

## SCAN-ECHO

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*Implementation of the SCAN-ECHO knowledge networks will allow us to transform specialty care to a Veteran-centric system where the Veteran is the driver of healthcare delivery.*



Specialty Care Access Network-  
Extension of Community  
Healthcare Outcomes

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## VA ANN ARBOR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

### SCAN-ECHO

**VIDEO CLINICS OFFERED  
SEVERAL TIMES EACH MONTH**

**SEE CALENDAR FOR DETAILS**

[https://vaww.visn11.portal.va.gov/sites/  
Ann-Arbor/SCAN\\_ECHO/Lists/  
Calendar](https://vaww.visn11.portal.va.gov/sites/Ann-Arbor/SCAN_ECHO/Lists/Calendar)

## SCAN-ECHO

SCAN-ECHO, Specialty Care Access Network Extension of Community Healthcare Outcomes, is a specialty care transformative initiative from the Office of Specialty Care Services. This is an innovative healthcare program modeled on project ECHO, as developed by the University of New Mexico, which has been proven to effectively manage and treat chronic and complex diseases in rural and medically underserved areas.

The goals of SCAN-ECHO are:

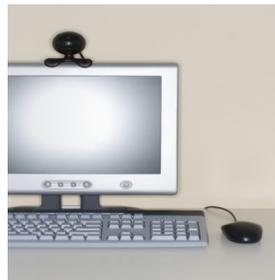
- 1) Leverage tele-health (clinical videoconferencing equipment) to allow specialists from tertiary medical centers to support providers in less complex or rural areas,
- 2) decrease fee basis costs and veteran travel,
- 3) improve access to specialty care,
- 4) improve veteran and provider satisfaction,
- 5) increase provider knowledge, competencies, and professional training hours.

### Benefits to the Primary Care Provider:

- No cost CME and Nursing CEU
- Professional interactions with colleagues with similar interests
- Improved communication with specialists and coordinated care for the patients
- A fun mix of work and learning
- Greater access to real time specialty consultation

## Method of SCAN-ECHO

The VA SCAN-ECHO video clinics/conferences utilize a model wholly different from traditional tele-medicine clinics, in which technology connects one patient to one specialist miles away. While this is useful, there is no increase in provider knowledge or education and no greater expertise in the remote sites. Rather than an interaction between a patient and the specialist, the SCAN-ECHO video clinics are conferences where many providers come together to present their own patients for discussion. In this "one-to-many" knowledge network, the specialty expertise is shared with several primary care providers at once. This is akin to grand rounds or a multi-disciplinary tumor board. The flow of information in this knowledge network is NOT unidirectional; the specialist and community based providers gain invaluable feedback and case-based experience through weekly consultations. Additionally, PCPs gain invaluable knowledge just by listening to other cases. Over time, primary care providers will acquire new knowledge and/or skills that they can then apply to the care of their patients. The support and real time consultation will allow for implementation of best practices. Community based primary care providers will become "champions" in the treatment of complex chronic diseases.

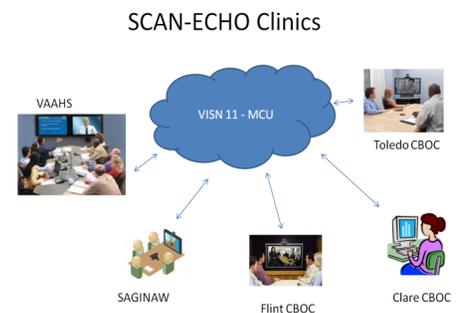


## Implementation of AA-SCAN-ECHO Clinics

SCAN-ECHO video clinics are available for a variety of chronic diseases (Liver, Nephrology, IBD and Cardiology). Patient cases are posted for discussion using the "AA-SCAN-ECHO" consult request. This can be a one time consultation or repeated consultation on the same patient.

During this 1 to 1.5 hour conference, patient cases are presented by the PCP and real time consultation occurs. This is supplemented by a 10 - 20 minute didactic session on topics relating to liver disease.

Additional SCAN-ECHO clinics on several chronic disease states including Endocrine, arthritis/gout, and pulmonary will be coming soon.



*Multi-site videoconferencing allows for the development of knowledge networks in chronic liver disease.*