



Diversifying Clinical Trials and Clinical Research

Best Practices from VA Research

Presenter: Molly Klote, MD, COL, USA, Ret.
Director, Office of Research Protections, Policy, and Education
Veterans Health Administration
March 29, 2021



Choose **VA**

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Research at VA

- Over **90 years of research**
- **Multi-site clinical research** in the United States began in the VA health care system
- VA's ability to oversee and manage research across the enterprise provides a rapid way to implement **large-scale national studies**.
 - Additionally, our electronic medical records provide access to an immense amount of information to facilitate high-quality research studies.

VA Research Advances



Implantable
pacemaker (1950s)



1st Liver transplant
(1967)



Antihypertensive
medication use (1970s)



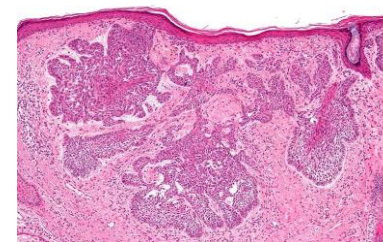
Aspirin reduces heart
attacks & death (1983)



ZostaVax
Shingles
Vaccine
(2011)



VA-DEKA Arm
(2014)



Flourouracil 5%-
Skin Cancer (2018)

VA Research Strategic Priorities FY 2021

Work as an enterprise to:

-  Increase Veterans access to high quality clinical trials
-  Increase the substantial real-world impact of VA research
-  Put VA data to work for Veterans

 Actively promote diversity, equity, and inclusion within our sphere of influence

 Build community through VA research

New in 2021



Choose **VA**

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) Advisory Sub-committee

- Formed in October 2020 under the National Research Advisory Committee
- Informs strategic outreach, recruitment, and education of minority and underserved volunteers into VA clinical trials and research



Choose **VA**

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

D&I Advisory Sub-committee

Committee members are from across VA and beyond:

Center for Minority Veterans (VA)	Volunteer and Community Relations (VA)
Center for Faith and Opportunity Initiatives (VA)	Women's Health Practice-Based Research Network
Office of Resolution Management, Diversity & Inclusion (VA)	VA Homeless Program
Office of Tribal and Intergovernmental Affairs (VA)	Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs (VA)
Office of Community Engagement (VA)	Center for Women Veterans (VA)
National Chaplain Services (VA)	VHA Social Work
Coronavirus Prevention Network (CoVPN)	National VA Chaplain Service

Coronavirus Research Volunteer List

WHAT: The VA coronavirus volunteer list is a nationwide pool of diverse volunteers available to be contacted if there's a COVID-19 clinical trial or study that's right for them.

Coronavirus research at VA

Join the effort to prevent and treat COVID-19



Diversity in the Registry

- The Registry currently has over 56,000 volunteers – **23% minority, 18% women**
- National and local outreach campaign included:
 - PSA with Drs Jerome Adams and Anthony Fauci with prominent Black and Hispanic Veterans
 - Print and digital collateral featuring non-white researchers and Veterans, with input from D&I sub-committee
 - Podcasts
 - Human-interest stories on Black and Hispanic Veteran volunteers



Campaign collateral



We're asking for your help

Go to www.va.gov/coronavirus-research to join our research volunteer list

 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Coronavirus research at VA



We can't do it without your help

How can frontline staff help?

Patient referrals and word-of-mouth are key to clinical trial recruitment and success. This is more important than ever as VA conducts a number of timely COVID-19 research studies, including several vaccine clinical trials through Operation Warp Speed. Help us spread the word, and invite Veterans to participate in these trials by signing up for VA's coronavirus research volunteer list.

Who can participate?

Anyone over age 18 can sign up, including Veterans, friends and family of Veterans, and VA staff.

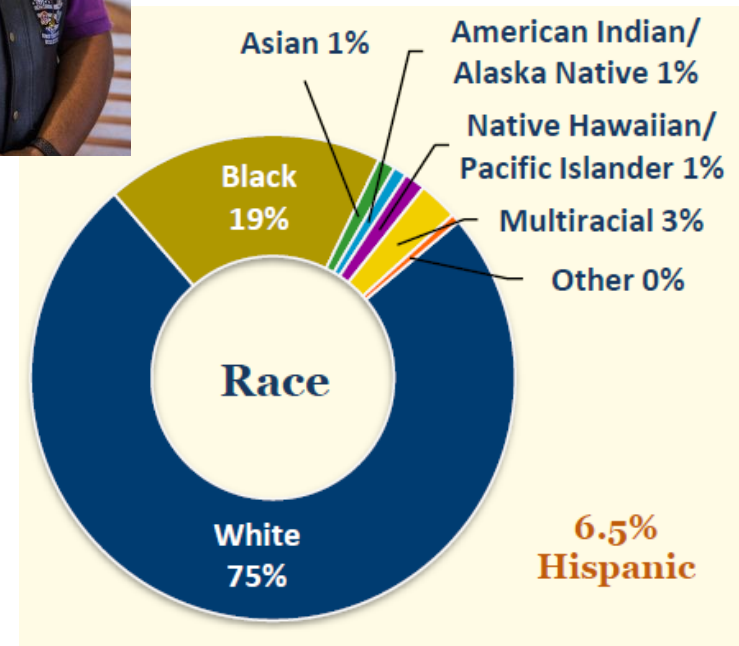
How can patients and staff sign up?

Go to www.va.gov/coronavirus-research to learn more and volunteer today.

  U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

MVP Cohort Overview

- Over 831,000 Veterans enrolled as of March 2021
- Largest African American cohort of any genetics research program
- MVP's goal: At least one million Veterans enrolled by 2022, with a focus on diversity and inclusion



Focus on Women Veterans

- Women reflect **9%** of all Veterans in MVP (**75,000** of **830,000** Veterans enrolled)
 - Women in MVP are more diverse than men (40% vs. 27% non-White, respectively)
 - There are roughly 2 million living women Veterans



MVP Women's Campaign Overview

- **Campaign Duration:** March 2021 – September 2021
- **Overall Goal:** Promote awareness among women Veterans, advocates, and other stakeholders, ultimately increasing the number and diversity of women enrolled
 - **By April 1, 2021:** 1,000 women enrolled into MVP (*as of 3/23, this goal has been met!*)
 - **By September 30, 2021:** 5000 women (total) enrolled into MVP
 - **25% of female enrollees will be non-white**



The future of medicine is in your genes

 **MILLION VETERAN PROGRAM**

Imagine going to the doctor and getting healthcare designed just for you.

VA's Million Veteran Program is helping make that a reality through genetics research.

Sign up at **mvp.va.gov** or call **1-866-441-6075**

VA |  U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



02/2021

Thank you!

Questions?

Mary.Klote@va.gov

MVP Women's Campaign:

Jennifer.Deen@va.gov