



Dear VA Clinical Trials Stakeholders:

With June here, so is Summer and our next progress report. We are pleased to share that since our initial communications began, interest in our efforts to provide Veterans with more access to high-quality clinical trials has grown and therefore so has our audience! We are excited that word is spreading and we encourage all of you to continue talking about this initiative with colleagues who may be interested as well. In the two months since the Summit, we have “rolled up our sleeves” and now is the perfect time to include an even wider breadth of perspectives and foster collaborations through work groups, specifying tasks and timelines, and seeking quick wins.

Below is a summary of the actions that have been taken since our May update:

1. All Summit attendees were contacted and asked to complete an online questionnaire designed to determine which of a series of proposed actions should serve as the initial priorities for this initiative. There was a 38% response rate and the Steering Committee used that input to help shape the action plan for facilitating industry-sponsored trial processes.
2. The Clinical Trials Steering Committee met on June 7<sup>th</sup> to review the results of the prioritization questionnaire. Considering such factors as: a) the level of resources required, b) complexity, and c) estimated timeframe for completion, the committee identified 5 key priorities. These priorities, along with some recommended next steps, are outlined in the attached document. Please note that these are the priorities that will receive the highest level of attention and resources, however the other 8 items that were included on the questionnaire can and will proceed as best possible given time/resources. We ask that you take the time to review these, and give some consideration as to how you, or others within your organization, may be able to contribute.
3. The webinar mentioned by Dr. Ramoni at the Summit to discuss the action plan will be held on June 20<sup>th</sup> from 2:00- 3:00 pm EST. During her presentation, Dr. Ramoni plans to discuss progress relative to the clinical trials initiative, including a detailed overview of the priorities and next steps. If you did not receive an invitation, please email [clinicaltrials@navref.org](mailto:clinicaltrials@navref.org) for additional information.
4. With respect to those actions that VHA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) assumed ownership for, Steering Committee members have begun targeted discussions with various groups within VA involved with processes related to initiating industry trials. Groups include the VA Office of General Counsel, the VA Office of Information and Technology, the VHA Privacy Office, the VHA Office of Specialty Care Services, and the VHA Office of Informatics and Information Governance. Updates on these efforts will be provided in future communications.

We will aim to provide updates the week of the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month (as opposed to every 30 days as previously mentioned). We welcome those of you who recently joined us and again, encourage all of you to share the work being done with others. Individuals interested in being added to the distribution list may request to do so by sending an email to [clinicaltrials@navref.org](mailto:clinicaltrials@navref.org). Questions or comments can also be sent using the same email address. Thank you again for your partnership and commitment to this effort!

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