About the CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare

The CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare federally funded research and development center (the Health FFRDC) is the first FFRDC dedicated to strengthening the nation’s health system. The Health FFRDC is an objective not-for-profit organization that will work in partnership and trust to develop, test and implement innovative ideas to address our nation’s toughest health problems. MITRE is an objective not-for-profit organization and all divisions of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) are dedicated to advancing HHS projects.

About MITRE Health

We believe data is the next innovation in health. Our work connects people and data to change the health market and reinvent the health experience. Through the power of partnerships and trusted engagement, we can solve our nation’s toughest health problems. For a safer world. Join us at healthinnovations@mitre.org.

Subscribe to the MITRE Health Innovations newsletter at https://healthinnovations@mitre.org.

Dear Colleague,

It’s my pleasure to bring you the spring issue of the MITRE Health Innovations newsletter highlighting the latest innovations from the CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare, your Health FFRDC. We hope that each of you across the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) considers reusing these novel solutions to address our nation’s healthcare and public health challenges. We’d be delighted to hear your thoughts at healthinnovations@mitre.org.

Yours sincerely,

Patty Steinbrech, VP & Director
CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare (the Health FFRDC)
MITRE Develops Rubric for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to Help Gauge Vulnerability of Medical Devices

Working in collaboration with subject matter experts at the FDA, medical device manufacturers, healthcare organizations, and cybersecurity experts, MITRE developed a rubric for applying the Common Vulnerability Scoring System (CVSS) to medical devices. CVSS is an open standard designed to convey vulnerability severity. Now analysts can assess how vulnerable a medical device is and study its impact on the potential harm to the patient.

Early Detection of Youth Suicide Games Via Online Information Provides Public Health Agencies More Time to Respond, Finds New Journal Study

Studying social media better can indeed provide insights into upstream risks for self harm or suicide, like with youth suicide games, concludes a recent study published in the Journal of Adolescent Health. The study is an outcome of the “Real-Time Understanding of Upstream Suicide Risk and Protective Factors Through Social Media” initiative that MITRE conducted for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Interactive Web–based Roadmap Launched by LAN to Accelerate Adoption of High-Performing Alternative Payment Models

The Health Care Payment Learning & Action Network (LAN) launched the Roadmap for Driving High Performance in Alternative Payment Models or the Roadmap, an interactive tool designed to help healthcare stakeholders navigate the challenges and opportunities inherent in Alternative Payment Model (APM) implementation. The LAN is a collaborative network of public and private stakeholders convened by MITRE on behalf of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

MITRE’s AIDÀ™ Enables More Rapid, Agile Federal Acquisitions

Building on work across defense, civil, and intelligence agencies, MITRE developed the award-winning Free Online Acquisition in the Digital Age (AIDÀ) tool to help agencies navigate the complicated federal acquisition process by providing customizable roadmaps as well as guidance for program management, contracting, systems engineering, and cost estimation for Agile development. AIDÀ continues to expand to include new topic areas such as the Middle Tier of Acquisition (Section 804) and strategies to accelerate capability delivery.

Winning Strategy from MITRE’s Payment Integrity Challenge Could Improve Federal Agencies’ Ability to Verify Eligibility for Benefit Payments

Twenty-nine industry and university teams accepted the MITRE Challenge—Strengthening Eligibility Verification for Federal Benefits Programs—contributing unique and innovative ideas to reduce improper government payments. The “Citizen Wallet” strategy won the $50,000 grand prize, recommending empowering individuals to create an account and choosing to import information about themselves that is already available in authoritative government data profiles.

MITRE Research in the Works

MITRE’s Independent research and development program, the MITRE Innovation Program, develops new technologies and innovative uses for existing technologies to solve the nation’s most critical healthcare and public health problems. Questions on any of these innovations? Email healthinnovations@mitre.org.

MITRE’s Compass™ Makes Collection of High-Quality Cancer Data a Reality

Announced at the HIMSS Global Conference & Exhibition, Compass™ is a breakthrough open-source application to extract minimal common oncology data elements, or mCODE™, from electronic health records to deliver reports to providers and patients. This facilitates better diagnosis, improved care planning, and shared decision making at the point of care. Almost forty percent of Americans will be diagnosed with cancer at some point in their lifetime, but less than three percent of adult cancer patients participate in clinical trials, limiting access to high-quality data across multiple types of cancers. mCODE is a new data standard that will facilitate breakthrough insights from high-quality data for multiple cancer use cases.

Applying Advanced Health Analytics to Healthcare Decision Making

The health analytics research program applies advanced analytic methods to diverse areas of healthcare and public health to optimize business and policy decision making. The project team recently worked with the Billings Clinic to apply machine learning algorithms to ascertain whether it’s medically appropriate to air transport a patient in a rural setting. Currently the team is leveraging past MITRE work in cyber defense to reduce the burden of reporting metrics by health facilities saving them time and costs. Would you like to deploy the expertise of our health analytics team on a different pressing area of concern? Email healthinnovations@mitre.org.

Public Health Policy Interventions in Child Maltreatment and Intimate Partner Violence

Using SMART Scatter capabilities, this MITRE research program aims at policy simulation on child maltreatment and intimate partner violence in specific neighborhoods. Current approaches do not model the interaction of child maltreatment and intimate partner violence over the long-term cycle of violence, neither do they use data and intimate partner violence in specific neighborhoods. Current approaches do not model the interaction of child maltreatment and intimate partner violence over the long-term cycle of violence, neither do they use data

Emerging Innovations from MITRE’s Private–Sector Alliance

MITRE collaborates with an alliance of private entities from industry, nonprofit, and academia to provide the breadth and depth of leading-edge capabilities necessary to solve the biggest problems facing our nation’s health system. Below is just one example of the kinds of industry insights and innovative solutions that can be accessed through our alliance partners.

Improving the Productivity of Healthcare Delivery

The Health FFRDC is focused on the outcome of improving healthcare delivery. This February 2019 report from McKinsey and Company titled The productivity imperative for healthcare delivery in the United States provides in–depth analyses, insights, and recommendations related to improving the productivity of healthcare delivery. It highlights some specific areas in which there are likely opportunities for productivity improvements and is intended to arm public and private sector leaders with fact-based insights to guide informed decision making on the topic. Learn more about HealthView’s capabilities by emailing healthinnovations@mitre.org.

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About the CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare

The CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare (the CMS Alliance) is the first FFRDC dedicated to strengthening the nation’s health system. FFRDCs are unique organizations established under FAR 35.017 that assist the government in meeting special, long-term research and development needs integral to the mission of the sponsoring agency. The CMS Alliance is sponsored by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and all divisions of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). MITRE, an objective not-for-profit organization, operates the CMS Alliance in partnership with CMS and all HHS agencies to implement innovative ideas to solve our nation’s toughest health problems.

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