



# VLERHIE

Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record  
Health Information Exchange

SECURE | EFFICIENT | EFFECTIVE

Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER) Health Information Exchange (HIE) is a secure network that shares your health information. For a number of years, the Military Health System (MHS) operated its own HIE. This HIE shared your health information electronically between providers at military hospitals, clinics and Veterans Administration facilities. In June 2016, the capability was expanded to our participating civilian network providers. With the VLER HIE, all your providers have met stringent security requirements and can access your records and health information electronically.

By participating in the HIE process, MHS health care providers can share medical information with authorized civilian sector health partners over a secure network known as the eHealth Exchange. The eHealth Exchange is a network of exchange partners who securely share clinical information across the United States. To see a list of participating organizations and exchanges, please visit [www.TRICARE.mil/vler](http://www.TRICARE.mil/vler) or ask the organizations where care is received if they are members of eHealth Exchange.

Through the eHealth Exchange, health care providers can immediately access and share your medical history, including:

- Prescriptions and medications
- Allergies
- Illnesses
- Laboratory and radiology results
- Immunizations
- Procedures
- Clinical Notes\*

\*To improve your care experience, health information may be shared as permitted by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) with other authorized organizations who partner with the MHS. To enhance coordination among care teams, this includes notes written by your clinicians, which could contain information about sexual assault, domestic violence, child/elder abuse, substance abuse, mental health, and sexually transmitted diseases.

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For readiness purposes, active duty members will not be permitted to opt out of sharing their health care information through the VLER HIE. Non-active duty beneficiaries will have the ability to decline sharing their health information with civilian network providers on the eHealth Exchange.

## VLER HIE Participation and Opt Out/In Choice

Non-active duty beneficiaries who do not wish to share their health care information and choose to opt out, may do so by visiting [www.TRICARE.mil/vler](http://www.TRICARE.mil/vler). By opting out, the health care team may not have immediate and complete access to important health information, even in the event of an emergency. If anyone chooses to opt out now, they can always choose to opt back in later.

## Data Sharing

Sharing information from a patient's health record helps providers have more complete information needed to make informed patient care decisions.

- VLER HIE provides the ability to securely share needed health data among approved health care providers. Authorized providers on a secure network will have access to relevant components of a virtual health record.
- VLER HIE supports the rapid exchange of patient information between federal and civilian health care providers that promotes patient safety, reduces procedure duplication, and improves health outcomes.

## Key Features

- **Real-time Data** - Enables providers to view, in real-time, important elements of a beneficiary's health history, including allergies, medications, laboratory/radiology results, immunizations, procedures, vital signs, and demographic information
- **Interoperability** - Ensures the secure, protected exchange of interoperable health data among authorized users
- **Security** - Fully complies with the most rigorous privacy and security standards

## Key Benefits

- Improves provider decision making abilities by ensuring patient information is available at the point of care
- Reduces the burden of active duty service members, veterans and their families to carry records between health care providers
- Minimizes the need and costs associated with the exchange of paper records with the Veterans Administration and other federal and civilian health care providers
- Enhances the delivery and effectiveness of care to active duty and non-active duty beneficiaries

For more information, please visit [www.TRICARE.mil/vler](http://www.TRICARE.mil/vler)