

ESP

Evidence Synthesis Program

Synthesizing evidence for VA leadership to improve the health and healthcare of Veterans

The VA Evidence Synthesis Program (ESP), an HSR&D Resource Center established in 2007, is helping VA fulfill its vision of functioning as a continuously “learning health system.” ESP achieves this by providing timely, targeted, and unbiased syntheses of the medical literature for translation into evidence-based clinical practice, policy, and research.



ESP Overview



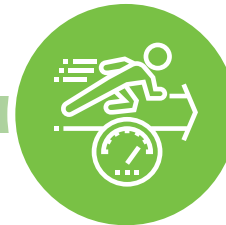
RIGOROUS

Rigor, transparency, and minimization of bias underlie all our products



RELEVANT

Emphasis on Veteran population ensures our reviews are relevant to VA decision-makers' needs



NIMBLE

We adapt traditional methods, timelines, and formats to meet our partners' specific needs

ESP Services and Benefits

The ESP helps health system leaders make the best possible use of current knowledge.



QUALIFIED

ESP Center Directors are VA clinicians and recognized leaders in the field of research synthesis with close ties to the AHRQ Evidence-based Practice Center Program and Cochrane Collaboration.

HIGH IMPACT

ESP tackles high-priority issues such as opioid use, suicide prevention, and community care, and provides informed reports to Congress, American College of Physicians guidelines, and VA formularies.



INNOVATIVE

We go beyond “traditional” systematic review methods and integrate qualitative information from providers and patients and quantitative system data.

TIMELY

Requests are accepted year-round, with more urgent needs prioritized for our rapid products. Our product timeframes range from 1 week to 1 year.



ESP products assist decision-makers in:

Identifying appropriate policy or program options

- Characterize benefits and harms
- Identify key elements of complex interventions to facilitate local adaptation

Exploring effective practices for implementation

- Characterize effects of broadly implemented complex interventions
- Identify contributors to a problem to inform intervention development

VA

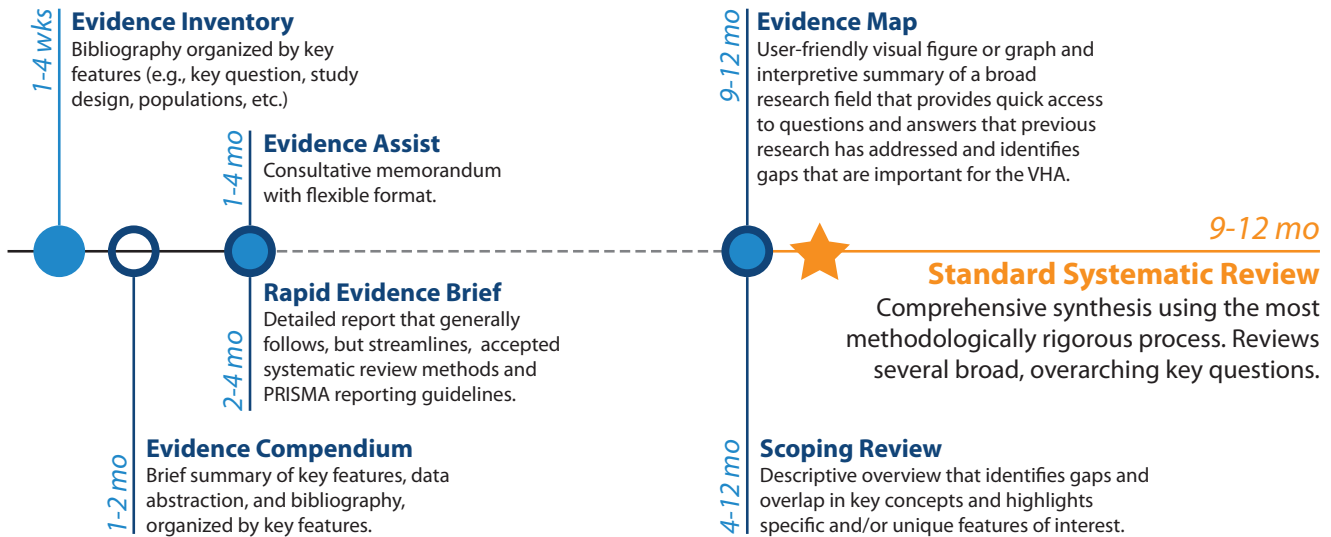


U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
Health Services Research & Development Service

ESP Evidence Products

We have a broad range of products to address the various evidence needs of our operational partners. Systematic reviews are the gold standard in research, following the most rigorous methods and allowing for the most complete and defensible conclusions. ESP also offers other products that use more streamlined methods to assist with more time-sensitive needs.



Pre-Implementation

ESP's services are particularly relevant during the Pre-implementation phase to identify the best clinical practices to address a need for improvement, i.e., what works and what might work in this setting, but also whether VA's research has produced results that benefit the health system and whether we can identify research areas where more or less focus could be useful.

Working with ESP

Submit a [topic nomination form](#). We will work with you to determine the appropriate research approach to address your questions of interest. If the topic meets our program criteria and is prioritized, then an ESP Center will be assigned to conduct an in-depth review. High-priority, time-sensitive needs will be undertaken at the Coordinating Center as capacity allows.

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The QUERI Roadmap provides a systematic, three-phased approach to help practitioners overcome barriers to implementing effective practice, Pre-Implementation, Implementation and Sustainment. For more details, visit the [QUERI Roadmap](#).

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