

VA Direct Messaging is a secure electronic messaging system that allows users at any VA Health Care System nationwide to share patient health information with Community Care Providers who are a part of the [DirectTrust Network](#).

Connecting with VA Direct Messaging Can:

-  Provide a Veteran's care team with more up-to-date medical information
-  Improve coordination of Veteran care
-  Ensure a secure method for sharing health data
-  Reduce Veteran waiting times
-  Alleviate the burden of administrative tasks such as faxing, mailing, or hand-delivering health information

How to Start Sharing with VA Direct Messaging:

Step 1. Contact the VA Direct Messaging Team

Send an introductory email to either your local VHIE Community Coordinator or to vadirectinfo@va.gov expressing your interest in sharing Direct messages with VA

Step 2. Discuss Your Current Capabilities

Inform VA of your current sharing capabilities, everyday workflows, and if you are already a member of the [DirectTrust Network](#)

Step 3. Establish and Test Your Connection

Send and receive test messages with various attachment types such as health summaries (C-CDAs) and .pdf files

Step 4. Align Workflows with VA

Learn about the best ways to integrate Direct Messaging into your everyday workflow

