



U.S. Department  
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# News Release

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## VA-distributed video tablets deliver telehealth to Veterans

### *Department's electronic tablet program helps to overcome social and clinical health care barriers*

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) was recently recognized in studies by two independent peer-review journals — JAMIA Open and Psychiatric Services — for efforts to deliver trusted, easy access and high-quality online health care services to Veterans with complex health care needs or residing in remote areas.

The department's tablet program is one part of VA's extensive telehealth program. The VA's use of technology to enhance care options for Veterans is supported by the [VA MISSION Act](#).

"Telehealth technology remains a vital platform to provide high-quality health care to all Veterans, regardless of challenges they may face in accessing care," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "VA's tablet program is a model that other networked health care systems across the country can mirror, and demonstrates the potential of telehealth capabilities in the years to come."

According to the [JAMIA Open study](#) published Aug. 5, VA's initiative to distribute video telehealth tablets to high-need patients appears to have successfully reached Veterans with social and clinical access barriers, including Veterans in rural areas and patients with mental health conditions.

The study published by [Psychiatric Services](#), Aug. 5, validates that the initiative also appears to improve access and continuity of mental health services of Veterans with mental health conditions. Furthermore, researchers discovered that VA's efforts are improving clinical efficiency by decreasing missed opportunities for care.

Learn more about [VA Telehealth Services](#).

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