

"Primary care questionnaire" MVP Workflows

Discovery Readout

Background & Goals

Background

Our goal is to improve the in-person and online pre- and post-appointment experiences for Veterans, contribute to physical distancing efforts in VA facilities, and better integrate Veteran-provided data in VA workflows by providing Veterans with a digital option to complete pre- or post-appointment questionnaires and screeners.

Our MVP focuses on improving the pre-appointment experience when visiting primary care providers.

Research goals

This research is to usability test desktop and mobile prototype versions of the primary care appointment questionnaire design and gain feedback on all the workflows in and out of the questionnaire.

Hypotheses to be tested

- Veterans will be able to successfully find and complete the questionnaire.
- Veterans will be able to navigate to a meaningful location after completing the questionnaire.
- There will be minimal confusion created by the content and question wording within any of the workflows.



Method

We conducted 10 remote moderated usability tests via WebEx using the Perigean contract. This method allowed us to share a high-fidelity wireframe prototype (mobile and desktop versions) to confirm if our questionnaire is easily usable by Veterans.

Who we spoke with: 8 Veterans, 1 Caregiver, and 1 Service Member (will be Veteran in next 30 days)

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Male: 6

Female: 4

Device used during study

Android: 2

iPhone: 2

Desktop: 6

Age

25-34: 2

35-44:1

45-54: 3

55-64:0

65-74: 2

Unknown: 2

Education

Some college (no degree): 2

Associate's degree/trade

certificate/vocational training: 1

Bachelor's degree: 1

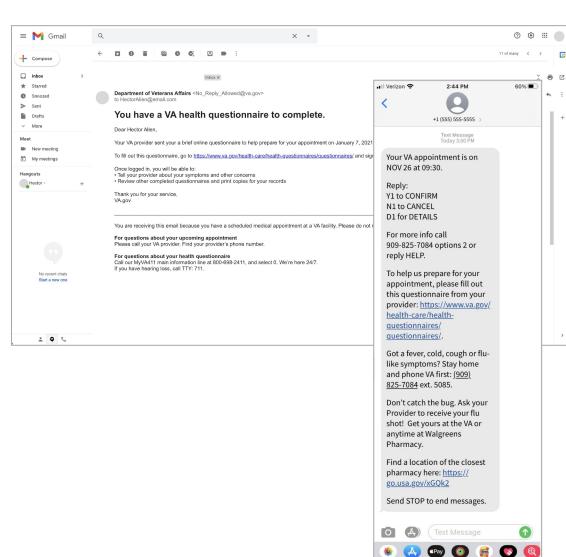
Master's degree: 4

Unknown: 2

We also talked to 4 participants with PTSD or TBI.

Research questions: Notifications

- What are your impressions of this notification?
 - If not mentioned, what do you think about entering Y1 and N1?
 - What would you prefer to enter instead?
- Why do you believe that you would have been sent this notification?
- How many days in advance of your appointment would you want to receive this notification?
- Would you be interested in receiving this notification multiple times?
- What are the actions that you could take immediately based upon the (email or text) that you just received?

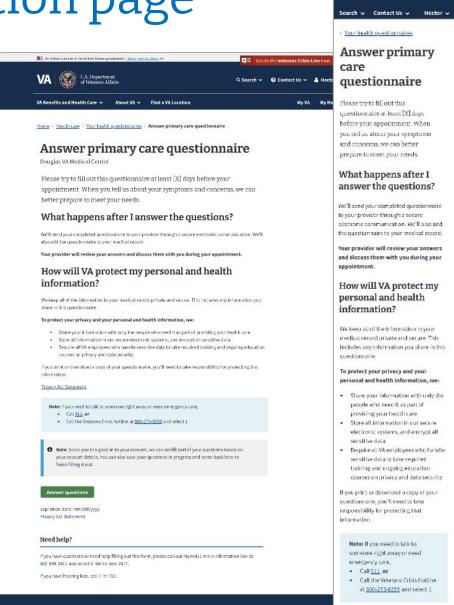


Research questions: Usability task

- Now, please fill out the questionnaire that your provider has requested you complete. For this questionnaire, your name will be Hector Allen and you have an upcoming primary care appointment for your annual physical. Please narrate your thoughts as you complete the task.
- Things to watch/listen for:
 - Did the Veteran successfully complete the task. Success = getting to the screen with the "Your questionnaire has been sent to your provider." alert box.
 - Pay attention to Veteran commentary on confusing or pleasing portions of the task.
 - Take note of anything the Veteran suggests to add.
- What are your thoughts about having to sign-in to access this feature

Research questions: Introduction page

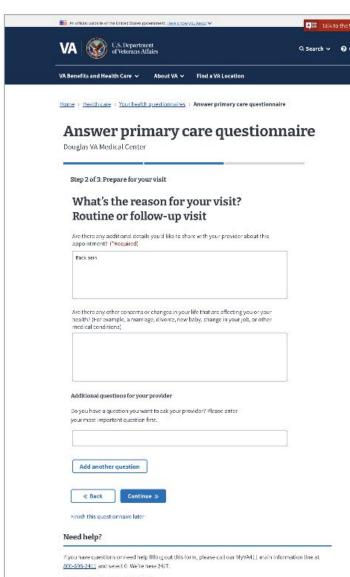
- What are your impressions of this page?
- What are your thoughts about the information provided?
- Is there any other information we should include here?



■# Talk to the Veterans Crisis Line now

Research questions: This visit page

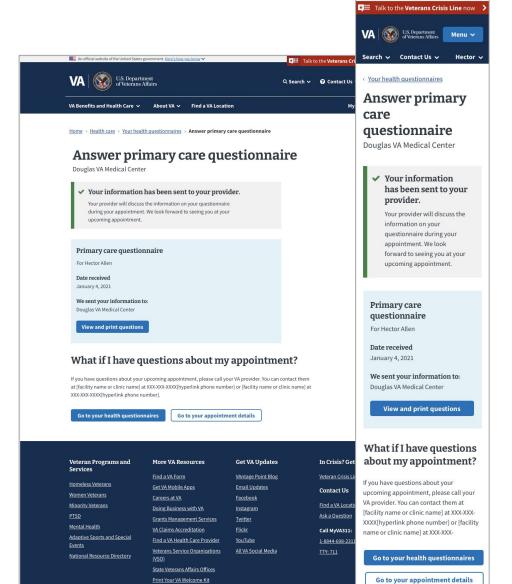
- What if you decide that you want to take some more time to think about questions for you provider? How could you save what you already entered, then come back and finish the form?
- If participant had PTSD or TBI diagnosis, then review each question and gather this thoughts.
 - Check for understanding of ranking their questions.





Research questions: Confirmation page

- What are your impressions of this page?
- Which of the buttons on the page would you most likely be interested in viewing next?
 - Would you prefer to navigate anywhere else instead?
- When (if at all) would you view and print questions? When (if at all) would you print this PDF?



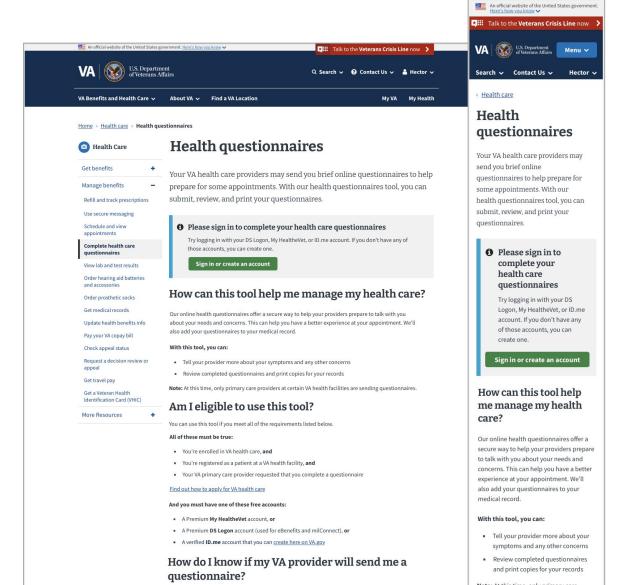
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Research questions: IA question

- Where on Remember when we talked about saving your in-progress questionnaire answers.
 Pretend that you are returning to the form the next day after saving your current work and you lost the notification (email or text), where on va.gov would you look first to find this questionnaire? (Pick one.)
 - I would use the search.
 - I would navigate to a list of my appointments and expect a questionnaire link to appear in the details of my appointment.
 - I would log in and expect to see a link on my dashboard to the questionnaires that I need to complete.
 - I would use the main menu on va.gov to navigate to a health questionnaire section. (If the participant selects this, make them pick their second option.)

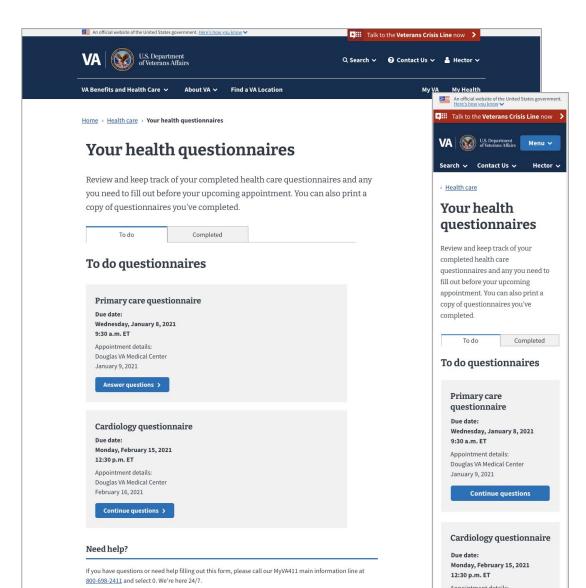
Research questions: Drupal page

- What are your impressions of this page?
- What are your thoughts about the information provided?
- How valuable is the information on this page to you?
- Is there any other information that we should include on this page?



Research questions: Questionnaire list (To do tab)

- What are your impressions of this page?
- Can you tell me what you think the difference is between the cards shown on the screen?
 - Ask about button wording if the difference isn't clear.
- What are your thoughts about the information provided?
- How valuable is the information on this page to you?
- Is there any other information that we should include on this page?

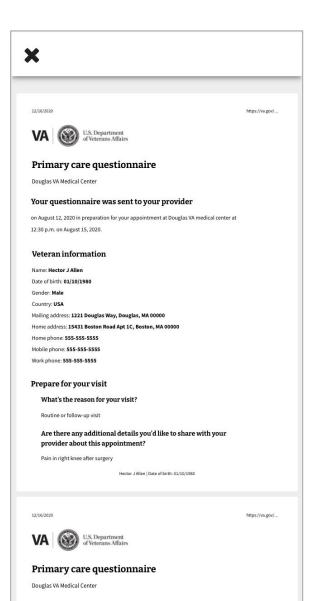


Research questions: Usability task

- Your primary care provider just sent you a pre-visit questionnaire. Before you fill it out, you want to review your responses to your last primary care questionnaire. Find your last questionnaire and review your responses. Please narrate your thoughts as you complete the task.
- Things to watch/listen for:
 - Did the Veteran successfully complete the task. Success = click on the "View and print questions."
 - Pay attention to Veteran commentary on confusing or pleasing portions of the task.
 - Take note of anything the Veteran suggests to add.
- How easy or hard was it to find the completed questionnaire?

Research questions: PDF

- When (if at all) would you view this PDF?
 When (if at all) would you print this PDF?
- Would you want any additional information added to this PDF?



Research questions: Questionnaire list (Completed tab)

- What are your impressions of this page?
- Can you tell me what you think the difference is between the cards shown on the screen?
 - What is your interest in seeing appointments that were canceled, but where you started to answer questions? What about if we displayed "You can access your in-progress answers for the next X days?"
- What are your thoughts about the information provided?
- How valuable is the information on this page to you?
- Is this location where you would expect to come back to and see this list of completed questionnaires?
- Is there any other information that we should include on this page?-
- Would you want to see questionnaire responses over time?
 - What if the questionnaire resulted in a score? Would you be interested in seeing your score over time?

Key Findings

- 1. Veterans welcomed and even expected email and text notifications for health questionnaires.
- 2. Questionnaire links within text messages are more easily overlooked by participants who already receive appointment reminder text messages, because participants automatically reply confirm/cancel and don't read the rest of the text.
- 3. Veterans are interested in receiving multiple notifications (an initial notification and a reminder notification).
- 4. Veterans expect to sign in to complete health questionnaires, in order to protect their health records.
- 5. The usability of the questionnaire was reconfirmed by Veterans with PTSD and TBI.
- 6. The value of the questionnaire was reconfirmed by Veterans.
- 7. Veterans want to view more appointment details when completing health questionnaires.
- 8. Veterans still plan to print their questionnaire to take with them to their appointment.

Key Findings

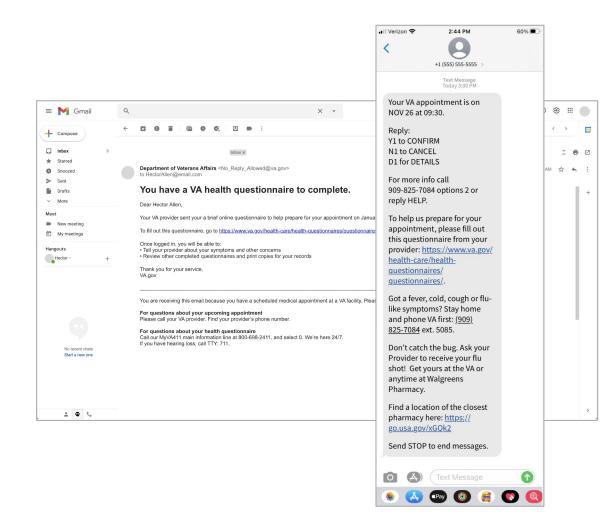
- 9. Veterans want to view their completed questionnaires for two main reasons:
 - a. To make sure that their questions were answered
 - b. Want access to all of their medical record
- 10. Veterans are not interested in seeing not submitted questionnaires, except when they started the questionnaire, then the appointment was canceled.
- 11. Veterans are interested in sorting and filtering the list of their completed questionnaires by specialty, type of questionnaire, and date.
- 12. Veterans are interested in viewing scores from questionnaires (also known as screeners) over time.
- 13. When entering through the main VA.gov homepage, Veterans were split on whether they wanted to navigate to these health questionnaires via a badge/notification on a dashboard or the appointments section.

Veterans welcomed and even expected email and text notifications for health questionnaires.

"I like the whole idea of it."

"It seems pretty straight forward."

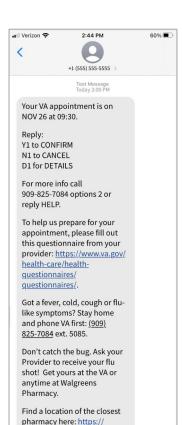
 A few participants brought up the idea of notifications before they reviewed the prototype examples.





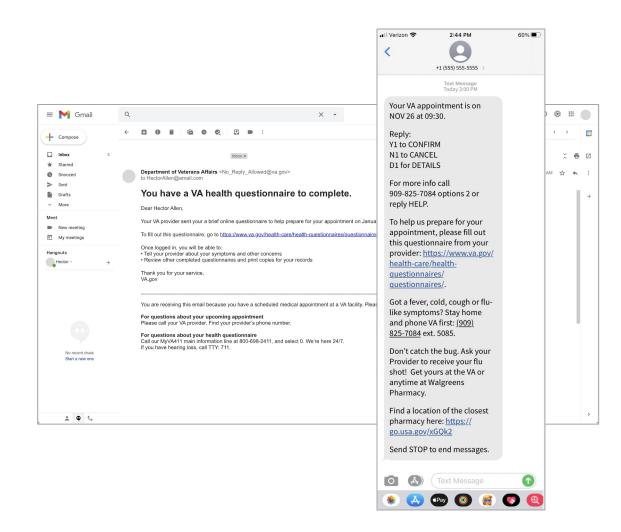
Questionnaire links within text messages are more easily overlooked by participants who already receive appointment reminder text messages, because participants automatically reply confirm/cancel and don't read the rest of the text.

- Three out of four participants shown the text message mentioned that they currently receive these text messages.
 - Two out of the three participants stated they would just confirm or cancel. They didn't review the rest of the text and had to be prompted to review the questionnaire link.



Veterans are interested in receiving multiple notifications.

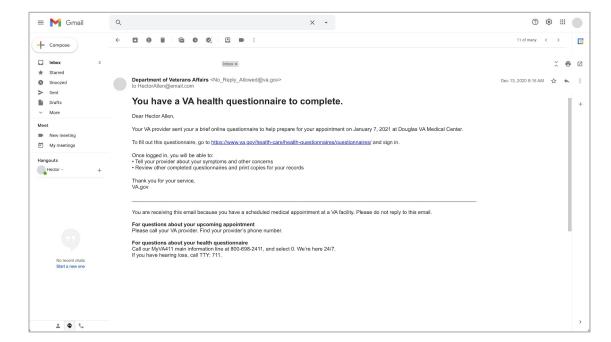
- Eight out of ten participants mentioned that they would like to receive an initial and reminder notifications.
- The most suggested time period for sending the initial and reminder notifications were:
 - Seven days in advance of the appointment, then again one day in advance.





Additional findings: Emails

- Some participants suggested adding or emphasizing appointment information, such as date and time.
- "Change the title of it, so it is less like a computer-generated survey, [such as] Dr. So-and-so would like to ask you a few questions before your next appointment."



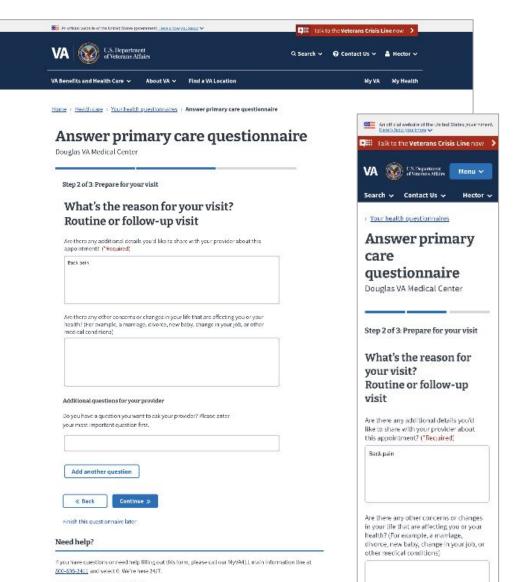
Veterans expect to sign in to complete health questionnaires, in order to protect their health records.

- 100% of participants (10 out of 10 participants) commented that signing in was a good thing for this feature due to security and privacy concerns.
- "I think that it is a good things, since you are asking health questions. Now, it is associated with my account. It keeps anybody else from messing with it and getting the information."

The usability of the questionnaire was reconfirmed by Veterans

with PTSD and TBI.

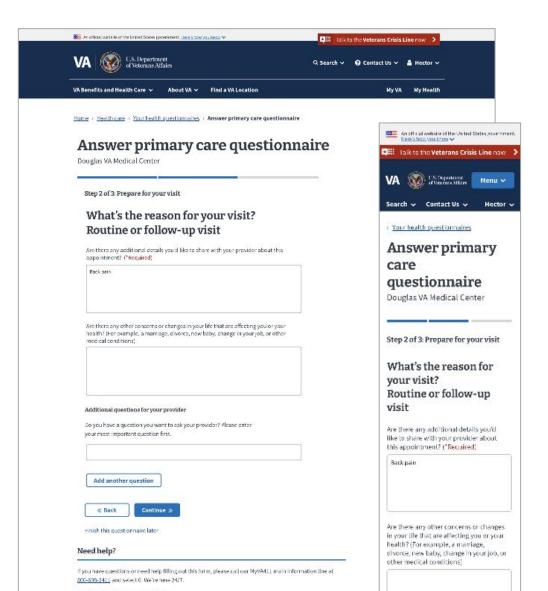
- All four PTSD and TBI participants easily understood the questionnaire and ranking their questions for their provider.
 - Two participants liked the idea of ranking their questions for their provider.





The value of the questionnaire was reconfirmed by Veterans.

- "I think the question about what is going on in your life is a good one and not a lot of doctors ask that. Those things could be a factor in your condition or the problems going on."
- The value is dependent upon primary care providers reviewing the questionnaires and the questionnaires actually improving their appointment quality.
 - "If this looks like adding another step, because the nurse re-asks these questions, then I will never log on here again. You get that one chance."



Veterans want to view more appointment details when completing health questionnaires.

- 60% of participants (6 out of 10 participants) suggested displaying more appointment information throughout the questionnaire workflows, specifically on the list of all questionnaires and confirmation page.
 - The most common requests were:
 - Appointment time
 - Provider's name
 - Clinic name, address with room number, and/or hours

Veterans still plan to print their questionnaire to take with them to their appointment.

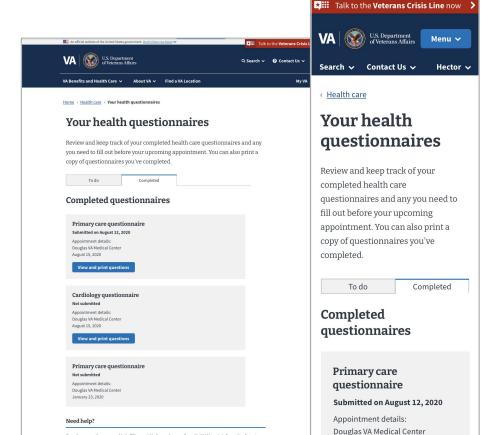
Interest in printing?

	Yes	No
Mobile	50%	50%
4 participants	2 participants	2 participants
Desktop	66%	33%
6 participants	4 participants	2 participants
All	60%	40%
10 participants	6 participants	4 participants

- Participants saw printing as a way to remind themselves of what they wanted to discuss at the appointment.
 - "I typically bring things with me, so this could be my reminder of the things I want to look at/talk about."
- Participants not interested in printing mostly stated that they see no need to print these questionnaires.

Veterans want to view their completed questionnaires for two main reasons:

- To make sure that their questions were answered
- Want access to all of their medical record
- Seven out of 10 participants were interested in viewing their completed questionnaires.
- Three Veterans assumed these
 questionnaires would display other medical
 history information, so they could see the
 questions they asked and the answers they
 received during their appointment.



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Veterans are not interested in seeing not submitted questionnaires, except when they started the questionnaire, then the appointment was canceled.

- Only 30% of participants (3 out of 10 participants) had an interest in viewing not submitted questionnaire information on a list of all their questionnaires.
- Eight out of 10 participants are interested in viewing in-progress questionnaires for canceled appointments, because they believe it might help with rescheduling and filling out the questionnaire for the rescheduled appointment.



Veterans are interested in sorting and filtering the list of their completed questionnaires by specialty, type of questionnaire, and date.

• Five out of five participants mentioned an interest in sorting/filtering by specialty, type of questionnaire, or date (particularly year).

Veterans are interested in viewing scores from questionnaires (also known as screeners) over time.

- Six out of ten participants were interested in viewing their scores over time, in order to evaluate how their health is improving or worsening.
 - Many wanted to view this information as a graph.
 - They also emphasized the need to understand the meaning behind the scores.

When entering through the main VA.gov homepage, Veterans were split on whether they wanted to navigate to these health questionnaires via a badge/notification on a dashboard or the appointments section.

- 50% of the participants (5 out of 10 participants) selected a badge/notification on an authenticated dashboard.
- The other 50% of participants (5 out of 10 participants) selected navigating to the appointments section.
- The four PTSD and TBI participants were also split 50/50 between the above options.

Miscellaneous findings

- One participant requested a Spanish version of the interface.
- Two participants requested a link to the Profile section to update any demographic information as they were filling out this form.
- 70% of participants (7 out of 10 participants) understood the difference between the buttons (Answer Questions versus Continue Questions) on the Questionnaire list (To do tab).
 - Even the other 30% (3 out of 10 participants) knew that they had to click on either button to finish the questionnaires.
- Two older participants commented that our examples of life events were for younger people and that they would like to see examples that apply to them (retirement or caregiving).
- Menopausal participant brought up pre-visit questions about pregnancy, etc (actually made to take pregnancy tests). Never asked about menopausal concerns/symptoms.



Recommendations

Recommendations: Changes to MVP scope

Changes that can be completed by the product team

- Send out notifications seven days in advance of an appointment, then again a day prior.
- Re-evaluate text message wording, so more attention is brought to the link.
- Evaluate displaying more appointment information in the questionnaire workflow.
- Further explore displaying statuses on the questionnaire list, including
 - not submitted, but canceled appointments,
 - no shows
 - in-progress versus new
 - any other statuses (engineering will look into statuses more)

Recommendations: Additions to future roadmap

Additions that can be explored by the product team

- Watch the conversion rates on text messages versus emails. Re-evaluate incorporating questionnaires link in appointment reminder text depending upon analytics.
- Depending upon email conversion rates, explore a PII questionnaire email, similar to the texting solution already used by VeText.
- Re-evaluate reminder text that is sent a day prior to the appointment with questionnaire only information.
- Explore sorting and filtering on the Questionnaire list (Completed tab).
- Revisit the Veteran information (demographics) page to explore editing options.

Recommendations: Additions to future roadmap

Additions to explore by working with other VA.gov product teams

 Work with VAOS and the authenticated experience teams to add questionnaire information within their products.

Additions to explore by working with platform (possible holistic changes)

• Explore how demographic information is displayed and updated across all forms. Is it always editable? Is it only editable within the profile section?

Next Steps

Next Steps

Write design tickets

To explore design solutions for some of the recommendations

Update MVP wireframes based upon findings

Present updates to the team, retest when necessary, and create tickets for engineering to implement the changes

Review items for future roadmap

Discuss with the team about adding topics to roadmap for future exploration

Appendix