The VA eScreening Program: Technology to Improve Veteran Healthcare

Niloo Afari, PhD James Pittman, PhD Liz Floto, MA

VA Center of Excellence for Stress and Mental Health

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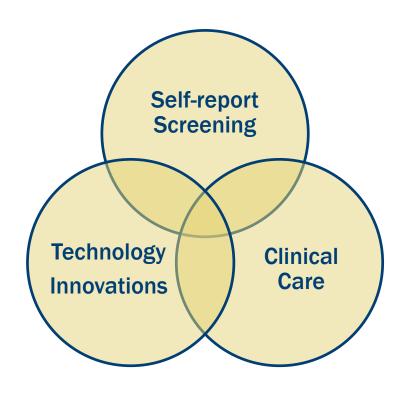






Introduction

- VHA serves about 9 million
 Veterans each year; estimated
 8-12% increase annually
- More than 1.6 million troops deployed to conflicts in the middle east, needing healthcare upon discharge
- Close to 30% of all VHA enrollees receive mental health care
- Efficient and evidence-based screening, assessment, and outcome monitoring is critical to ensure VHA care meets Veteran needs.











eScreening: A Technology Solution

- eScreening is the only VA technology with combined functions that is adaptable to the needs of any clinical setting and allows Veterans to:
 - » Report their mental and physical health symptoms with mobile devices into their medical record
 - » Communicate problems and symptoms with providers
 - » Get instantaneous feedback and triage















eScreening Functions

- Patient directed log-in
- Designed for use in multiple settings including: a) high volume primary care;
 b) one-time comprehensive screening; and c) mental health outcome monitoring
- Web-based screening for Veterans to complete standardized screening prior to scheduled appointments
- 2-way VISTA/CPRS communication allows: a) dynamic assignment of screens based on the individual Veteran's needs; b) completion of clinical reminders; and c) generation of a clinical note for clinician to review and sign
- Scoring and synchronization of screens in real-time to allow advanced notification system for high-risk Veteran responses
- Personalized feedback for Veterans based on their responses
- Dynamic progress reporting gives the ability to provide summary of progress over time in Veteran summary and CPRS note (e.g., PHQ-9 scores over time)
- Dashboard interface and forms editor allows users to: a) adapt scoring logic of existing screens; b) create new screens; c) edit content for Veteran summary and CPRS note; and d) generate data reports for veterans, clinics, or system-wide









eScreening Results

- FY13 evaluation of eScreening in VA San Diego OEF/OIF/OND Care Management program with close to 1400 Veterans
 - » Veterans completed screens for PTSD, depression, anxiety, TBI, military sexual trauma, substance abuse, and pain and other somatic symptoms
- Focus groups with 40 Veterans to examine preference and impact
- Overwhelmingly positive impact on clinical care and efficiencies:
 - » Veterans preferred eScreening over paper-based methods and felt a greater sense of security stating that paper copies are easily lost, destroyed and may go through several staff or provider hands before being used to support their care
 - "Same Day" access to clinical care and triage for urgent services in 84% of Veterans who did eScreening compared to 49% who were screened by paper
 - » Faster documentation of completed clinical reminders in CPRS, averaging 19 days less time than paper screening
 - » Reduced redundancy yielding an estimated savings of 6.5 provider hours and 4.4 Veteran hours for every 100 Veterans seen
 - » Increased operational efficiencies yielding an estimated savings of \$100 for every 100 clinical reminders completed





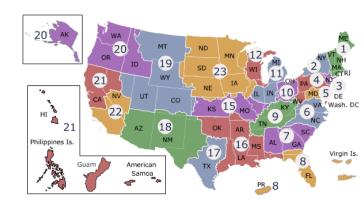




Current Status

- 2015-16 Implementations:
 - San Diego Transition Care Management program
 - San Diego Mental Health clinics to facilitate outcome monitoring in PTSD treatment
 - Las Vegas Telemental Health
 - San Diego Research Clinics
 - Long Beach Transition Care Management Program.
 - Bedford MA, Mental Health
 - Lebanon PA, Primary Care
 - Ann Arbor MI, Primary Care
- Future 2017 Implementations:
 - San Francisco, Mental Health (08/2017)
 - Las Vegas, Transition Care Mgmt(08/2017)
 - Long Beach, Womens Surgery (09/2017)













Clinical Value

- Far-reaching implications for how technology can be harnessed to streamline screening for mental and physical health needs in healthcare systems
- Ideal for high volume settings like Primary Care and Mental Health clinics to meet benchmarks for mental health screening while reducing Veteran burden and increasing breadth of clinical care
- Ability to assist in treatment planning and monitoring treatment outcomes
- Potential to connect to other existing systems such as MyHealtheVet to allow Veterans to complete screening from anywhere with an internet connection









Clinical Reminders in eScreening

- **Advanced Directive Screen**
- Alcohol Use Screen (AUDIT-C)
- **Depression Screening (PHQ-9)**
- **Homelessness Screen**
- Iraq & Afghan Post-Deployment Screen
 - OEF/OIF Service
 - Infectious Disease & Embedded Fragments
- **MST**
- Screen for PTSD (PC-PTSD & PCL-C)
- **TBI Screening**
- **Tobacco Cessation Screen**
- **VAS Pain Vital**
- **please note Technical Administrators can add clinical reminders if appropriate











- Do Veterans have to be at the medical center to do this?
 - Yes, the pilot product only works on hardware that is connect to the VA secure intranet. We would love to eventually make it available via myHealtheVet.
- Could this be on a Kiosk?
 - » Because it is web based, it can be on any piece of hardware connected to the VA Secure network. It may not be well suited for a Kiosk for a long assessment
- Who will configure the content?
 - » In its current configuration, the system has a specific role called a Technical Administrator. This role works with existing staff within a Medical Center to configure content.
- Are the staff using the staff-facing program from a PC? Are patients getting their printouts that way?
 - » Yes, if staff wish to print, they can do so from their desktops.
- Once the information is saved to CPRS does it resolve the Clinical Reminder?
 - Yes! It submits Health Factors and Mental Health Assistant data to resolve them.
- How does it connect to VistA?
 - » eScreening uses a Proxy Account and connects through Vista Link using remote procedure calls (RPCs).
- If there is a critical mental health issue, is there a score range to notify the provider of possible critical intervention?
 - Yes, if someone meets a certain threshold, the system will display Alerts on the eScreening dashboard. Also, specific sentences could be added to the body of the CPRS note.
- Can the MD change the veteran entered information ?
 - Yes, the information is sent to CPRS as an editable note.
- Is eScreening available to other facilities at this time?
 - The software developed during the software pilot belongs to the VA. As part of the VA <u>Promising Practice Consortium</u>, eScreening will be deployed in Lebanon PA, Bedford MA & Ann Arbor MI by the end of 2016.









MHE Screenshots

Log-in screen











Landing Page for Staff



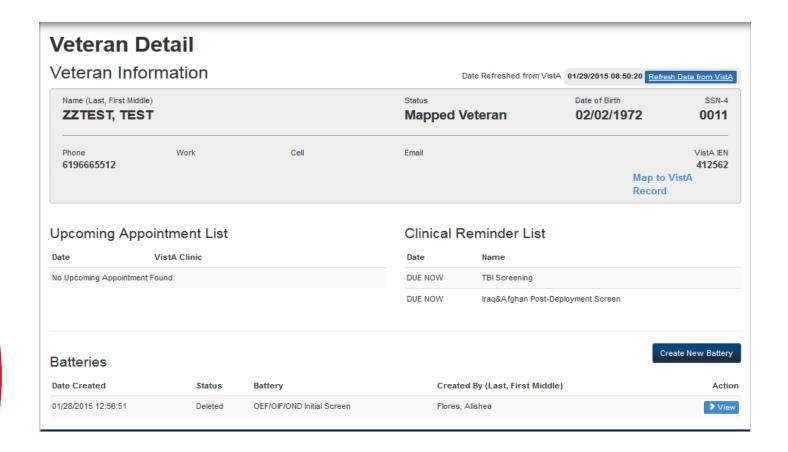








Setting up an assessment for a Veteran











Configuring the contents of the assessment and CPRS details

Create Battery Name (Last, First Middle) SSN-4 Status Date of Birth **ZZTEST, TEST** Mapped Veteran 02/02/1972 0011 Work Cell Email VistA IEN 6196665512 412562 VistA Clinic * Clinician * Program * Note Title * RESEARCH-X RESEARCH/INFORMED CONSENT Morgan, Matthew Testing Please Select Screening Modules for the Veteran Battery Screening Module Description Notes **☑**Advance Directive Highlight & Select Highlight Screening Screening Modules Modules MHAC Battery Audit Audit Mental Health ✓ AUDIT-C OEF/OIF/OND Initial Screen Clear all Reset Clear all Checked Modules ■Basic Demographics **☑**Basic Pain









Veteran's Experience

Department of Veterans Affairs eScreening Program
Veteran Login
Last Name
zztest
Last Four SSN
••••
Login
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs eScreening Program (Ver 1.0)









Customized Welcome Page by Clinic



Welcome to VA San Diego Healthcare System!

We thank you for your service to our country and look forward to assisting in your enrollment for VA healthcare and transition from active duty to Veteran status.

The following eScreening Questionnaire will help your VA healthcare team to assess your needs and provide the best health and wellness options available to you. Please take your time and answer all questions as completely as possible. If you have any questions, please ask for assistance.

Start Assessment











Assessment

dentification				Identification	
Demographics and Social Information D% Service History D% Health Symptoms D% Health Functioning	Middle Name Last Name SSN Last 4 Digits Email Best number to reach you *	TEST Test ZZTEST 0011 Vet@VA.gov 6196665512 Any time	(Example: 5551235555)		
D% Health Habits D% Psychological Health D%				□ Save & Exit	Next »









Example Questions (AUDC)

Never	Monthly or less	2-4 times per m	nonth	2-3 times per week	4 or more times per week
\circ		0		0	•
None	l did you have on a typical day when you w	3-4 drinks	5-6 drinks	7-9 drinks	10+
				0	•
		_			
en did you have six or more	drinks on one occasion in the past 52 week	eks?		Weekly	Daily









Customized Completion Page by Clinic

Congratulations!

Thank You!

Please let the assistant know that you have completed your screen. They will provide you with a personalized summary of your screens. The results of this screen will be sent electronically to a Transition Case Manager for review.

The goal of OEF/OIF/OND Care Management is to help you maximize your VA services and benefits. Here are some services that we provide:

- Care coordination and support with access to VA healthcare services & benefits
- Advocacy to address post-deployment health concerns
- Resources to address employment, education or housing concerns
- Applying for VA, other government, and community benefits
- Resources for marriage, family, and spirituality concerns
- Aid with concerns about drinking or drug use
- Assistance if you are feeling sad, depressed or anxious
- Assistance with visual impairments
- Help if you really aren't sure what you need, but things just don't feel right

You may ask to meet with a Transition Case Manager today to discuss any issues presented in this screen. You can also call the OEF/OIF/OND Care Management team at any point in the future for assistance. Their contact information is listed on your personalized summary.

Done





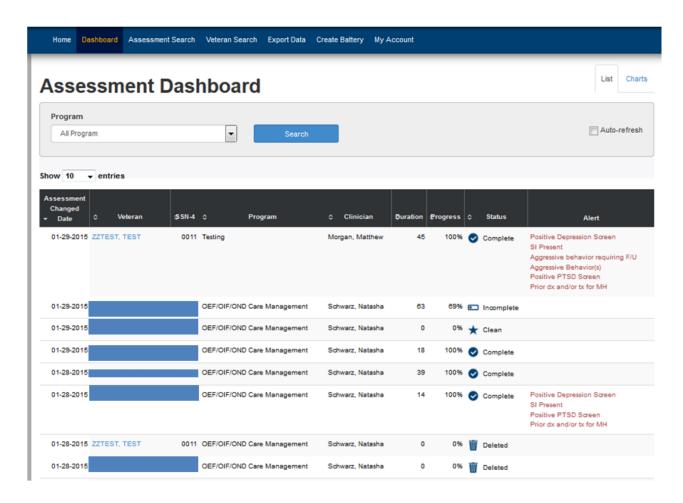








Staff Real-time Dashboard



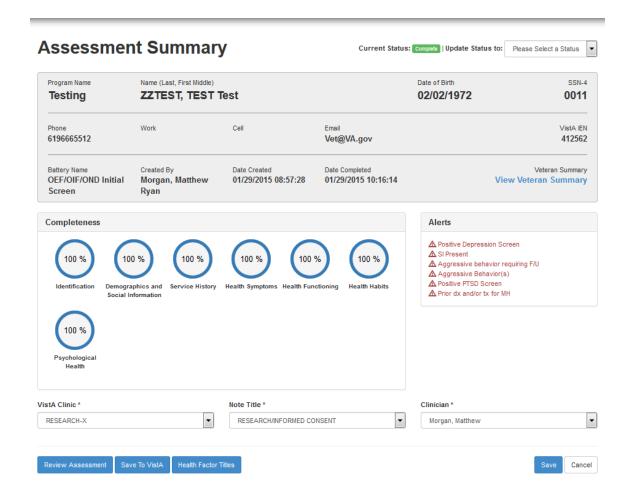








Veteran Assessment Details











Printable Veteran Summary

Veteran Summary ×



eScreening Summary





TEST Test ZZTEST

Matthew Morgan 01-29-2015

Appointments

Appointments unavailable

For questions or concerns, or for a full report of your results, call the OEF/OIF/OND Transition Case Manager, Natasha Schwarz at (858) 842-3615.

If you need medical attention immediately, go straight to the Emergency Department.

Note: The results of this screening are NOT diagnoses and do not affect VA disability ratings.

<u>Homelessness</u>

This is when you do not have a safe or stable place you can return to every night. The VA is committed to ending Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015.

Results: unstable housing/at risk

Recommendation: Call the VA's free National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at (877)-424-3838 and ask for help. Someone is always there to take your call

Environmental Exposure

This is when you have been exposed to a hazard that may have potential health risks.

Results: at risk

Recommendation: Call Dale Willoughby at the Environmental Registry Program and discuss your exposure: (858) 642-3995, weekdays 7:30am-4:00pm.

Advance Directive

This is a legal paper that tells your wishes for treatment if you become too sick to talk, and if needed, can help your doctors and family to make decisions about your care.

Results: Complete

Tobacco Use

The use of tobacco causes harm to nearly every organ in the body. Quitting greatly lowers your risk of death from cancers, heart disease, stroke, and emphysema. There are many options, such as in-person and telephone counseling, nicotine replacement, and prescription medications.

Results: current user

Recommendations: Prepare a plan to reduce or quit the use of tobacco. Get support from family and friends, and ask your clinician for help if needed.









Military Sexual Trauma (MST)

MST is sexual assault or repeated, threatening sexual harassment that occurred while the Veteran was in the military. MST can happen any time or anywhere, to men and women. MST can affect your physical and mental health, even years later.

Results: postive screen

Recommendation: Ask your clinician for help managing your MST.

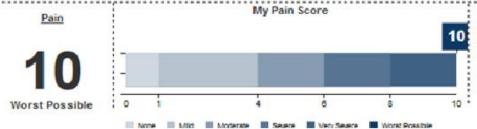
Insomnia

Insomnia is having trouble sleeping that lasts longer than a few weeks. Some causes are: medical (like depression or pain), lifestyle factors (such as too much caffeine), or even stress.

Results: severe insomnia

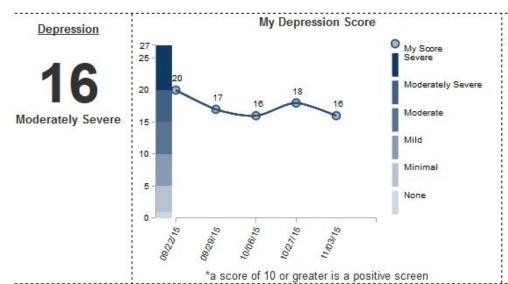
Recommendation: Describe your sleeping problems to your clinician, or learn more about insomnia at the CESAMH site at:

http://escreening.cesamh.org



Pain can slow healing and stop you from being active. Untreated pain can harm your sleep, outlook, and ability to do things.

Recommendation: Tell your clinician if medications aren't reducing your pain, or if the pain suddenly increases or changes, and ask for help with managing your pain.



Depression is when you feel sad and hopeless for much of the time. It affects your body and thoughts, and interferes with daily life. There are effective treatments and resources for dealing with depression.

Recommendation: Ask your clinician for further evaluation and treatment options

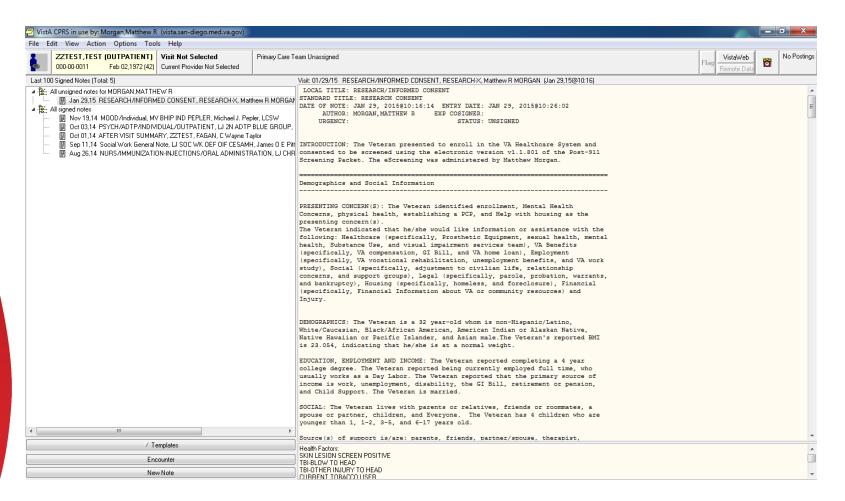


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Generated CPRS Note











Thank You!

If you are interested in having eScreening implemented at your VA, please add your facility under the "eScreening" project on the Diffusion Hub located at:

http://vhaindwebsim.v11.med.va.gov/hub2/ppd/practices.html

The source code for the system is located at:

https://github.com/VHAINNOVATIONS/Mental-HealtheScreening







