



[Veterans Health Administration Innovation Ecosystem](#) (VHA IE) is the catalyst for enabling the discovery and spread of mission-driven health care innovation to advance care delivery and service that exceeds expectations, restores hope, and builds trust within the Veteran community.

## The Challenge

- » Many technical, regulatory, and policy barriers exist that prevent efficient data sharing between Veterans Affairs Department (VA) and external platforms.
- » Because most solutions capable of handling the VA's patient data volume involve AI, the agency needed to understand the opportunities and challenges associated with leveraging external AI solutions.

## The Resource's Impact

- » The VA uses the [AI/ML micro-playbook](#), one of eight micro-playbooks in [The Playbook: Digital Healthcare Edition](#), to define the strategy to securely and efficiently evaluate, and eventually integrate, digital health solutions with new partners.
- » Using *The Playbook's* recommendations, the VA is preparing to partner with leaders to build AI-powered interfaces that can exchange data more seamlessly.
- » [Read more](#) about how the VA is testing integrations with digital health tools.

*With the VHA being the largest integrated health care system in the country, both the agency and private companies have a vested interest in testing AI and machine learning models against the VA's large volume of data. It is essential that the VA scales technologies with software partners in accordance with The Playbook's recommendations to be successful.*

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Sources: DiMe Analysis; [Nextgov](#)