CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare (Health FFRDC)



The right data in the right hands is the foundation of all discovery. The Health FFRDC brings together experts from nonprofits, academia, and industry to solve big health and human services challenges.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is focused upon the health and well-being of all Americans. MITRE supports this mission through the CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare federally funded research and development center (Health FFRDC). We accelerate innovation by connecting people and data to reinvent the health system and improve the care experience.

The Health FFRDC amplifies HHS's strengths by applying cross-cutting capabilities in health and human services policy, clinical informatics, interoperability, and data analytics. MITRE operates the Health FFRDC as an objective advisor to all HHS operating and staff divisions. We mobilize experts across an alliance of nonprofits, academia, and industry to achieve data-driven innovations in healthcare, public and population health, and social services.



With COVID-19, the Health FFRDC's mission-driven role in the public interest is more vital than ever before.

Kim Warren, Vice President and Director, Health FFRDC

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Addressing the Childhood Obesity Crisis with Data-Driven Solutions

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention engaged the Health FFRDC to identify a common data model for childhood obesity research, extending well beyond typical clinical health. Linking this data with clinical health records creates more accurate and comprehensive child health profiles and brings us closer to effectively addressing childhood obesity.

Reducing Health Disparities with Easier Assessment Tool

To help the Health Resources and Services Administration reduce inequities and direct resources to communities most in need, the Health FFRDC created the easy-to-use Service Area Needs Assessment Methodology tool to reduce the burden for applicants by automating calculations and standardizing the assessment of unmet needs across different service areas.

Developing a Value-Based Healthcare Roadmap

The Health FFRDC supported the Health Care Payment Learning and Action Network's launch of the *Roadmap for Driving High Performance in APMs*, identifying advanced payment models that meet meaningful goals related to cost and quality, and developing a guide for payers to create and implement high-performing APMs.

Enabling Interoperability Through Health and Clinical Informatics

The Health FFRDC led work with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to create CDS Connect. This resource demonstrates how evidence-based care can be more rapidly incorporated into clinical practice through interoperable decision support.

Facilitating Health Standards and Interoperability

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology is accelerating health data interoperability by promoting the Health FFRDC-developed "Inferno" testing tool. Inferno validates Application Programming Interface conformance to the HL7 Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®) standard.

Applying Data Analytics to Enhance Health Policy

MITRE's HealthLab space in Baltimore enables health policy and program leaders to apply health data analytics, simulations, and immersive visualizations to discover novel approaches to health policy challenges and create high-impact health programs.

Strengthening Medical Device Cybersecurity

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration engaged the Health FFRDC to create the Medical Device Cybersecurity Regional Incident Preparedness and Response Playbook. The playbook outlines a framework for health delivery organizations and other stakeholders to plan for and respond to cybersecurity incidents involving medical devices, ensure effectiveness of devices, and protect patient safety.

The Health FFRDC brings a data-driven, system-of-systems approach to improving health outcomes.



Health Policy



Population Health and Well-Being



Value-Based Healthcare



Health and Clinical Informatics



Health Standards and Interoperability



Health Data Analytics, Simulation, and Visualization



Cybersecurity and Privacy

MITRE's mission-driven teams are dedicated to solving problems for a safer world. Through our public-private partnerships and federally funded R&D centers, we work across government and in partnership with industry to tackle challenges to the safety, stability, and well-being of our nation.

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