



## TRANSITION PROGRESS

**BIG NEWS:** Every VA R&D program from our implementation schedule is now live on IRBNet!

# 104

We now have **104** sites live on VA's instance of IRBNet!

## BY THE NUMBERS

**24,500**

REGISTERED USERS

**176,000**

SUBMITTED PACKAGES

**356,000**

SUBMITTED DOCUMENTS

## DATA SHOUT OUTS

All active research programs have onboarded to IRBNet. The VAIRRS Implementation Phase is now complete! The goal of the ORD Dashboards is to leverage the IRBNet enterprise data set to provide ORD Leadership and the research community with a complete and accurate representation of VHA research activity. To reach this goal, we need YOUR support! Please work with your study teams to complete the Project Cover Sheet and IRB Information Sheet Wizards for all active projects before **September 30, 2021**.



## DID YOU KNOW ?

### Wizard Guide Completion Effort Is Underway!

Two new wizard guides are being launched in July to aid your compliance with the Project Cover Sheet Wizard and IRB Information Sheet Wizard. These guides provide step-by-step instruction to ensure all questions are answered accurately and to their full capacity. Your support in completing the wizards is crucial as every data point entered into these documents feeds directly into the IRBNet enterprise data set. This unified platform will allow IRBNet, VA Research to connect all VAMC's research programs and provide ORD leadership a comprehensive overview of the activities conducted at the field level at any point in time. With full adoption of the system, and every VAMC participating in the VAIRRS program, the data received from the wizards will help enterprise-wide decision making and standardization of processes across VA Research.

### Central Research Privacy Board

The CRPB is up and running! As a reminder, each VA facility that plans to use the VA CRPB must have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with ORD. For more information regarding MOUs, submission processes and documents, and CRPB administration, please visit [research.va.gov/programs/orppe/crpb](https://research.va.gov/programs/orppe/crpb) for more details.

### Announcement: VAEDA Soft Launch

The VA Electronic Determination Aid (VAEDA) program is created to reduce variability in research determination outcomes and save time and resources in day-to-day processes. VAEDA intends to expedite and standardize medical research classifications on a collaborative scale for all VA facilities nationwide. Be on the lookout for updates around the VAEDA soft launch in next month's issue!

### More on Macros: Insight Report Guidance Document

The IRBNet Insight Reporting service provides a detailed set of data extracts from VAIRRS. It offers unique and timely views of operations at all VHA sites that are online at IRBNet. ORPP&E is developing a series of Microsoft Excel macros that format Insight reports into a more user-friendly format. For more detailed instruction, please refer to *Getting the Most Out of Insight Reports* document attached, or access via [VAIRRS SharePoint portal](#).

## VA CENTRAL IRB SUBMISSION

The VA Central IRB is now accepting all IRB submissions in IRBNet! This includes new studies, amendments, local site applications, continuing review, reportable events, etc.

## VA Central IRB

1. If you have a **multi-center study ORD does not fund**, please contact the VA IRB Network Director at [Don.Workman@va.gov](mailto:Don.Workman@va.gov) before preparing and submitting a New Study Application for the VA Central IRB.
2. If you are **new to IRBNet**, please register for a user account [here](#) (va.gov credentials are required for access). Additional training resources are also available on the [VAIRRS SharePoint portal](#) (VA network access only).
3. All guidance documents will be posted in the Forms and Templates library in IRBNet.

## IRBNet Topics

## YOU SPOKE, WE LISTENED, WHAT WE ARE DOING

### Concerns: Becoming More Proficient in Excel to Use Macros More Efficiently

- The Insight Reports, as provided, are not easy to read and can contain columns of data that are not relevant to local sites. This makes the processing/use of Insight Reports less efficient.

### Solutions: Provide Training for Excel Macros to Help Teams Maximize Insight Reports

- Based on user feedback received during the "VAIRRS How-To Series #2 Webinar: Using Macros in Reports", a second macro webinar will be conducted later this month. This webinar will build upon the first webinar by diving deeper into Excel macros that can help you get the most out of the specific IRBNet Insight Reports you use in your work
- The TMS Learning Team has created the [VA TMS Introduction to Microsoft Excel Collection](#), a series of 12 mini-online Excel classes.
- Additional macro and supporting documentation are available on the [VAIRRS SharePoint portal](#).

## TEAM SPOTLIGHT

### Congratulations VA R&D Program Teams!

After many months of hard work, the implementation phase is now complete! VHA Leaders, Research Office Staff, Administrators, Researchers, and Committee Members have worked diligently to make this program a success. We thank you for your strong support, as your efforts will advance VHA research and enhance healthcare for all Veterans.

### New Team Member Introduction

The VAIRRS project team would like to extend a warm welcome to **Erica Aulik**, VAIRRS MED, Instructional Designer. Erica will be leading the Dashboard Focus Groups over the summer months. We appreciate all team members that have participated and are looking forward to the upcoming kickoff!

## HELP DESK SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

IRBNet support is available at [govsupport@irbnet.org](mailto:govsupport@irbnet.org) for technical issues and questions related to IRBNet. For regulatory questions or questions about processes subject to regulatory guidance, first visit the [ORD FAQs](#) page and use the search tools to find the answer. If you still need help, email [VAIRRS@va.gov](mailto:VAIRRS@va.gov). The VAIRRS User Group Listserv is also available if you would like to reach out to other users. Email the VAIRRS team to be added to the listserv.

Training resources and the VAIRRS Toolkit are available on the [VAIRRS SharePoint portal](#).

The **VAIRRS Change Control Board** meets monthly to review requested changes and potential new forms and letter templates. Please submit your suggestions to [VAIRRS@va.gov](mailto:VAIRRS@va.gov). *Reminder: It is expected that all VAIRRS sites will use the standard library and supplement with local forms as necessary. The Project Cover Sheet and IRB Information Sheet wizards must be completed at the next study event as soon as possible.*

## LEARNING CORNER

### Dashboard Focus Groups Announcement



#### Thank You for Volunteering!

The recruitment phase for the new focus groups has now ended. Please be sure to check your email for an invitation to join the initial meeting!

### VAIRRS Macro Webinar Announcement

The Office of Research Protections, Policy, and Education (ORPP&E) is pleased to announce a webinar scheduled for Tuesday, July 27, from 2:00 – 3:00 EDT. Details below:

**Topic:** VAIRRS How To Series 3: Insight Reports and Running Macros Focused on Expiration Dates and Continuing Reviews

**Date:** Tuesday, July 27

**Time:** 1:00 – 2:00 EDT

**Purpose:** This training session reviews macros- what they are, why they are useful, how to save and run them, while focusing on expiration dates and continuing to review data points.

#### Lead Presenter(s):

- Nelson Vasconcelos, Senior Management Analyst, Goldschmidt and Associates LLC
- Angela Foster, PM/COR, VAIRRS and VAEDA
- Erica Aulik, MED, Instructional Designer

**Target Audience:** Anyone currently using VAIRRS

#### Additional Resources:

- VAIRRS How To Series 2: [Getting the Most out of Insight Reports](#) – Presented on 6/10/21. / [IRBNet Insight Reporting Guide](#)
- [VA TMS Introduction to Microsoft Excel Collection](#) – This collection of 12 mini-online classes was built by the TMS Learning Team for all learning levels on many useful topics.

#### Webinar Details and Registration:

[veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/onstage](https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/onstage)

### VAIRRS Library Updates

The PCS and IRB Info Sheet have been recently updated! These documents can be found on the VAIRRS SharePoint portal.



## Looking Ahead

- TMS / CITI Integration Updates
- Dashboard Focus Groups begin meeting in July/August!
- Wizard Guide Updates