



VCLIC News and Happenings, Volume 8

Welcome and Happy (almost) Thanksgiving, All! Hard to believe, but this is the 8th edition of VCLIC News, and we are first and foremost excited to announce our **Clickbusters round 2 winners!** Thank you so much to everyone who participated and helped make this program such a success. Please also note the section on keeping Epic channels in mind for presenting and disseminating this type of work.

This month we are also featuring **Karen Hughart, MSN, BN-BC**, bringing to light some (positive) changes in our ability to use **Epic screenshots** in publications and presentations, discussing Epic's capabilities related to **predictive modeling**, and reminding y'all of upcoming **conferences and abstract deadlines**, **Epic virtual training**, our **VDAWGs program** (for Clarity data access), and the **clinical informatics resident elective**.

As always, we have several honors, awards, publications, articles, and accepted abstracts to share. Most notably, please join us in congratulating **Kevin Johnson, MD, MS** on his new role as **President-Elect of the ACMI Executive Committee**, and **Patty Sengstack, DNP, RN-BC, FAAN**, on her promotion to **Senior Associate Dean for Informatics** in the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing. We will be adding these accomplishments to the [News](#) and [Publications pages](#) of our website as well.

If you have any questions or would like to engage with our team, please email Elise (elise.russo@vumc.org).




Clickbusters Round 2 Winners Announced




The Health IT Clinical Decision Support Team partnered with the Vanderbilt Clinical Informatics Center (VCLIC) to complete a second round of the Clickbusters program. The BPA Clickbuster program helped review Epic BPAs (Best Practice Advisories) in use at VUMC. Many BPAs that were reviewed were found to be functioning well and up to date with current clinical guidelines. Health IT and the Clickbusters also found several BPAs that could be improved in this round and, over the course of two rounds, Clickbusters has reduced alerts by more than 62,000 per week!

Participants earned points based on how many of the steps of the process they completed for each of their BPAs and how well they documented their work. We awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place "Golden Mouse" trophies based on these point totals.

Additionally, we awarded prizes to the participant whose work reduced the most clicks, to the one whose work was most innovative, and to the one who Scott Nelson, PharmD (and Clickbusters Round 1 Winner) judged to be the most impactful (“Judge’s Choice”).

Without further ado, we present our winners!

First Place	Second Place	Third Place
Robert Turer, MD	Wael Alrifai, MD, MS	Cheryl Cobb, MD
		
Busted several ED-related BPAs	Modified two neonatal BPAs	Determined that a psychiatry BPA could be replaced by a dashboard metric

Most Clicks Reduced	Most Innovative	Judge’s Choice
Chetan Aher, MD	Barron Patterson, MD	Aileen Wright, MD
		
Turned off the signed and held or saved orders BPA, saving approximately 700 clicks per day	Determined that the pediatric ambulatory hypertension BPAs could be replaced by Epic Storyboard features	Vastly improved the readability and accuracy of the Immunocompromised and Live Virus BPA

Thank you to everyone who in Health IT and VCLIC who participated in any way in Clickbusters Round 2, which wrapped up officially on September 8th, 2020. We had 20 participants who reviewed **55 BPAs, which reduced clicks by more than 12,787 per week!**

Thank you especially to:

Clickbusters Leadership Team: Allison McCoy, Adam Wright, Dara Mize, Neal Patel, Elise Russo, Jon Wanderer, Kevin Johnson

Clickbuster Participants: Chetan Aher, Wael Alrifai, Jennifer Andrews, Chery Cobb, Daniel Cottrell, Sara Horst, Dave Johnson, Lindsey Knake, Adam Lewis, Scott Nelson, Laura Parks, Sharidan Parr, Pratik Patel, Barron Patterson, Lorraine Patterson, Patty Sengstack, Christine Smith, Krystle Suszter, Rob Turer, Stuart Weinberg, Lyndy Wilcox, Aileen Wright

Health IT CDS team: Tina French, Jon Jackson, SyLinda Littlejohn, Debbie Preston, Audra Rosenbury, Charlie Valdez

Health IT Additional Participants: Dan Albert, Marc Beller, Kristen Berutti, Austin Brown, Julia Cartwright, Jared Cobb, Susan Conner, Heather Freeman, Michael Friebe, Fred Hargrove, Carrie Hobby, Jo Ann Howell, Joseph Huenecke, Karen Hughart, Christopher Kleymeer, Yaa Kumah-Krystal, Joey LeGrand, Sylinda Littlejohn, Raymond Mayer, Christine McWatters, Natasha Miller, David Mulherin, Patrick Norris, Keith Norton, Travis Osterman, Spring Prince, Nancy Rudge, Ashley Spann, Shane Stenner, AJ Teare, Jason Williams, Liu Wing, Randy Winstead.

Clickbusters Program Presented and Disseminated via Epic

Following the completion of the Clickbusters program, VCLIC program leaders, **Allison McCoy, PhD**, and **Adam Wright, PhD**, created a **Clickbusters Toolkit** based on the materials posted on [Confluence](#). The toolkit, now more generically applicable to other organizations, was posted to [Epic's UserWeb forum](#), and immediately garnered interest from institutions wishing to pursue similar programs to improve their own clinical decision support (CDS).

In addition to posting the Toolkit to the UserWeb forum, Drs. McCoy and Wright were invited to present the Clickbusters program in Epic's CDS Monthly Forum on November 10th (you can see their presentation [here](#)). The forum brings together a group of staff across Epic's customer base interested in CDS. Although dissemination in normal academic venues continues to be of primary importance, keep Epic channels like the UserWeb, UGM, XGM, or Epic-hosted webinars in mind to further disseminate your work to other Epic customers.

Member Spotlight: Karen Hughart, MSN, BN-BC



I began my career as a graduate nurse at VUMC in 1977. I spent nearly 20 years as a bedside nurse and then a Nurse Manager in Cardiology, Oncology, Stepdown Units. Since 1989, I have been full-time in Nursing Informatics – first as the Informatics Nurse on the group that selected our first Hospital Information System and later as the leader of a team that provided at the elbow support for our first CPOE system. I was actively engaged in developing our home grown CPOE system – Wiz Order and in the growth and implementation of StarPanel. More recently, I have been engaged in all aspects of Epic implementation, optimization and expansion.

At present, I am working on a pilot of Epic’s Rover handheld application for Nursing and on integration of our newly acquired hospitals and clinics in Shelbyville and Tullahoma into the VUMC family (from both operational and IT systems perspectives).

I have been involved in VCLIC as a consumer of their resources (help with data needed to evaluate effectiveness of initiatives) and as a cheerleader (encouraging participation in the Clickbusters initiative, etc.). We have benefited from VCLIC expertise in developing the VUMC Health IT Safety Committee.

I am interested in processes that improve adoption of systems and related workflows and in processes that engage end users in making decisions about system enhancements.

I would love to collaborate with others in evaluating system implementation and adoption and in evaluating impact of governance structures and processes.

Using Epic Screenshots in Papers and Talks

Historically, Epic has required prior approval for using screenshots of Epic software in public-facing applications like papers and presentations. Although these approvals have generally been granted quickly, some researchers found the process prohibitive. The [21st Century Cures Act](#) contains new provisions which prevent EHR vendors, including Epic, from restricting communication about the usability, interoperability, or security of their health IT.

As a result of this rule, Epic no longer requires users to request prior approval for communications (including screenshots) involving areas covered under the regulation ([list here](#)). Epic has provided some additional guidance [publicly](#) and on the [UserWeb](#).

This is great news for VCLIC members and should make sharing our work simpler. If you have questions about these new rules, or run into any issues, please reach out to [Adam Wright](#).

Predictive Modeling

With its Cognitive Computing platform, Epic provides the ability to easily implement both Epic-developed and custom predictive models without requiring third-party resources. More than 30 Epic-developed models are available for acute care (deterioration index, early detection of sepsis, risk of falls), operations (remaining length of stay, risk of patient no-show), population management (risk of hospital admission or ED visit, risk of opioid abuse or overdose), and workflow (common diagnosis quick buttons, streamline order and diagnosis association). Each model is trained using data from multiple Epic sites. Implementing the models locally requires mapping necessary data elements (typically medications, laboratory results, and flowsheets), validating the outcomes, and operationalizing the model. Custom models including Naïve Bayes, decision tree, decision forest, and some regression algorithms can be imported using Predictive Model Markup Language (PMML), and more complex models including support vector machines and neural networks can be deployed using a Python Package. At present, VUMC is licensed to implement 10 Epic-provided models, and we have currently implemented or are in the process of implementing the early detection of sepsis, ED pediatric sepsis risk, deterioration index, remaining length of stay, risk of unplanned readmission, and risk of fall models. Vanderbilt Enterprise Reporting and Analytics (VERA) governs the implementation of these models in collaboration with appropriate eStar and clinical teams. To learn more visit the UserWeb: [Epic's Cognitive Computing Models](#), [Cognitive Computing Badge](#)

VDAWGs: Getting Access to Clarity

We had a brief article on the **Vanderbilt Database Access Working Group** (VDAWGs) in our initial newsletter, but now that we have four official VDAWG participants, we thought it might be helpful to point everyone to information on the process for gaining access to Epic's data warehouse, Clarity. We have a page in our [Confluence Knowledgebase](#) (you need to be on VUMC's network/on the VPN to access). The first step is to complete Epic training for the [Clinical Data Model](#). Following completion of the training, there is a paperwork process through VCLIC that is detailed on the Confluence page linked above. If you have any questions, please reach out to elise.russo@vumc.org.

Reminder about the Clinical Informatics Resident Elective

Drs. Dara Mize and **Travis Osterman** are pleased to announce the start of the **Clinical Informatics Resident Elective**, which is a two-week experience for physicians new to the field or for those who desire to solidify their knowledge in preparation for more advanced study. For more information, please see our [website](#) or email [Travis](#) or [Dara](#).

Upcoming Conferences and Conference Deadlines

- [IHI Forum](#): Virtual conference **December 6th-9th, 2020**
- [NeurIPS](#): Virtual Conference **December 6th-12th, 2020**

- [Epic XGM](#): Presentation submissions due by **December 10th, 2020**
- [AMIA CIC](#): Submissions due by **December 1st, 2020**
- [ACC](#): Submissions due by **December 2nd, 2020** (1:00 pm ET)

More information on upcoming conferences and conference deadlines can be found on our Confluence page, [here](#).

Epic XGM 2021 Accepting Abstracts for Presentation

As noted in the brief bullet above, **Epic's Expert Group Meeting (XGM)** is now accepting presentation submissions. Please visit [their website](#) to submit your presentation ideas. **The call for presentations closes December 10, 2020 at midnight, and the conference will be April 26th-May 7th, 2021 (Epic has not yet decided whether it will be in-person or virtual).**

XGM is Epic's annual conference where application developers and other IT-focused roles explore the known and unknown in the worlds of software build, training, performance, and workflow. App-based and role-focused sessions are designed to probe universal truths that you can put to use back at VUMC.

Reminder about Epic Virtual Training

Epic has a variety of **training and certification programs** ([Epic Training Resources](#)) that may be of interest to VCLIC members, some of which we list on our [Confluence site](#). Epic has always required travel to Verona, WI to complete trainings. Although Verona is lovely (especially in warmer months!) this travel requirement has sometimes been a barrier to completing training. Since COVID-19, Epic has temporarily started offering trainings remotely, through December 11, 2020.

This virtual option may be your chance to complete certifications like [Physician Builder](#), [Clinical Content Builder](#), [Physician Builder Analytics](#), [Chronicles Programmer](#), [Research Informatics](#), or [Cogito Clarity Clinical Data Model](#) without needing to travel. In person training continues to be offered, so if you'd rather learn in person, you can still travel to Verona and take a course on Epic's campus, with enhanced cleaning and safety protocols.

Publications, Presentations, Interviews, and Awards

Kevin Johnson, MD, MS, Elected ACMI Executive Committee President-Elect



Congratulations are in order for **Kevin Johnson, MD, MS**, who was recently named President-Elect of ACMI (the American College of Medical Informatics)'s Executive Committee, for January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2022, with a term as President to follow the year after. We look forward to seeing the fantastic results that will arise from having Dr. Johnson on the governing board of such an influential body in informatics.

Promotion to Senior Associate Dean for Informatics in the VU School of Nursing

We are also thrilled to announce that **Patty Sengstack, DNP, RN-BC, FAAN**, has recently been promoted to **Senior Associate Dean for Informatics** in the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN) beginning January 1, 2021. Please see the letter celebrating her promotion, written by the Dean of the Nursing School, Dr. Linda Norman:

I am pleased to announce that we will welcome Dr. Patricia (Patty) Sengstack, DNP, RN-BC, FAAN, into the role of Senior Associate Dean for Informatics beginning January 1, 2021. She will succeed Dr. Betsy Weiner, who is retiring at the end of the year.

Patty was in the first cohort of students in the DNP program at VUSN, and since graduation in 2010, has taught informatics here at both the doctoral and master's level. She has served as academic director for the Nursing Informatics specialty since 2018. Patty has more than 20 years of experience in the field of informatics and has established herself as a leader in the field both locally and nationally. Her roles prior to coming to Vanderbilt full time include appointments as the Deputy CIO and Chief of Clinical Informatics at the NIH Clinical Center and the Chief Nursing Informatics Officer for the Bon Secours Health System. She currently has a joint appointment at VUMC and serves as their Nursing Informatics Executive, providing strategic direction in the use of technology for nurses.

Her focus over the last several years has been health information technology's impact on patient safety. Her master's and doctoral work addressed evidence-based strategies in the configuration of computerized provider order entry systems (CPOE) to ensure patient safety. She now leads VUMC's Health IT Safety Program. Many of her publications address the need to focus on safety aspects in the use of technology

Patty was inducted as a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in October 2016 and was recently appointed to serve on AAN's Institute for Nursing Leadership's National Advisory Council, as well as its Informatics and Technology Expert Panel. She is a past president of the American Nursing Informatics Association and remains

active in the organization. In 2016, she was recognized as one of the most powerful women in health IT by Health Data Management.

As the use of technology in health care and academia continue to advance at a rapid pace, Patty will help us ensure that our students acquire the necessary competencies that drive innovative and transformative care. Please welcome her to our leadership team.

Congratulations, Patty!

In The News

As seen in the *VUMC Reporter*:

- [Study tracks physician use of electronic health records](#) (**Kevin Johnson, MD, MS**)
- [Patient Experience Awards honor clinical excellence](#) (**William Martinez, MD, MS** and **Lee Wheless, MD, PhD**, were two of 368 VUMC clinicians receiving high marks from patients, earning Excellence in Patient Experience awards for the fiscal year 2020)
- [Screening younger women for hereditary cancers may be cost effective](#) (**Josh Peterson, MD, MPH, FACMI**)

Melissa McPheeters, PhD, MPH, has made several valuable contributions to public knowledge on COVID-19 and masking. Her work was highlighted in several news sources:

- Vox: [Why every state should adopt a mask mandate, in 4 charts](#)
- NPR: [Internal Documents Reveal COVID-19 Hospitalization Data The Government Keeps Hidden](#)
- VUMC Reporter: [Study finds areas without mask requirements have larger increase in COVID-19 hospitalizations](#)
- VUMC Reporter: [Tennessee areas without mask requirements have higher death toll per capita](#)

Accepted Presentations

Coe C, **Spann A**, Ajay T, Montgomery G, Shwetar M, Feurer I, Rega S, **McCoy AB**, Alexopoulos S, Izzy M. The Extent of Tacrolimus Exposure May Not Affect the Risk of De Novo Malignancy after Liver Transplantation. Poster Presentation at *The Liver Meeting Digital Experience™*, American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD). 2020.

Kumah-Crystal, YA. Redesigning the healthcare system: Integrating digital health into the health system as a core service. Panel Presentation at *Africa Tech*. Nov 2020.

McCoy AB, Wright A. Clickbusters. *Epic Clinical Decision Support Monthly Forum*. November 10, 2020.

Montgomery G, **Spann A**, Coe C, Ajaya T, Shwetar M, Feurer I, Rega S, **McCoy AB**, Alexopoulos S, Izzy M. Autoimmune Liver Disease Is a Risk Factor for T Cell-Mediated Rejection: A Retrospective Analysis Accounting for Tacrolimus Exposure. Poster Presentation at *The Liver Meeting Digital Experience™*, American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD). 2020.

Sengstack, P. What's ahead for patient safety given changes in technology and patient care? Panel Presentation at *ECRI's Partnership for Health IT Patient Safety: Driving Changes Through Collaboration*. Nov 2020.

Shah K, Triana A, Gusdorf R, **McCoy AB**, Pabla B, Scoville E, Dalal R, Beaulieu D, Schwartz D, Griffith M, Horst S. Demographic Factors associated with Successful Telehealth Visits in Inflammatory Bowel Disease Patients. Poster Presentation at *Advances in Inflammatory Bowel Disease, American Journal of Gastroenterology*. 2020.

Accepted Publications

November 2020

*Of special note, if you attended the recent presentation by VCLIC Members **Lindsay Mayberry, PhD, MS**, and **Lyndsay Nelson, PhD**, we have great news- the findings from the REACH Study (of which another one of our members, **Sunil Kripalani MD, MSc, SFHM** was a co-author) were just [published in Diabetes Care](#). Congratulations!*

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October 2020

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Reminder to Send Updates for Recognition

If you (or another VCLIC Member) publishes a paper; has an abstract accepted at a conference; are interviewed for or written up in a news article; receive any awards, accolades, or honors; or completed/are currently undertaking any projects you would like to highlight, please email me with or forward this information:

- Names of VCLIC members/VUMC staff who participated in or worked on the project, paper, or abstract (or who received the award/honor)
- The title of the Project, Paper, Abstract, Article, or Award
- The journal, conference, or news publication (this can be podcasts, radio, or more “traditional,” news mediums)

Nothing is too big or too small to celebrate, and this information will be featured on the [News section of our website](#) as well. As time goes on, I am hoping to also improve our Twitter presence, so feel free to add, tag, or tweet us at [@VUMC_VCLIC](#) too!

Thank you, and see you next month!