HERMES: Houston Evidence-based Rapid Measurement and EvaluationS
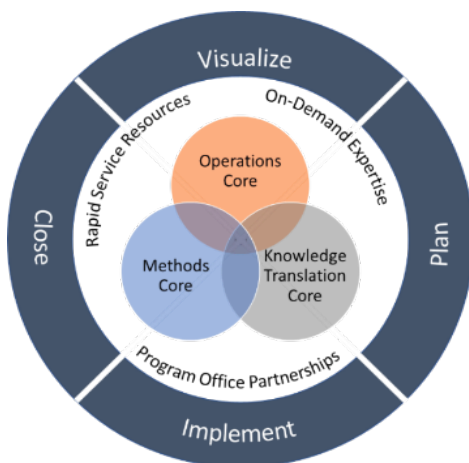
VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Quality Enhancement Research Initiative

HERMES is an integrated team of methods and content experts supported by infrastructure, time-tested processes, and an extended network of resources that allow for rigorous, timely evaluation on a range of issues important to VA.

- We specialize in **rapid, big-data compilation and analysis** (quantitative & qualitative)
- Focus on systems-level factors surrounding **coordination, workflow, & clinical efficiency**
- A deep, in-house bench of **methodological, content, clinical, & policy expertise**
- **Longstanding partnerships** with VA program offices, Texas Medical Center institutions, and the Houston VA Center for Innovations, (IQuESt) the premier health services research center in the Southwest
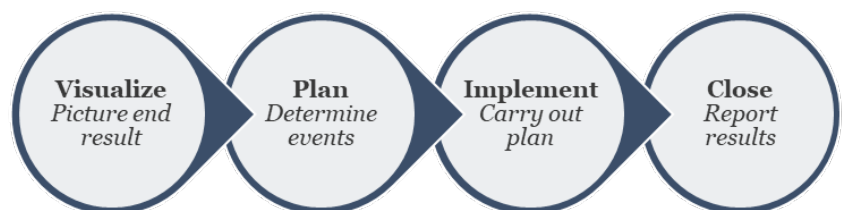
HERMES Evaluations: Essential Features

- **Methods**: Experts in multiple clinical specialties, organizational psychology, qualitative and quantitative methods, organizational psychology, design and conduct evaluations on issues impacting <u>clinical work life and its resulting effects on veteran health and safety</u>.

- **Knowledge Translation:** Experts in evaluation, dissemination, <u>political science, and health policy with journalism and public affairs</u> experience disseminate evaluation findings to diverse audiences

- **Operations:** HERMES partners with the Houston VA Center for Innovation (COIN), <u>the premier health services research center in the Southwest US</u>, and has longstanding relationships with national VA program offices.

- **Evaluation Model:** HERMES evaluations follow the <u>Practical, Robust Implementation and Sustainability Model</u> (PRISM), aligned with QUERI's existing Roadmap to Implementation.

Evaluation Workflow Cycle: VPIC

HERMES utilizes the Visualize, Plan, Implement, Close (VPIC) project management framework. This allows the Center to have a structured yet flexible workflow for:

- swift team assembly
- design of efficient evaluation plans
- effective execution
- wide-reaching dissemination

Visualize
Picture end result

Plan
Determine events

Implement
Carry out plan

Close
Report results

HERMES
Houston Evidence-based Rapid
Measurement and EvaluationS Center

Partnerships & Resources

HERMES faculty have a long and diverse track record of successfully partnering with program offices and VISNs, placing HERMES team at the center of VA policy evaluation activities. We also partner with numerous institutions to facilitate execution and dissemination of evaluations.

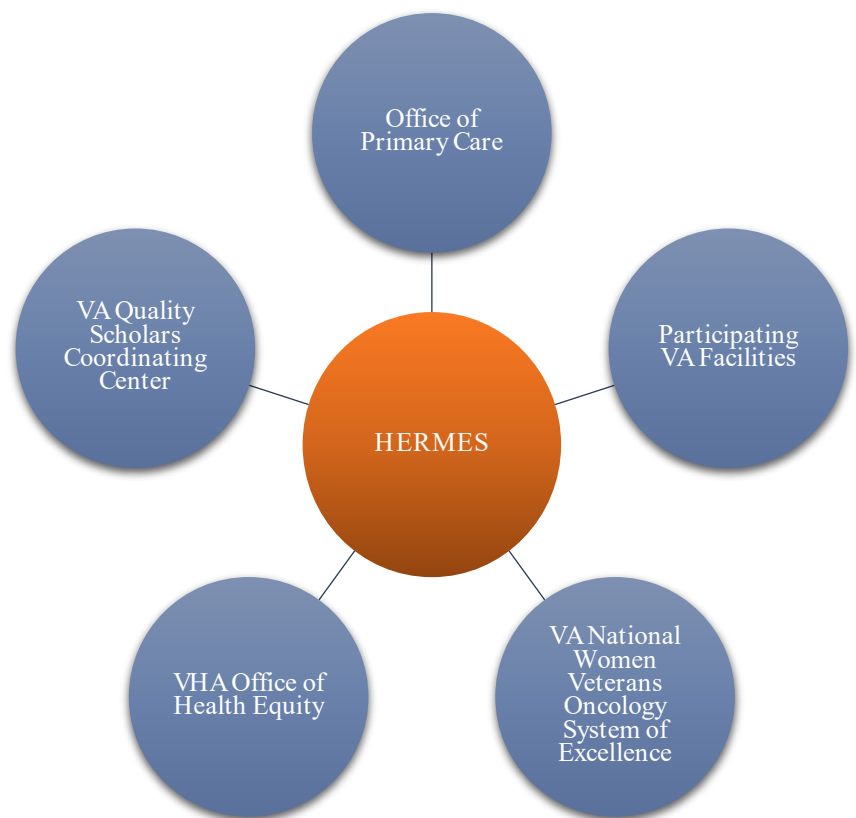| VA Program Office Partnerships	Inter-Institutional Partnerships
- Office of Productivity, Efficiency and Staffing - Office of Primary Care - Office of Academic Affiliations - Office of Analytics and Performance Integration - VISNs 6, 12, 15, 16	- Baylor College of Medicine - University of Texas School of Public Health - Rice University - University of Houston - Texas Medical Center

Intended Impacts and Dissemination

Intended Impacts

- Identify best practices in continuing care during times of a national emergency or any event potentially disrupting care
- Inform creation of reliable and robust workflow routines to maintain access to care
- Tailor recommendations for participating VA facilities
- Integrate findings into VAQS curriculum training next generation of VA clinicians and researchers
- Collaborate with PEPReC to disseminate findings nationally

Priority Area:

Improve clinical efficiency to improve preparedness for public health emergencies

Office of Primary Care

VA Quality Scholars Coordinating Center

Participating VA Facilities

HERMES

VHA Office of Health Equity

VA National Women Veterans Oncology System of Excellence

HERMES Dissemination Outlets