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of Veterans Affairs

# News Release

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(202) 461-7600  
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## VA and partner agencies announce COVID-19 Insights Partnership

**WASHINGTON** — Today, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), along with the Departments of Energy (DOE) and Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the formation of the COVID-19 Insights Partnership, an initiative to coordinate and share health data as well as research and expertise to aid in the fight against COVID-19.

The COVID-19 Insights Partnership creates a framework for VA and HHS to utilize DOE's world-leading high-performance computing (HPC) and artificial intelligence resources to conduct COVID-19 research and analyze health data that would otherwise not be possible.

"Veterans served this country by putting on the uniform and protecting American interests overseas and now their health data will help in the fight against COVID-19 here at home," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "President Trump is marshalling all the resources he has available in the federal government to fight the virus and Veterans should be proud of the role they're playing."

"The Department of Energy is proud to be a member of the COVID-19 Insights Partnership," said Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette. "Our nation's understanding of COVID-19 has already benefitted greatly from our world-leading high-performance computing and artificial intelligence resources and we look forward to continuing our coordination across federal departments and agencies in the fight against this virus."

"This unprecedented data and computing partnership is the latest addition to President Trump's whole-of-government effort against COVID-19," said HHS Secretary Alex Azar. "The volume and quality of the data HHS has on COVID-19 has advanced by leaps and bounds in recent months. The Department of Energy's world-class resources will help us derive new insights from the data we gather to help patients and protect our country."

Research and analysis conducted by the COVID-19 Insights Partnership will focus on vaccine and therapeutic development and outcomes, virology and other critical scientific topics to understand COVID-19 better. HHS and VA will provide additional updates and information on research projects as it becomes available.

Summit, the United States' fastest supercomputer, located at DOE's Oak Ridge National Laboratory, is accelerating COVID-19 research by running large scale, complex analyses on a vast amount of health data. Summit's unmatched capacity to analyze massive integrated datasets and divine insights will help researchers identify and advance potential treatments and enhance outcomes for COVID-19 patients with unprecedented speed.

The partnership expands upon recent efforts by the Trump Administration to leverage cutting-edge technologies in the fight against COVID-19, such as the [COVID-19 High Performance Computing Consortium](#), which provides researchers worldwide with HPC resources and expertise from leading industry, Federal Government, and academia partners to accelerate the COVID-19 vaccine and therapeutic research.

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### Media Contacts

**Department of Veterans Affairs:** Christina Noel, [Christina.Noel@va.gov](mailto:Christina.Noel@va.gov)

**Department of Energy:** Shaylyn Hynes, [shaylyn.hynes@hq.doe.gov](mailto:shaylyn.hynes@hq.doe.gov)

**Department of Health and Human Services:** [media@hhs.gov](mailto:media@hhs.gov)