Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the second edition of the Health Innovations newsletter from MITRE. This newsletter shares highlights of recent health innovations from the CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare, the health-focused federally funded research and development center MITRE is privileged to run on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). We hope that you consider reusing the novel solutions below to address our nation’s healthcare and public health challenges. We’d be delighted to hear your feedback at healthinnovations@mitre.org.

Yours sincerely,

Patty Steinbrech, VP & Director
CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare, the health FFRDC serving all HHS agencies
MITRE Helps the National Institutes of Health Launch the Historic All of Us Research Program

MITRE helped the National Institutes of Health (NIH) successfully pilot and launch All of Us, a historic research program aimed at enrolling one million people and gathering their data to build a rich data resource that researchers can use to develop tailored treatments and prevention strategies. The All of Us staff including the MITRE team were recipients of the 2018 NIH Director’s Award.

MITRE Collaborates with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to Release Report on Workforce Development to Advance the President’s Management Agenda

An outcome of the September 12 meeting organized by OMB and MITRE convening more than 150 leaders and workforce experts from the private sector, academia, federal and state agencies, the Symposium on the Federal Workforce for the 21st Century report highlights nine recommendations related to talent acquisition and development, performance management and compensation, and civil service reform to address workforce challenges in federal agencies.

New Study by ONC, MITRE, and AEGIS Demonstrating Critical Importance of Testing FHIR® Servers is Published in JMIR Medical Informatics

Rigorous testing of health IT systems, and Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®) in particular, increases the compliance with standards and the probability of achieving functional health interoperability, Jason Walonoski and Robert Scanlon from MITRE, The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), and AEGIS reiterated the message that health interoperability can’t be achieved without rigorous testing programs in a study titled, “Validation and Testing of Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources Standards Compliance: Data Analysis” published in the October issue of JMIR Medical Informatics.

MITRE Helps CDC Streamline Public Health Surveillance with the Surveillance Data Platform Project

With the Surveillance Data Platform (SDP) project, MITRE continues to help the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) expand the use of shared services across the agency. In 2018, MITRE supported CDC in expanding the use of a shared Vocabulary Service, designed to streamline public health surveillance by helping CDC respond more rapidly to data collection needs. The Vocabulary Service accelerates the data collection process by transparently sharing questions and possible responses.

New Simulations to Study the Effect of Opioid-Related Policies

Also in 2018, MITRE initiated work to create a modeling and simulation tool that they can use to examine the impact of policy and other interventions on reducing maternal mortality. To view a prototype of the simulation, email healthinnovations@mitre.org.

RAND Corporation Launches New Opioid Research Center to Develop and Test Policies for Addressing the National Crisis

Supported by a $7.2 million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, part of the National Institutes of Health, researchers at the RAND Opioid Policy Tools and Information Center (OPTIC) will develop novel methods for assessing the impact of specific opioid policies. This includes creating a simulation tool to inform and hone methods that policy researchers will use to identify the most effective policies aimed at addressing the opioid crisis. Learn more about RAND’s capacities by emailing healthinnovations@mitre.org.

HealthView Tool by The Lewin Group Enables Advanced Data Visualizations into the Opioid Epidemic

The HealthView tool by The Lewin Group offers advanced data visualizations with drill down techniques using a multi-tier approach leveraging actual medical and pharmacy claims data, and medical records data, if available. This approach enables insights into regions, members, and providers where opioid use should undergo further scrutiny. Learn more about HealthView’s capabilities by emailing healthinnovations@mitre.org.

Mitre's Health Innovations newsletter is a quarterly publication highlighting emerging health innovations from MITRE's Public-Sector and Private-Sector Alliance. For more information, visit https://health.mitre.org/healthinnovationsnewsletter/.

Questions? Email healthinnovations@mitre.org.
About the CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare

The CMS Alliance to Modernize Healthcare federally funded research and development center is the first FFRDC dedicated to strengthening the nation's healthcare system. The 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 the FFRDC in partnership with CMS and all HHS agencies and offices to implement innovative ideas to solve our nation's toughest health problems.

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 partnership and trusted engagement, we can solve our nation's toughest health problems, for a safer world.

Join us at health.mitre.org.

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