

<https://www.aamc.org/newsroom/reporter/november2015/448920/veterans.html>



* Office of Health Equity



* VA - AJPH HEALTH EQUITY SUPPLEMENT 2014

<http://ajph.aphapublications.org/topic/vahealthequity>



* VHA OFFICE OF HEALTH EQUITY PRESENTS AJPH VA HEALTH EQUITY SUPPLEMENT 2014



SUPPLEMENT TO
American Journal of
**PUBLIC
HEALTH**
A PUBLICATION OF
AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Racial Disparities in Cancer Care | Access to Care for Transgender Veterans | Hepatitis C Among US Veterans | Battling Tobacco Use at Home | **HEALTH EQUITY** | How Might the Provision of Culturally Competent Services Be Enhanced for American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans? | Improving Trends in Gender Disparities | Suicidality Among Hispanic and African American Veterans Following Surgery



Veterans Health Administration
Office of Health Equity

VA Intranet http://vaww.vha.vaco.portal.va.gov/sites/OHE/Pages/VA_AJPH.aspx
Internet <http://ajph.aphapublications.org/toc/ajph/104/S4>

- Call for papers yielded >70 submissions
- Released online August 6, 2014 @ Noon Eastern
- Immediate Open access
- The second most read AJPH issue of the entire year!
- One article - #1 overall
- Four articles in the top 20
- Six in the top 50
- Eleven in the top 100
- AJPH Collection Page launched January 2015:

<http://ajph.aphapublications.org/topic/vahealthequity>

- As of October 2015 - The most accessed and downloaded since release

* AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH VETERANS HEALTH EQUITY



* Office of Health Equity

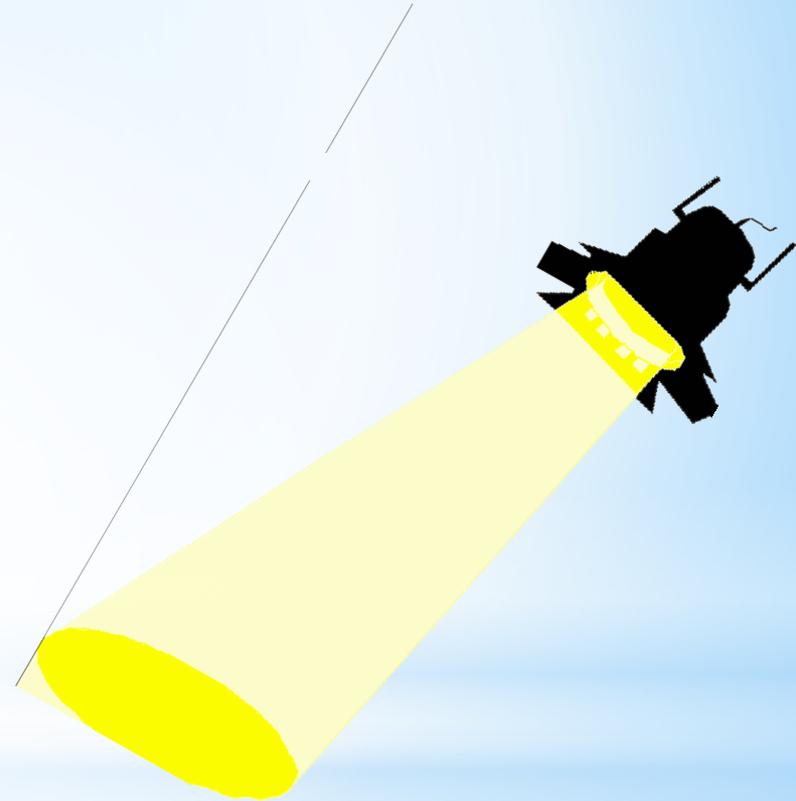


* VHA Health Equity Environmental Scan 2015



* HEALTH EQUITY ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN - WHY?

- ❖ Identify Activities and Projects
- ❖ Impact Vulnerable Populations
- ❖ Awareness
- ❖ Break Down Silos
- ❖ Establish Contacts
- ❖ Linkage for Synergy
- ❖ Inform Leadership
- ❖ Emerging best practices
- ❖ Spotlight on Health Equity!



* HEALTH EQUITY ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN - SCOPE

- ❖ OHE effort to identify Health Equity related work
- ❖ Timeframe- within the last 12 months
- ❖ Status- Underway or Accomplished
- ❖ Plan - Compile and Publish the results online
- ❖ Intent - Inform VHA leadership & stakeholders
- ❖ Benefits -
 - Repository for reference and other utilities
 - Link facilities & program offices POCs with mutual interest
 - Diffuse knowledge >> HRSA example
 - Encourage spread of promising/best practices
 - Awareness /education on health equity



* HEALTH EQUITY ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN - CONTENT AREAS

❖ Project Type

- Programs
- Pilots
- Quality improvement initiatives
- Research protocols
- Resource materials

❖ Vulnerable Population

- Age
- Disability
- Gender
- Mental Health
- Military Era
- Race Ethnicity
- Religion
- Geography
- Socio- Economic
- Sexual Orientation Awareness
- Other Characteristics

❖ HEAP Area

- Awareness
- Leadership
- Health system and life experience
- Cultural and linguistic competency
- Data, research, and evaluation

❖ Description

❖ Veteran Impact ...



* HEALTH EQUITY ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN - HOW?

- ❖ HEAP documents link and folder
- ❖ Web based user friendly tool
- ❖ Completed Pilot February 2015
- ❖ Modified with feedback
- ❖ Full roll with communication plan
 - Voluntary
 - POC per site
 - Hosted Info sessions with Q&A posted
 - Support to participants
 - Extended deadline





* Office of Health Equity

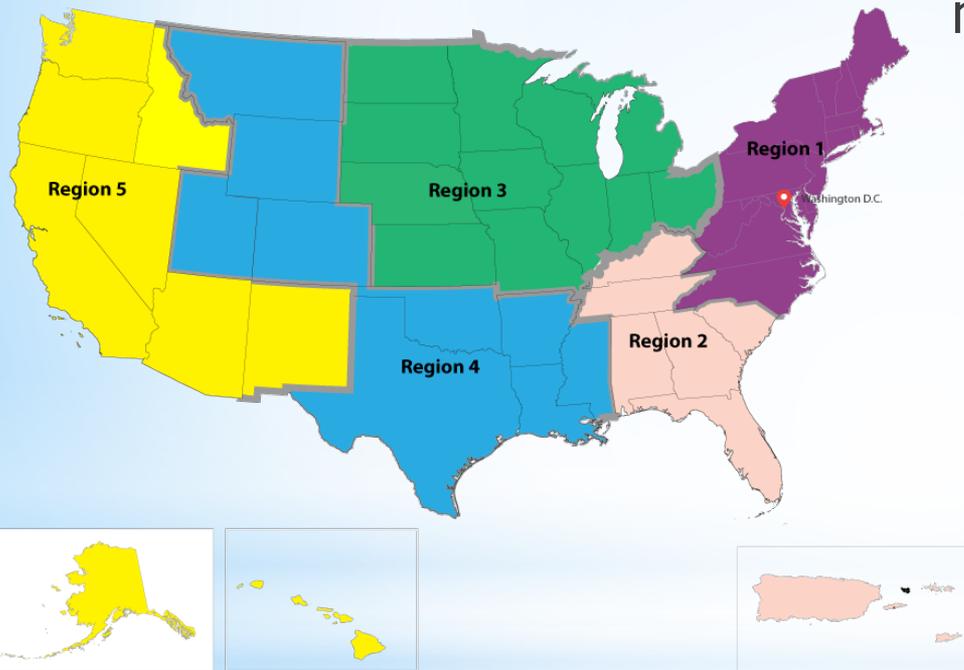
* VHA HEALTH EQUITY ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN 2015 - RESULTS

News Blog:

<http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/23168/23168/>



* HEALTH EQUITY ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN - RESULTS



Participation from all My VA regions

- 118 VAMC participated
- 26 VHACO Program Office participated
- 11 VISNs documented VISN level projects

<https://vaww.vha.vaco.portal.va.gov/sites/OHE/Pages/HEScan.aspx>



NEWS BLOG

http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/23168/23168/ VACO News VHA Health Equity - Achiev... x

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VAntage Point
Official Blog of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

VHA Health Equity – Achieving the highest level of health for all people

Thursday, October 1, 2015 1:00 pm Health VAntage Point Contributor 5 views Edit

Findings – Vulnerable Group

Category	Number of Projects
Military Era	~5
Religion	~10
Sexual Orientation	~80
Racial or Ethnic	~100
Socio-Economic Status	~120
Other characteristics	~150
Geographic Location	~180
Age	~200
Gender	~220
Disability	~250
Mental Health	~350

Do all Veterans get all the health care they need...and deserve?

Could some Veterans not get the health care they should get because of where they live or their age or their race? Or what about their gender or physical disabilities or sexual orientation?

VA has an office exclusively dedicated to making sure all Veterans get the care and treatment they have earned. It's called the Office of Health Equity (OHE) and I am charged with leading this effort to achieve equitable care for Veterans.

<http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/23168/23168/>

* Office of Health Equity



* VA NATIONAL HEALTH EQUITY REPORT - SNEAK PEAK



* VA NATIONAL HEALTH EQUITY REPORT - CONTENT

- ❑ OHE venture with SMEs from the Palo & GLA HSR&D COINs
- ❑ FY13 WHEI data as initial base
- ❑ Data slicers by vulnerable populations + intersections-
 - Age, Gender, MH, Racial/Ethnic, Geography
- ❑ SMEs for each area with chapters including LGBT w/ no data
- ❑ Data slicers within vulnerable populations for
 - Encounters in PC, MH, SUD, ED, Telephone,
 - Services in Fee Care, Cost of Care
 - Health Profile for medical and mental diagnoses domains



* VA NATIONAL HEALTH EQUITY REPORT - FINDINGS

- ❑ Top Diagnoses by Vulnerable groups with identified gaps

- ❑ Vulnerable Veteran groups

 - Use VA more

 - Have higher MH & complex medical diagnoses

 - Sicker with greater disease burden

- ❑ Full report and data release coming soon

- ❑ OHE PEC will take the next steps

 - FY14 and forward including Mortality data



* Office of Health Equity



* PARTNERED EVALUATION CENTER



- ❑ Established 2015 through QUERI mechanism
- ❑ A population health approach to examine the distribution of diagnosed health conditions, mortality, and healthcare quality across the entire VA healthcare system, as defined by Veterans' membership, or not, in vulnerable population groups
- ❑ Evaluate whether characteristics of the healthcare delivery settings (e.g., geography, treatment setting) and of the types of care that individuals use, including new models of care such as Telehealth, influence the quality of care that Veterans receive
- ❑ Principal Investigator Donna L. Washington, MD
- ❑ Products coming soon

* OHE - QUERI PEC



* Office of Health Equity



* CHALLENGES & FUTURE PLANS



- Lack of common definitions on vulnerable populations & health equity concepts
- Lack of quality data on vulnerable populations and disparate health outcomes
- Overall impact of existing health equity initiatives at facilities & VISN unknown
- Lack of facility leads for health equity - Facilities and VISNs operating in silos to achieve health equity
- Crisis management versus strategic focus within the organization
- Lack of resources and consistent support- finance, manpower, systemic obstacles etc.
- Projects delayed/stopped due to extreme staff/resource constraints: Benefits disparities review/QI w/VISN 1/Advisory Councils/ National Health Equity Report/Health Equity Virtual Patient Clinical Cases etc.

* OHE CHALLENGES



- ❑ Full deployment of the VHA Health Equity Action Plan
- Hepatitis C Disparities - *next steps*
- VHA Health Equity Environmental Scan 2015 - *next steps*
- Results of VA participation in the 2015 HRC HEI
- VA National Health Equity Report - *coming soon*
- OHE - QUERI Partnered Evaluation Center Data & Products
- Focus on Health Equity and Action - Cyber Seminar Series
- Community Health Worker project
- Health Equity Virtual Patient Clinical Cases
- Non Traditional Determinant of Health in EHR
- Linkage of health and benefits data for socioeconomic status
- Business Case for Health Equity
- Advance Veteran issues at the IOM Roundtable for Promotion of Health Equity and Elimination of Health Disparities
- ❑ Ultimate goal- Equity lens in all policies, operations and health outcomes

* OHE FUTURE PLANS

* Office of Health Equity



* WHAT CAN YOU DO?



- * Data- Standardize collection & reporting consistently for all vulnerable populations - Race/Ethnicity, Sexual Orientation etc. - to understand disparities
- * Data - Display in actionable format - E.g. HCV- ALD Disparities Dashboard- consumer friendly for Veterans, staff and all stakeholders
- * Incorporate and Act on Non Traditional/Social Determinant of Health in Electronic Health Record/Personalized Health Plans etc. Refer ONC Final Rule
- * *Clinical* Cultural competency - Unite efforts across agencies & private sector; Link directly to health outcomes; Demonstrate Knowledge & Application of it for improving health outcome
- * Link Benefits to Health data & records across VBA +VHA + DOD, including social determinants of health
- * Task all agencies to collect, report & analyze Veteran Data - Comparison of VA & non-VA care since overall health outcome depends on health care system & community factors
- * Veterans Care in the Community - Monitor quality, satisfaction & health equity implications - same as VA or worse? Track state of care and disparities in the vulnerable groups
- * Health Care Agenda priority - Elimination of Health & Health Care Disparities

* RECOMMENDATIONS



*CONTACT INFORMATION

Uchenna S. Uchendu, MD

Executive Director, Office of Health Equity,

Uchenna.Uchendu2@va.gov or 202-632-8470



Veterans Health Administration
Office of Health Equity

*GET INVOLVED!

- The pursuit of Health Equity should be everyone's business.
- It is a journey that takes time and effort.
- What can you do today in your area of influence to improve health equity?
- At a minimum - in all your actions - do not increase the disparity.
- Thank you!



* APPENDIX I

- * American Journal of Public Health (AJPH) Supplemental Issue 2014
 - * <http://ajph.aphapublications.org/toc/ajph/104/S4>

- * American Journal of Public Health (AJPH) Veterans Health Equity Collection Page 2015
<http://ajph.aphapublications.org/topic/vahealthequity>

- * VHA Health Equity Environmental Scan 2015
 - * <http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/23168/23168/>
 - * <https://vaww.vha.vaco.portal.va.gov/sites/OHE/Pages/HEScan.aspx>

- * AAMC Reporter November 2015 : Addressing Social Determinants of Health: Equity Research Among Veterans Provides Unique Insights.
 - * <https://www.aamc.org/newsroom/reporter/november2015/448920/veterans.html>

- * Hepatitis C Advanced Liver Disease Disparities Dashboard - Data.gov 2015
 - * <http://catalog.data.gov/dataset/hepatitis-c-advanced-liver-disease-disparities-dashboard>

- * Hepatitis C Advanced Liver Disease Disparities Dashboard - Press Release 2015
 - * <http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2736>



* APPENDIX II

* Health Disparities Evidence-based Synthesis Reviews

- * Evidence Brief: Update on Prevalence of and Interventions to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities within the VA

<http://www.hsrd.research.va.gov/publications/esp/HealthDisparities.cfm>

- * Health Disparities in Quality Indicators of Healthcare Among Adults with Mental Illness

http://www.hsrd.research.va.gov/publications/esp/health_disparities.cfm

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK299084/>

- * Health Equity Presentation - Special Feature - National Rural Health Association Reilly Address 2015

- * [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1748-0361](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1748-0361)

- * VHA Health Equity Environmental Scan 2015

<http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/23168/23168/>

- * Office of Health Equity-QUERI Partnered Evaluation Initiative

http://www.queri.research.va.gov/partnered_evaluation/equity.cfm



* APPENDIX III

Health Equity Cyber seminars - Internet :

- * Focus on Equity and Action—Office of Health Equity Hepatitis C Virus-Advanced Liver Disease Disparities Dashboard

http://www.hsrdr.research.va.gov/for_researchers/cyber_seminars/archives/video_archive.cfm?SessionID=1073

- * Disparities in Healthcare Quality Indicators among Adults with Mental Illness: A systematic review:

http://www.hsrdr.research.va.gov/for_researchers/cyber_seminars/archives/video_archive.cfm?SessionID=965

- * Partnership in Pursuit of Health Equity: Focus on Minority Veterans

http://www.hsrdr.research.va.gov/for_researchers/cyber_seminars/archives/video_archive.cfm?SessionID=889

- * ACA-Health Equity/Disparities Connection

http://www.hsrdr.research.va.gov/for_researchers/cyber_seminars/archives/video_archive.cfm?SessionID=807

- * VHA Office of Health Equity- What is it all about?

http://www.hsrdr.research.va.gov/for_researchers/cyber_seminars/archives/video_archive.cfm?SessionID=769

