About the CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare (Health FFRDC)

The CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare is the first federally funded research and development center (Health FFRDC) in the nation's health system. It is an innovative laboratory to address and enhance the health and well-being of all Americans. For more information about Health FFRDC, please visit health.mitre.org.

About MITRE Health

We believe data is the next innovation in health. Our work connects people and data to change the health market and transform the health experience. Through our council of partners and trusted engagement, we mitigate risk and convene stakeholders to drive an innovation pipeline that works for everyone.

Subscribe to the MITRE Innovations newsletter at https://health.mitre.org/healthinnovationsnewsletter/.

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Dear Colleague,

It’s a pleasure to present to you these mission-critical innovations in health from the CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare (Health FFRDC). From working on the Apollo 11 mission in 1969 to more recently establishing a new paradigm in cancer data collection with mCODE™, MITRE’s goal as the operator of federally funded research and development centers remains the same—solve long-term problems of considerable national complexity. In the case of your Health FFRDC, we continue to work to further the mission of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to enhance and protect the health and well-being of all Americans. This newsletter shares examples of innovations to achieve this goal. If you have questions or feedback, please contact us at healthinnovations@mitre.org. Thank you.

Patty Steinbrech, Vice President and Director
CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare (Health FFRDC)
MITRE Health

MITRE Health

MITRE Launches New HealthLab to Tackle Tough Problems Through Data Analytics, Simulation, and Visualization

When challenges in healthcare and public health are addressed through the lens of high-quality data and evidence-based methods, we create opportunities for innovation. A diverse team of engineers, health researchers, and clinicians at the HealthLab are poised to finish solutions and insights into the nation's most pressing health problems in a unique, immersive data analytics environment.

Connect with us at healthlab@mitre.org.

New Standardized Approach Helps the Federal Government Direct Grants to At-Risk Communities

The Service Area Needs Assessment Methodology (SANAM), a new standardized approach for measuring the risk and close the healthcare gap in underserved areas. The methodology, which MITRE helped create for the Healthcare Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), is as easy to use as looking up a zip code.

Learn more at https://www.mitre.org/publications/project-stories.

MITRE Boosts the Federal Communications Commission's Mission to Improve Telecommunications Access for Users Who Are deaf/Deaf or Hard of Hearing

About five percent of Americans are deaf/Deaf or hard of hearing. As part of its ongoing work since 2015 to modernize the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), each year, MITRE gathers a dedicated group of young telecommunications professionals who are deaf/Deaf or hard of hearing to support Video Relay Services testing and provide user experience feedback in everyday communication.

Learn more at https://www.mitre.org/publications/project-stories.

MITRE Research in the Works

MITRE Launches First Ever Ethical Framework on the Use of Consumer Data Within the Healthcare Industry

The health industry is increasingly using consumer lifestyle data for healthcare purposes, raising many ethical concerns. Researchers at MITRE developed a framework to provide an ethical safety net that balances the desire of businesses to harness big data, with the need to prevent harm to individuals. The ethical framework has the potential for broad applications across the federal government—from programs and services and consumer advocacy campaigns to rulemaking.

Download the framework at https://www.mitre.org/publications/technical-papers.

mCODE™ Establishes New Paradigm in Cancer Data Collection, Allows Oncologists to Speak the Same Language

What if providers could readily explore data from millions of cancer patients, study the combinations and comparisons of treatment parameters, and recommend the best treatment for each patient? Minimal Common Oncology Data Elements or mCODE™, launched this June by MITRE in conjunction with the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), CancerLinQ, and the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology, enables just that.


MITRE’s CIMPL Tool Simplifies Patient Data Exchanges, Accelerates Healthcare Interoperability

The healthcare interoperability challenge facing our nation—the ability of different information technology systems to communicate and exchange patient data, and use this data effectively between providers, payers, and patients—is hinged upon Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR). FHIR is a healthcare data exchange standard currently being written into federal regulations by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology and CMS. MITRE’s Clinical Information Modeling and Profiling Language (CIMPL) tool is the fastest, easiest way to create and publish FHIR Implementation Guides, critical to understanding how FHIR should be applied to healthcare use cases.

MITRE Beyond Health

To the Moon and Beyond: MITRE’s Contribution to the Apollo Program

Leveraging its work on command, control, and communications systems with the Department of Defense, in 1969, MITRE worked on assessing the design and operation of the Apollo Mission Control Center in Houston upon the request of the National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA).


New Platform from MITRE Offers Tools and Methods to Support Cybersecurity Work Across Federal Agencies

Drawing from more than forty years of cybersecurity and intelligence work for the federal government, MITRE has launched Cyber@MITRE, an internal platform that provides cybersecurity tools, data, know-how, and sandbox boxes that are designed for testing and experimentation. The Health FFRC is actively seeking opportunities to apply this new resource to cybersecurity challenges in the health and human services arena.

If you are interested in learning more, please send an email to healthinnovations@mitre.org.

MITRE's Recent University Partnerships Add Brainpower to Advance the Public Interest

MITRE announced a new strategic partnership with the Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU), a consortium of more than 120 universities, to advance our nation's science, technology, and management agenda. In addition, MITRE signed a master agreement with nine Virginia public universities as part of its newly launched MITRE University Innovation Exchange.

About the CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare (Health FFRDC)

The CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare (Health FFRDC) 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. Health FFRDC 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 Health FFRDC in partnership with CMS and all HHS agencies to implement innovative ideas to solve our nation’s toughest health problems.

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