



National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

FY 2023 HIGHLIGHTS



The **National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (NCP)** is a field-based national program office of the Office of Patient Care Services that strives to improve the quality of life for Veterans by providing VA clinicians with evidence-based health care practices.

Jane Kim, MD, MPH, Executive Director for Preventive Medicine



MOVE! Weight Management Program

In FY23, MOVE! continued its collaboration with the Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and Nutrition and Food Services to support MOVE! clinicians with approaches to potential eating disorder symptoms in Veterans interested in weight management. FY23 was focused on deliverables that NCP identified for the Patient Care Services Level III Operational Plan, including national dissemination of clinician education through a live webinar (attended by nearly 800 VA staff) and as enduring content on TMS.



Nearly **800** VA staff attended the live webinar

Strong collaboration with the Office of Connected Care continued in FY23 with the creation of an expanded, 4-month Annie MOVE! Weight Management Subscription that Veterans can use as a self-management tool or as part of MOVE! participation.

MOVE! launched the MOVE! VSignals survey to gather real-time feedback from Veterans about their experience. The survey dashboard assists VA medical facilities with local program evaluation and improvement. Additionally, on-demand MOVE! Office Hours were established to provide facility MOVE! teams with targeted program support, with a total of 18 sessions occurring this year.

Seasonal Influenza and Infection: Don't Pass It On (IDPIO) Campaign

In FY23, IDPIO continued to provide guidance and educational opportunities about COVID-19, seasonal influenza, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) by sponsoring ten national teleconferences. IDPIO also maintained and developed supplementary resources,

including slides and recordings of these sessions. Tools such as the Flu Manual Toolkit and Data Dashboards are hosted on the Flu SharePoint page and [public-facing Flu website](#).

IDPIO also further cultivated its Mentorship Program for Flu Coordinators. New coordinators can utilize a dedicated Microsoft Teams channel to direct questions to experienced colleagues and learn more effective and efficient methods to develop, implement, and evaluate facility vaccination and prevention campaigns and clinics. The channel serves both to aid communication and to enable dissemination of national guidance, policy, recommendations, and resources.

TEACH and MI Training

In FY23, NCP held seven virtual facilitator trainings in Veteran-centered communication skills (Patient Education: TEACH for Success, Motivational Interviewing, Clinician Coaching), training 122 VA staff as facilitators in these programs. Average overall satisfaction scores exceeded 4.6/5.0 for these Facilitator Trainings, indicating high support and effectiveness for disseminating these interactive trainings in a virtual modality.

NCP also maintained flexibility in allowing for VA facilities to offer local TEACH for Success and Motivational Interviewing training in both face-to-face and virtual modalities.

A total of 7,330 clinical staff were trained in TEACH for Success (183% increase from FY22). 4,463 clinical staff were trained in Motivational Interviewing Session 1 (85% increase from FY22) and 2,825 clinical staff were trained in Motivational Interviewing Session 2 (69% increase from FY22). 83% - 88% of attendees agreed or strongly agreed that they would recommend TEACH and MI training to others.

In the Motivational Interviewing Sessions

4,463 clinical staff

were trained in Session 1



2,825 clinical staff

were trained in Session 2

7,330
clinical staff

were trained
in TEACH for
Success

83% - 88%
of attendees

agreed that they would
recommend TEACH and
MI training to others

Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (HPDP)

In FY23, the updated VHA Directive 1120.02 was approved. The Directive specifies the required components of HPDP programs as well as responsibilities of the HPDP Program Manager and Health Behavior Coordinator. The Directive was distributed to VISN and Medical Center leaders to help them in the implementation and evaluation of their local HPDP programs.

HPDP also participated in the PACT to the Future Conference by presenting a breakout session outlining how Healthy Living Team members can support primary care staff to incorporate HPDP services into primary care.

Clinical Preventive Services (CPS)

In FY23, CPS completed 7 evidence-based VHA CPS Guidance Statements. Revisions include the following: Screening for Syphilis, Mumps Measles Rubella (MMR) Immunization, Hepatitis B Immunization, Screening for Hepatitis B and Seasonal Influenza Immunizations. Newly developed guidance statements were Breast Cancer Medication to Reduce Risk and Use of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccines in Adults. An additional 10 guidance statements were updated with minor revisions.

CPS also revised 5 NCP-sponsored or collaborative national clinical reminders, including COVID-19 Immunization, Mpox (Monkeypox)/Smallpox Vaccine, Monitoring of National Colorectal Cancer Screening – Surveillance, Breast Cancer Risk Assessment and Seasonal Influenza Immunization.

CPS provided high-quality precepting to 7 UNC Preventive Medicine Residents throughout their NCP rotations.

CPS ensured evidence-based updates to public-facing resources for Veterans: [Recommendations for Men](#) and [Recommendations for Women](#).

Patient Centered Learning (PCL)

Patient Centered Learning (PCL) is a new national program within NCP that aims to accelerate VA's application of health literacy strategies to optimize Veteran outcomes. PCL collaborates with VA program offices and other key partners to develop high-quality, accurate, consistent, and understandable health information. PCL ensures the highest levels of Veteran understanding, engagement, and participation in their health care and self-care.

In FY23, in partnership with the Veterans Experience Office (VEO), PCL created the [VA Resource Navigator](#) – a new patient education handout for VA employees to assist and guide Veterans when they need information about key VA

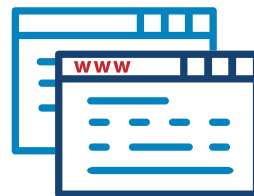
services and benefits. PCL also published an [Event Summary Report](#) from the November 2022 [Field Advisory Event](#) which was hosted with VA Health Systems Research (HSR) to develop the evaluation framework for PCL. PCL also made strides in building the infrastructure of this new national program, including hiring for several key positions.

Veterans Health Education and Information (VHEI)

The [Veterans Health Library \(VHL\)](#) remains a trusted health education resource to help Veterans stay well and well-informed. In FY23, key updates were made to the VHL to enhance webpage speed and 508 compliance.

VHEI completed approximately 500 reviews or updates of VHL Content in FY23. This included adding 33 new videos and creating new content on COVID-19 and Long COVID treatment, Mpox, Age-Friendly Health Care, Primary Care, and Mental Health. VHL also added a [new recipe library](#) to help Veterans make healthy food that's right for their eating plan and budget.

VHEI launched a new [Colorectal Cancer Screening Decision Aid Tool](#) to guide Veterans through screening options. As of December 2023, this tool received close to 30,000 page views since its launch.



The Colorectal Cancer Screening Decision Aid Tool has received **30,000** page views since its launch.

Additional NCP Accomplishments

NCP staff collaborated with the VA National Center for Lung Cancer Screening, the American Cancer Society, and the National Lung Cancer Roundtable to lead VA's participation in National Lung Cancer Screening Day, November 11, 2023. 113 VA medical centers participated in a week-long event that encouraged Veterans to speak with their providers about screening. VA also collaborated with NASA to produce a video featuring two Veterans, one a retired astronaut, who together encouraged fellow Veterans to be screened for cancer.

NCP led the dissemination of guidance and resources to support the 2023-2024 COVID-19, seasonal influenza, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccine campaigns. As of December 2023, more than 1.7 million Veterans had received a seasonal influenza vaccine, 500,000 had received an updated 2023-2024 formula COVID-19 vaccine, and 48,000 Veterans received an RSV vaccine.



1.7 million

Veterans had received a seasonal influenza vaccine



500,000

received an updated 2023-2024 formula COVID-19 vaccine



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs