

# VAIRRS Frequently Asked Questions

## **What is VAIRRS?**

The VA Innovation and Research Review System (VAIRRS) is the VA's enterprise instance of IRBNet.

## **Who will use VAIRRS?**

In addition to the research sites within the VA, VAIRRS will be made available to the Facility Director, VISN, ORO, and ORD.

## **Will sites be required to use VAIRRS?**

Eventually, yes. Sites will be required to maintain a core data set in the VAIRRS system.

## **When will VAIRRS be deployed?**

VAIRRS will be deployed in a tiered system. The first tier will be migrated in early 2020. All sites should be migrated by 2023.

## **Will VAIRRS be customized to our site's workflows?**

VAIRRS will be deployed with a central library of smart forms to support harmonized workflows. Initially, two smart forms will be included: Project Cover Sheet (to replace the current R&D Request to Review form) and the IRB Information Sheet. Additional smart forms are planned for future deployment. ORPP&E has stated that a continuing review form, closure report, and IACUC information sheet will all be developed within the coming months.

## **Will the VAIRRS website ([gov.irbnet.org](http://gov.irbnet.org)) be accessible outside of the VA firewall?**

Yes. VAIRRS is hosted in a vendor-managed, FedRamp compliant, cloud-based environment. At launch, any user can log in with IRBNet credentials.

## **Will IRBNet update the station's ePROMISE records?**

Currently the system does not integrate with ePROMISE. We hope to integrate VAIRRS with other ORD enterprise systems in the near future.

## **Is there an instruction manual that can be distributed for researchers and/or administrators?**

IRBNet is an intuitive, web-based tool that has instruction and help text available at various places throughout the application. In addition, ORPP&E will provide workflow process maps and training resources for your site.

## **Will each institution have their own specific templates for their forms?**

ORPP&E, along with a field-based workgroup, has developed a core library of form and letter templates for each of the committee and subcommittee workspaces in IRBNet. However, IRBNet supports the ability for you to upload your own supplemental forms (such as if a particular form or template is required to support state or local regulations) via the Library Manager.

## **Does ORPP&E have guidance on how each of the smart form questions should be answered?**

ORPP&E designed the smart forms to be as straightforward as possible. In most cases, the researchers only have to answer simple "Yes" or "No" questions. After you transition to VAIRRS, ORPP&E will be reviewing feedback on the smart forms from the research community. If a question

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seems to be producing inconsistent answers or is causing confusion among your researchers, please let us know.

### **Will VAIRRS work with Internet Explorer, or must we use Chrome?**

IRBNet is compatible with all major browsers, including Internet Explorer, Chrome, Edge, and Firefox.

### **Does IRBNet link to TMS/CITI?**

Yes, IRBNet supports the integration of TMS and CITI so that records can be automatically created for users who link their IRBNet accounts to TMS or CITI. TMS Integration is not yet available.

### **Should the OGE Form 450 Alternative VA (Research Financial Conflict of Interest Statement) be submitted through IRBNet?**

No, the OGE 450 Alt VA should not be uploaded into IRBNet. ORPPE has requested that the researcher submit the OGE 450 Alt VA outside of IRBNet.