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Advancing Pharmacy Practice: VA Case Study

June 19, 2019 | 1 p.m. Eastern GTMRx Learning Network Webinar

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Learning Objectives
- Presenters:
 - Brig. Gen. Allison Hickey, (Ret.) USAF, Founding Board Member, GTMRx Institute
 - Anthony P. Morreale, Pharm.D., MBA, BCPS, FASHP, Department of Veterans Affairs
 - Julie Groppi, Pharm.D., FASHP, Department of Veterans Affairs
- Question and Answer Session

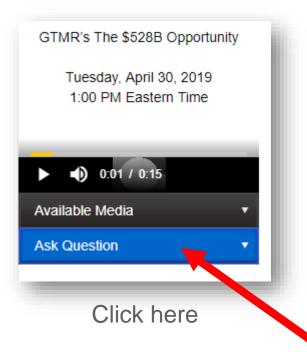


Audience Notes

- There is no call-in number for today's event.
- Audio is by streaming only. Please use your computer speakers, or you may prefer to use headphones.
- There is a troubleshooting guide in the tab to the left of your screen.
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Submit questions at any time



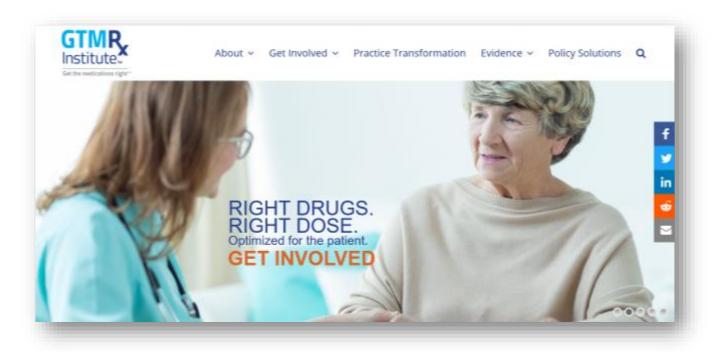
How to submit a question

To submit a question, click on Ask Question to display the Ask Question box. Type your question in the Ask Question box and submit. We will answer as many questions as time permits.



Audience Notes

A recording of today's session will be posted within one week to our website, <u>www.gtmr.org</u>





Learning Objectives

After the webinar, participants will be able to:

- Discuss how the Clinical Pharmacy Specialist (CPS), serving as a provider of Comprehensive Medication Management (CMM) services, fills gaps in health care-related access, costs and quality;
- Describe foundational elements of practice utilized by the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) that has led to successful optimization and integration of the CPS provider into team based care settings; and
- Summarize strategies, case examples and key outcomes of CPS provider integration in both the primary and specialty care practice areas.



Our Presenters



BRIG. GEN. ALLISON HICKEY (RET.) USAF CEO, All In Solutions LLC; former Undersecretary for Benefits (VBA) in the Department of Veterans Affairs; Founding Board Member, GTMRx Institute



ANTHONY P. MORREALE, PHARM.D., MBA, BCPS, FASHP Associate Chief Consultant For Clinical Pharmacy And Policy Department Of Veterans Affairs Pharmacy Benefits Management, VA Central Office



JULIE GROPPI, PHARMD, FASHP National PBM Program Manager for Clinical Pharmacy Practice Policy and Standards, VA Central Office



Quick view of GTMRx Institute

A national platform creating a forum for more rapid practice and policy change to save lives and revolutionize the way care is delivered in order to optimize medication use.

Goal: To educate, inform and change the market so research and innovation moves to the practice level, payment models and policy align, and buyers receive value.

Vision: Enhance life by ensuring appropriate and personalized use of medication and gene therapies.

Mission: Bring critical stakeholders together, bound by the urgent need to optimize outcomes and reduce costs by *getting the medications right*.



Focus Areas

- Practice Transformation
- Evidence & Innovation
- Payment & Policy Solutions



Founding and funding board members



Katherine Capps Co-founder, Exec Director



Terry McInnis, MD, MPH, FACOEM President & Co-founder



Paul Grundy, MD, MPH, FACOEM, FACPM



Brig. Gen. Allison Hickey (Ret.)



Deborah M. Gage





Ira Klein, MD, MBA, FACP





Steve Goldberg, MD, MBA



C. Edwin Webb, Pharm.D., MPH, FCCP





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Executive Members



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A sample of our 150+ GTMRx Institute member organizations (inclusion does not constitute an endorsement of any program, product or organization)



What does it take to get the medications right?



https://www.patientcare.va.gov/primarycare/PACT.asp



VA's Leadership

"...28% of physician visits are shifted from physician to pharmacists for medication management services"

"The CPSs intervention directly linked to the EMR and cost, quality and outcomes that CPSs deliver has led to expansion from 1900 positions (2011) to 4600 (2018)..."

EDITORIAL

Optimization of clinical pharmacy specialists at Veterans Affairs facilities

For decades, clinical pharmacy specialists (CPSs) in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) have served our veterans as advanced practice providers with special expertises providing comprehensive medication management services, paired with the larger complement of the health-care team, have led to significant increases in patients' access to care and improvement in patient care outcomes, with many facilities demonstrating that up to 28% of appointments are shifted from physicians to pharmacists for medication management services.¹² With the shortage of primary care and specialist physicians to promounded by the increasing patient care demands on the U.S. healthcare system, it is imperative that we optimize the use of CPSs to their fullest capacity to address these gaps.³⁴

In an article that appears in this issue of AJHP, Groppi et al.5 describe a tool used by facility-based VA CPSs to document daily patient care interventions. This report outlines the framework that was instrumental in the diffusion of the Pharmacists Achieve Results with Medications Documentation (PhARMD) tool across nearly all VA medical centers in the country. This tool, which was awarded the 2015 Under Secretary for Health Pharmacy Benefits Management Innovation award, describes the types of patient care activities performed by CPSs as a part of the largest integrated healthcare organization in the country. These interventions, directly linked to the individual patient's electronic medical record (EMR), provides valuable information to VA leadership on the cost savings, quality, and outcomes that CPSs deliver and has been useful in advocating for further expansion of clinical pharmacists across all practice settings in the organization, as witnessed by the growth of CPS positions from approximately 1,900 in 2011 to nearly 4.600 today.6

As healthcare organizations aspire to achieve the "triple aim" of better health, better care, and better value, tools to measure interventions and outcomes systematically and transparently are essential and a core component of VAs efforts to advance high performance." In doing so we must ensure that our approach is patient centric and integrated as efficiently as possible into the clinician workflow and EMR. Burnout among healthcare providers and teams is a national challenge in healthcare. Improvement efforts hat add work are not sustainable and may result in adverse patient care outcomes. The National Academy of Medicine launched an action collaborative on clinician well-being and resilience in which ASHP is a key stakeholder. This collaboration challenges organizations to develop and share action plans to mitigate clinician burnout and promote

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well-being.⁸ VA recognizes that team-based care, with all team members providing top-level care, can reduce stress and burnout and that CPSs can play an important role in this endeavor.

Access to care remains a top VA priority, and the appropriate integration of CPSs is of critical importance in the timely delivery of high-quality care to our veteran population. The CPS is a valuable member of the healthcare team who improves our capacity to provide timely, efficient, effective, and safe primary and specially care, which significantly improves patients' access to care. We urge other organizations to adopt a similar approach to fully optimize the use of their pharmacist providers into team-based models of care to ensure that patients have access to their medication expertise and services.

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- Greer N, Bolduc J, Geukink E et al. Pharmacist-led chronic disease management: a systematic review of effectiveness and harms compared with usual care. *Ann Intern Med.* 2016; 165:30–40.
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Carolyn Clancy, M.D. Voterans Health Administration Washington, D.C. Carolyn.Clancy@va.gov Disclosures: The author has declared no potential conflicts of interest.

Keywords: access, clinical pharmacy, healthcare value, interventions, pharmacists, providers

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Carolyn Clancy, MD Deputy Under Secretary for Discovery, Education and Affiliate Networks, Veterans Health Administration

"Access to care remains a top VA priority, and the appropriate integration of CPSs is of critical importance in the timely delivery of highquality care to our veteran population."



Clinical Pharmacy Specialists (CPS) are Advanced Practice Providers

CPS = PHARMACIST PROVIDER

- Prescriptive Authority
- Practice-Area expert to manage multiple disease states
- Population Management

IMPROVING ACCESS

- Core team member
- Comprehensive Medication Management (CMM) services to allow other providers to focus on other Veterans with more acute care needs
- Creating access to care for patients with med management needs, including rural patients

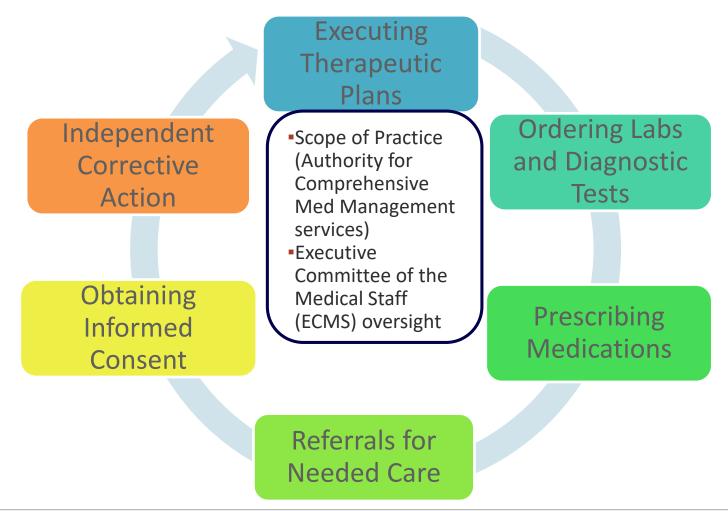
CPS Providers: Your Team's Medication Experts



Optimize roles of CPS to provide Essential Chronic Disease and Medication Management Services



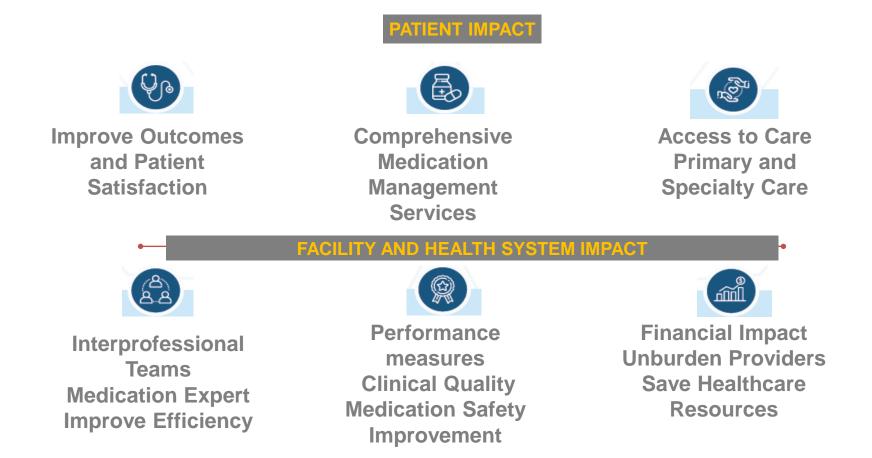
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist (CPS) Provider Direct Patient Care





Optimizing Care by Leveraging CPS Providers

Clinical Pharmacy Specialist (CPS) = Advanced Practice Provider FY18: VA CPS had **6 Million encounters** providing care for **1.4 Million Veterans**





CPS Roles in Foundational Areas

Primary Care

- Diabetes
- Hypertension
- Hyperlipidemia
- CV Disease
- Thyroid Disease
- Heart Failure
- COPD & Asthma
- Smoking Cessation
- Pain
- Mental Health
- Hepatitis C
- Obesity
- Anemia

Mental Health

- Depression
- Anxiety Disorders
- PTSD
- Insomnia
- Bipolar Disorder
- Schizophrenia
- Smoking Cessation
- Alcohol Use Disorder
- Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)
- Neurocognitive Disorders

Pain

- Musculoskeletal pain
 - \circ Joint and bone pain
 - Muscle pain/spasms
 - Low back pain
 - o Osteoarthritis
 - o Fibromyalgia
- Neuropathic Pain
 - Peripheral
 - neuropathy
 - Post-herpetic neuralgia
 - Phantom limb pain
 - o Sciatica
- o OUD

In the Past: Focused Disease State Management Today: Comprehensive Medication Management

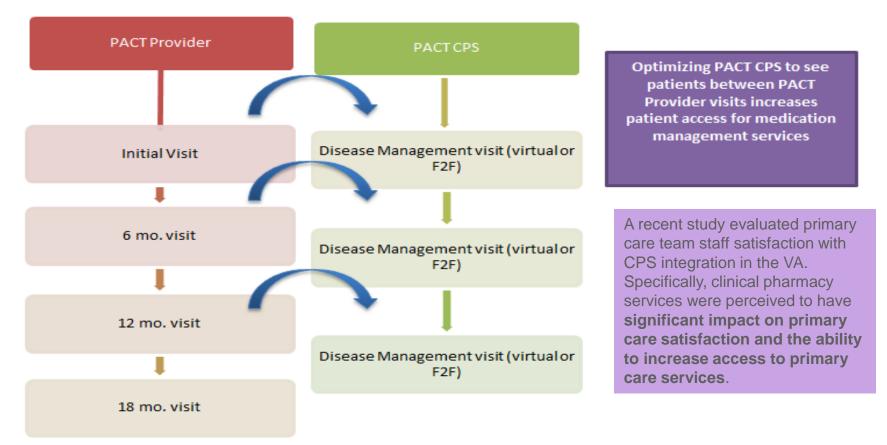


Primary Care Services and Access

- Access to primary care services across the country continues to be in high demand with a significant provider shortages expected by 2025.
- Primary Care Physician (PCP) Turnover rate is estimated at 6-8 % annually
- Based on estimates, VA can expect 325 to 434 PC physicians to leave VA in the next year
 - In 2017, it is estimated that R&R costs of replacing a PCP is \$368,000
 - Collectively, this translates into an expected cost of turnover equal to \$119 million to \$160 million
- Full Optimization of the CPS has demonstrated a clear-cut benefit on quality and safety metrics, including Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measures



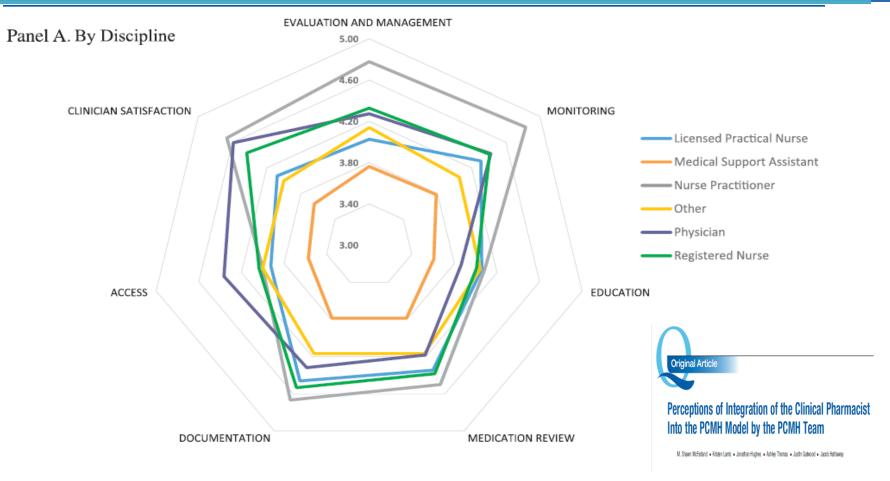
Optimizing PACT CPS as an Advanced Practice Provider Increasing Access Primary Care=Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT)



McFarland MS, Hughes J, Thomas A, Lamb K, Gatwood J, Hathaway J. The Evaluation of Primary Care Staff Perceptions to Integration of the Clinical Pharmacy Specialist into the Patient Centered Medical Home Model in a VA Healthcare System. J Healthc Qual. 2017 Dec 22. doi: 10.1097/JHQ.000000000000114. [Epub ahead of print]



Perceptions of CPS Integration into the Primary Care Team: ACCESS and Job Satisfaction



EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT



Key Strategies for CPS Provider Integration

Identify the Need: CPS Provider Impact	 Gap analysis and Needs Access, Safety, Quality Staffing shortages, reducing burnout Expanding CPS training in gap areas
Key Stakeholders: Role Clarity CPS Practice	 Team, Optimizing each member Leadership Patients Align Priorities and set staffing expectations
Care Coordination	 Define appropriate referrals, standard referral process Population management Collaboration with Team
Space, Care Delivery, Ancillary Support	 Space/equipment Expanding Care Modalities (face to face, virtual care) Establish core schedule and appointments Ancillary support (e.g. scheduling, vitals)
GTMR.	



VA CPS Advanced Practice Providers: Highly Trained

VHA has ~8,748 Clinical Pharmacists

4,259 (49%) have a Scope of Practice

3,489 (82%) have Residency and/or Certification

72% PGY-1 and/or PGY-2 Residency

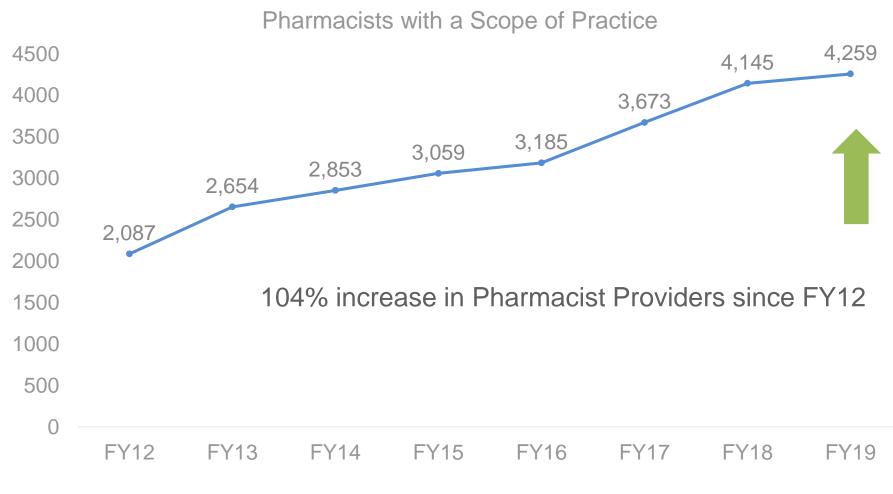
52% BPS or Other Certification



Ref: VA Clinical Pharmacy Practice Office 2019



CPS Provider Growth Over Time

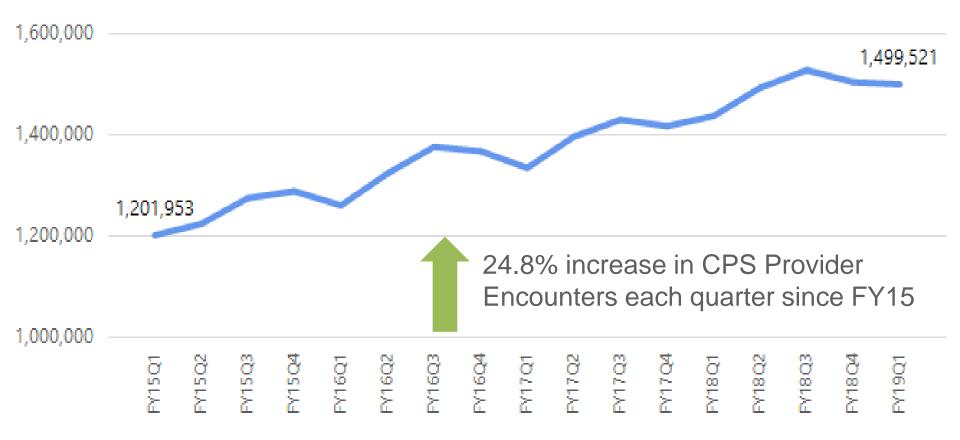


Ref: VA Clinical Pharmacy Practice Office 2019



CPS Provider Encounters Growth

Pharmacist Encounters by Quarter: FY15Q1 - FY19Q1



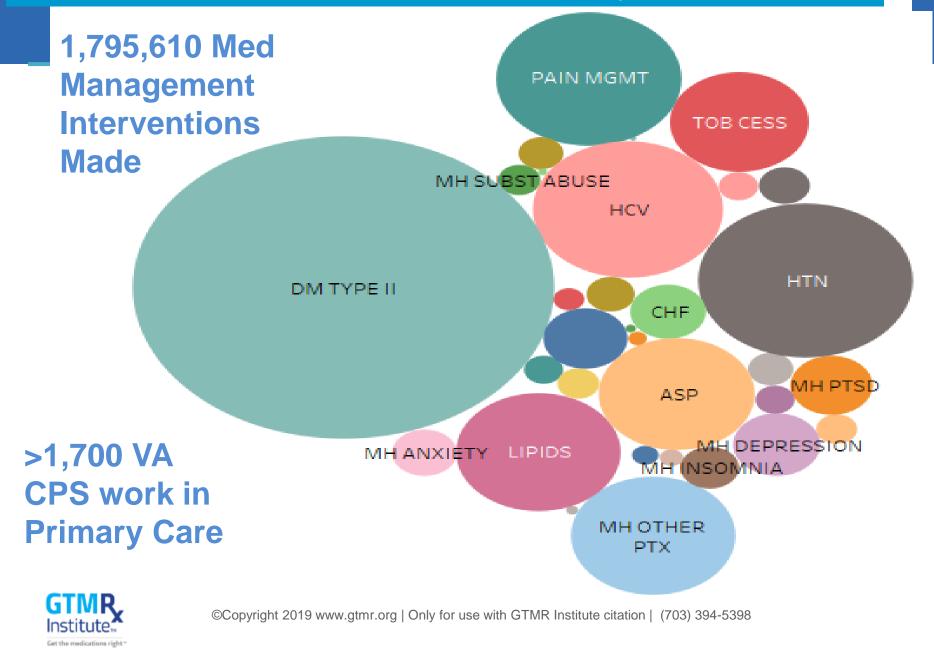


CPS Provider Prescribing By Drug Classes

Drug Class	Number of Distinct Prescriptions by a Pharmacist Provider	Percentage of Overall Prescriptions by a Pharmacist Provider	Opportunity/Benefit to VA	
All Prescriptions	2,454,806	3.5%	Comprehensive Medication	
Diabetes Agents	235,675	11.9%	Management for multiple chronic diseases. Opportunity to expand 50%	
Lipid Agents	75,340	2.5%		
Anticoagulants	650,328	88%	Opportunity to refer additional 12% of Patient AC Appointments to the CPS	
Hepatitis C Agents	134,896	30.7%	Pharmacist prescribing of agents increased 255% from FY14-FY15, allowing more patients to be cured. Opportunity for redeployment now that patients have been cured	
Erythropoiesis- Stimulating Agents	36,667	31%	Clinical Pharmacists achieve safer, higher quality outcomes that are more cost- effective. Expanding service would save provider time and money	
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VHA CPS Practice in Primary Care



What is Your CPS Provider Integration Vision? Silo Eliminator, Force Multiplier





VHA CPS Provider Expansion Projects

- Increasing Access to Care CPS Rural Veteran Access (CRVA) Initiative
 - Awarded \$120M over 5 years to provide CPS resources focused on leveraging CPS Providers in PACT, Mental Health, and Pain Management.
 - Partnered and Leveraged data from Diffusion Project

 Increasing Access to Hepatitis C Care Utilizing CPS Providers

 44 facilities were awarded funding equating to 44 CPS FTEE and 23.5 Pharmacy Technician FTEE awarded to and a total dollar value \$8.7 Million.

Antimicrobial Stewardship

- National Directive mandating CPS ASP Champions at every site
- Secured local funding for CPS Certification in ASP
- Staffing Analysis and Tool to support Integration



VHA CPS Provider Expansion Projects

- Increasing Access to Care in MH and Pain Management with CPS Providers
 - Access to MH, Pain management and Substance Use Disorder Treatment

Centralized Anticoagulation Hub - CPS Services

 A conservative estimate based on anticoagulation encounters indicates ~91 physician FTE annually could be freed up systemwide if the remaining 31% of anticoagulation care was transitioned to pharmacist managed anticoagulation clinics



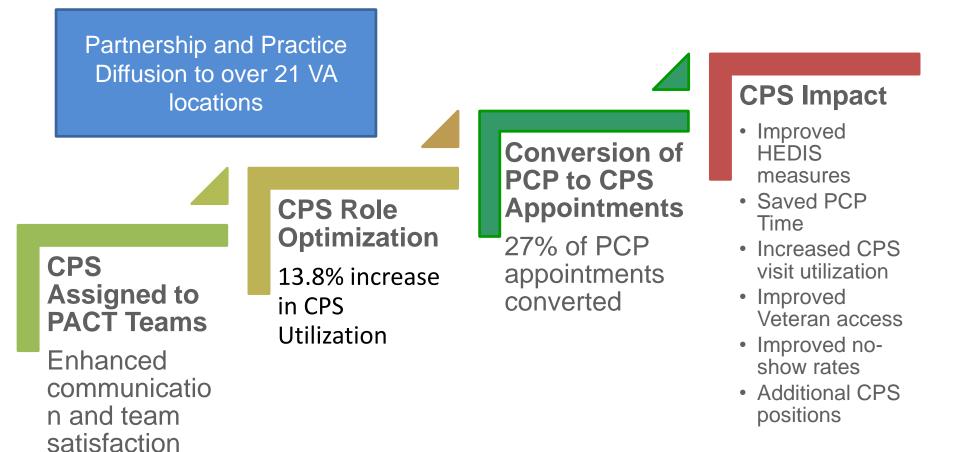
VHA CPS Provider Practice Expansion Initiative

5 year Enterprise Wide Initiative (EWI): Optimizing VA CPS providers to increase access to care for rural Veterans- 183 Pharmacist Providers across 61 facilities

Practice Area		Number of CP	S	
Primary Care (PACT)		111		
Mental Health		35		
Pain Management		31		
Mental Health/Pain Management		3		
Primary Care/Mental Health		2		
Primary Care/Pain		1		
teering mmittee	Data Tracking Reports	Mentorship Program	Training Boot Camps	Consultative Visits
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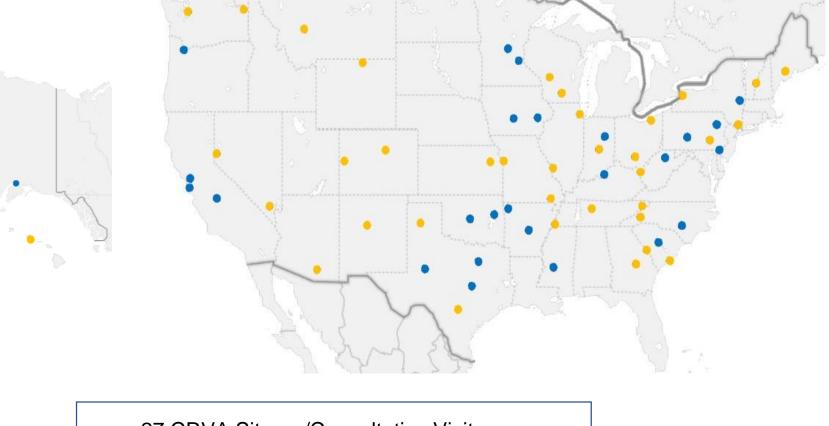
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Diffusion of Excellence (DOE) Gold Status Practice Improving Access with CPS Providers





Optimizing CPS Rural Veteran Access (CRVA) through a Consultative Visit Approach



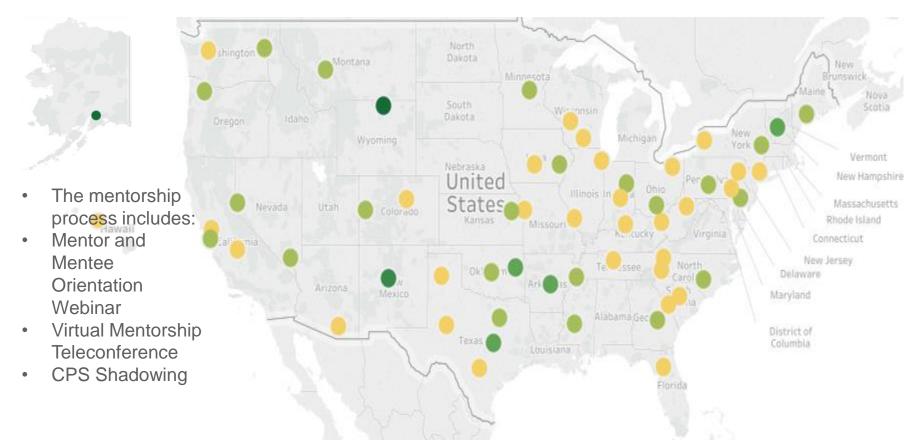
- 27 CRVA Sites w/Consultative Visit
 - 35 Other CRVA Sites



² Optimizing CPS Providers through Training Leadership and Clinical Boot Camps

- Bootcamps based on gap analysis surveys which helped guide curriculum
- Leadership Boot Camps
 - Virtual teleconference series focused on the implementation, promotion, and maintenance of expanded clinical pharmacy programs
 - Equip participants with the knowledge and tools for advancing clinical pharmacy practice
 - Completed in Sept and Oct 2017
- Clinical Boot Camps
 - 5 Clinical Pharmacy Boot Camps with up to 50 attendees each
 - 2 Mental Health/Pain Boot Camps April & May 2018
 - 3 PACT Boot Camps April & May 2018

CPS Provider Mentorship Program 54 Mentor/Mentee matches



Virtual and face-to-face mentoring services offered to CRVA facilities Focus on key metrics and clinical practice growth



VHA CPS Provider Project Overview – Defining Metrics

- Focus on using the CPS most effectively and demonstrating their impact on patient care
- Targets
 - Minimum # of Encounters ≥ 120 Encounters/FTEE/Month
 - ≥ 75% PhARMD Tool Use on Encounters
 - ≥ 50% Encounter Rurality (Determined by rurality of patient)
- Each CPS hired workload reviewed monthly



VHA CPS Rural Veteran Access (CRVA) Initiative

CRVA Encounters with a Pharmacist Provider 10/1/16 to 06/03/19

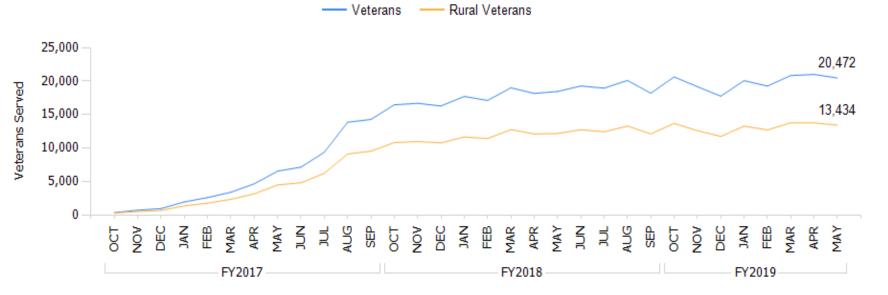
174,928 Veterans Served

556,269 Encounters

104,605 (59.8%) Rural Veterans Served

373,484 (67.1%) Rural Encounters

CRVA Veterans Served by Fiscal Month through MAY-FY19





CPS Providers Increasing Access to Care October 2016 to June 2019

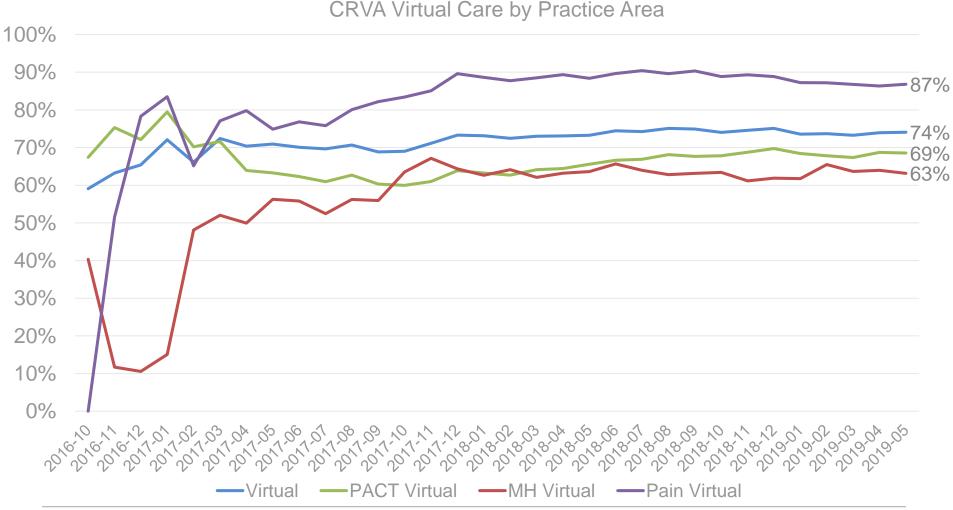
- Primary Care CPS Providers
 - 75,411 Veterans Served (66.6% Rural)
 - 281,682 Encounters/Visits with CPS Providers (72.6% Rural)
- Mental Health (MH) CPS Providers
 - 29,712 MH Veterans Served (54.3% Rural)
 - 89,888 Encounters/Visits by MH CPS Providers (58.5% Rural)
- Pain CPS Providers
 - 26,479 Veterans with Pain Served (55.6% Rural)
 - 66,873 Encounters/Visits by Pain CPS Providers (59.2% Rural)

Access to Care

- Average of an Additional 14,127 visits per month for PC patients
- Average of an Additional 4,282 visits per month for MH patients
- Average of an Additional 2,975 visits per month for Pain patients



CPS Providers Increase Access to Virtual Care





Strategies for CPS Provider Expansion





Multimodal Strategies for CPS Provider Optimization

Hepatitis C CPS Provider Expansion

- Clinical Pharmacy Boot Camps
- Train the Trainer
 Approach
- Targeted Integration
- Over 35% prescribing across the nation was achieved by CPS Providers

Antimicrobial Stewardship and Infectious Disease CPS Providers

- Policy to Support Practice Vision
- Interprofessional Task Force
- Greater than 220 CPS Providers serving as ASP Pharmacy Champions and contributing to improved care



CPS Providers Increase Access to HCV Treatment

• 47 CPS providers

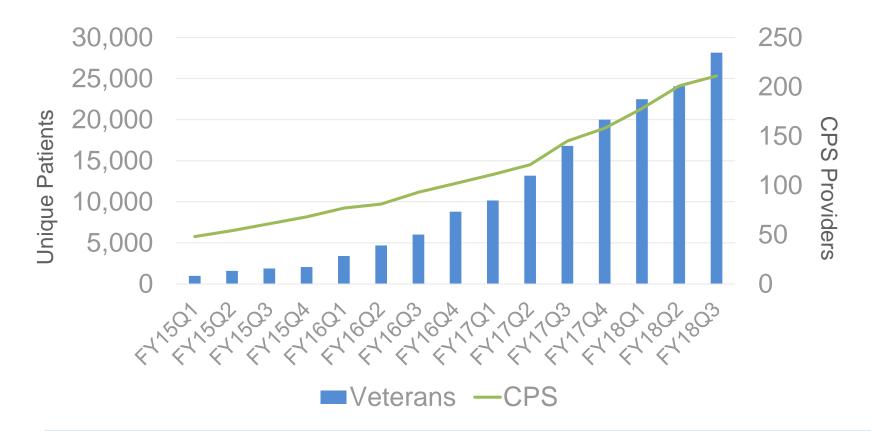
- 24,888 patient care encounters providing care
- 9,593 unique patients
- Initiated new HCV treatment for 1191 treatment-naïve patients.
- For 8402 patients, additional HCV care activities such as evaluation and monitoring before, during, and after treatment was performed.
- The Same care delivered by non-pharmacist provider specialists (e.g., specialty physicians) would cost an additional \$936,535 (48% more).

Intervention category	Number of interventions
Medication monitoring (e.g., assessing for medication tolerability and adherence)	18,213
HCV laboratory tests workup (e.g., ordering and interpreting viral load)	10,061
Nonpharmacologic intervention (e.g., lifestyle education to prevent recurrence, adherence education, etc.)	8757
Medication management of drug interaction (e.g., adjusting medication regimen due to potential drug-drug interaction)	3714
Medication initiation (e.g., initiation of HCV medication)	3415
At goal because of CPS care (e.g., sustained viral response achieved while being treated by the CPS)	1721
Modify medication (e.g., medication adjusted based on individualized patient information or response to HCV therapy)	1572
Medication intervention—vaccination (e.g., vaccination ordered and given to patient by health care team member)	3

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.japh.2019.01.018



All VA Pain CPS Providers and Veterans Treated: Growth Over Time



Must have at least 60 pain encounters in preceding 6 months to be included



Key Needs of VHA are Met by CPS Providers

- Few states have authorized pharmacists to prescribe controlled substances
- VA Primary Care, Mental Health and Pain Management Specialty want VA CPS to assist with complex medication management needs
- VA is experiencing significant need for patient specific expertise in medication management:
 - Opioid Risk Reduction
 - Benzodiazepine Tapering
 - OUD & Access to MAT
 - Alternatives to Controlled Substances

- 2,756 pharmacists performed over
 122,000 PDMP screenings for
 88,140 patients in team-based
 care settings
- 2,192 VA pharmacists prescribed
 82,140 smoking cessation products
- 953 VA Pharmacists wrote 20,821 naloxone prescriptions
- 938 pharmacists ordered and interpreted 202,501 urine drug screen labs



Conclusions

- In the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Clinical Pharmacy Specialist (CPS), serving as a Provider of Comprehensive Medication Management (CMM) services fill gaps in healthcare related access, costs and quality.
- Consistent application of foundational elements of practice has led to successful optimization and integration of the CPS provider into team based care settings.
- There are numerous examples of CPS provider integration in both the primary and specialty care practice areas that can and should be replicated outside the VA setting because they improve access, cost and quality.



Question & Answer Session



BRIG. GEN. ALLISON HICKEY (RET.) USAF CEO, All In Solutions LLC; former Undersecretary for Benefits (VBA) in the Department of Veterans Affairs; Founding Board Member, GTMRx Institute



ANTHONY P. MORREALE, PHARM.D., MBA, BCPS, FASHP Associate Chief Consultant For Clinical Pharmacy And Policy Department Of Veterans Affairs Pharmacy Benefits Management, VA Central Office



JULIE GROPPI, PHARMD, FASHP National PBM Program Manager for Clinical Pharmacy Practice Policy and Standards, VA Central Office





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