## VA HSRD Field-Based Meeting: The Role of Natural Language Processing in Clinical Informatics and Pathways for VA Strategic Support

Sept 15-16, 2016; 2817 West End Avenue, Suite 200, Nashville, TN 37203

**Goal**: To develop strategies for transition of NLP from research to clinical operations

**Meeting Objectives**

1. Clarify role & contributions of NLP to health services research, clinical informatics, clinical services, & quality operations
2. Identify and define ideal short-term and long-term project goals for NLP clinical informatics

**a.** Create listing of NLP applications & functionalities needed by clinical operations, with priority & feasibility rating

1. Create a roadmap for capacity, capability, & portability of NLP platforms & outcomes across VA & non-VA facilities

## Agenda

## Thursday September 15, 2016

7:45 – 8:00 am: Welcome; coffee and breakfast snacks

8:00 – 8:15 am: Meeting purpose, overall structure announcements

**Ruth Reeves** (Meeting Organizer; Health Services Research Informaticist; Nashville VAMC)

Presentations on NLP **Implementations in the VA**

Presentation: **Guy Divita** (Health Services Research Informaticist; Salt Lake City VAMC)

Contributions of NLP to clinical informatics

Time slot: 8:15 – 8:55

Presentation: **Joe Erdos** Clinical Informatics & Business Intelligence Service, VA Office of Information & Technology; West Haven VAMC

Enterprise level NLP implementation deployed nationwide in service of a Patient Safety Center of Excellence project

Time Slot: 8:55 – 9:35

***Midmorning break***; 9:35 – 9:45

Presentation: **Omar Bouhaddou & Mohammad Jafari** (VLER Health and VHA Security Architecture)

Security Labeling Service to automatically detect sensitive conditions in C-CDAs & opt in Veterans in VLER Health exchange

Time Slot: 9:45 – 10:15

**Round-Table Discussion on NLP** (small groups, same assignment each)

Facilitator: Ruth Reeves

What are the informatics needs and opportunities in VA today?

What NLP-driven or NLP-supported applications are desired by clinical operations? Begin generating a list

Brainstorming, and of NLP applications desired by user-end stake-holders (clinical operations, HIMS, AHRC, My HealtheVet, eHMP, OMOP) and building capacity, capability and portability of NLP

Time slot: 10:15 – 11:30

***Lunch break***: 11:30 – 12:45

**Report out & Open Discussion** (entire group discussion)

Facilitator: **Cyndi Brandt** (Health Services Research Informaticist; West Haven VAMC)

Time slot: 12:45 – 2:00

**Round-Table Discussion on Priorities** (small groups, same assignment each)

Facilitator: **Steve Brown** (Director Knowledge Based Systems OIIG; Nashville VAMC)

What should be the short-term and long-term priorities for NLP in Clinical Operations? Generate aims and objectives.

How can clinical operations target and facilitate in clinical informatics? How would success be defined? What would be the technical specifications and performance measures?

Time slot: 2:00 – 3:15

***Midafternoon coffee break***; ***group preparation for report out***; 3:15 – 3:45

**Report out & Open Discussion** (entire group discussion)

Facilitator: **William Scuba** (NLP Project Software Architect, University of Utah Dept. of Biomedical Informatics)

Time slot: 3:45 – 5:00

## Friday September 16, 2016

8:00 – 8:25 am: Welcome; coffee and breakfast snacks

8:25 – 8:30 am: agenda for the day and announcements: **Ruth Reeves**

**Presentations on NLP Infrastructure and Portability**

Presentation: **Frank Meng** (Assistant Professor, Dept. Radiological Sciences, UCLA Medical Imaging Informatics; MAVERIC collaborator)

Cross-institution tool sharing and re-use at the VA MAVERIC and UCLA; developments and further uses

Time slot: 8:30-9:00

Presentation: **Hua Xu** (Professor, Director Center for Computational Biomedicine, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston)

Improving Transportability of NLP Solutions using CLAMP

Time Slot: 9:00 – 9:30

Presentation: **Scott Duvall** (Associate Director of the VA Informatics & Computing Infrastructure; Salt Lake City VAMC)

The Status, Platform, and Capacity for NLP and Applied Informatics in VA Today

Time Slot: 9:30 – 10:00

***Midmorning break***; 10:00 – 10:10

Dynamic Feedback: **Glenn Gobbel** (Health Services Research Informaticist, Nashville VAMC)

Consensus & feedback from yesterday’s information; share &verify accurate representation of gathered information to focus group for open discussion on recommendations

Time Slot: 10:10 – 10:30

**Open Discussion on Recommendations** (entire group discussion)

Facilitator: **Michael Matheny** (Associate Director Analytics, VINCI; HSR&D Informaticist; Nashville VAMC)

Setting an agenda for the future of NLP in the VA and making recommendations

List objectives and rate their priority and feasibility (gaps in resources, capacity, or knowledge)

Time Slot: 10:30 -11:30

**Structured Open Discussion**

Facilitator: **Kurt Ruark** (Human Factors Engineering, Program Analyst OIIG; Nashville VAMC)

Leveraging VA data and system platforms for use internal and external to VA

Time slot: 11:30 – 12:00

Closing Remarks: **Ruth Reeves**

Time slot: 12:00 – 12:10