



Defense Health Agency (DHA) Project Management Speaker Series

2026 JUN PMSS: DHA Project Management: Back to Basics

2026 JUN PMSS S01: Driving Impact with Project Management: Aligning Process and Value

Resource List

[Understanding Pathways from Implementation to Sustainment: A Longitudinal, Mixed Methods Analysis of Promising Practices Implemented in the Veterans Health Administration](#) (2024) examines how healthcare innovations within the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) are sustained over time after implementation. Successful project management in healthcare requires more than launching initiatives; leaders must also plan for long-term sustainability and organizational adoption. The study highlights implementation science frameworks, stakeholder engagement, leadership support, and performance measurement as key contributors to project success. Project managers and healthcare leaders can apply these findings to understand how project management phases such as planning, execution, and monitoring contribute to organizational value. The study also reinforces the importance of aligning project outcomes with strategic healthcare priorities rather than focusing only on deadlines or budgets. Overall, this study supports DHA-focused discussions about sustaining operational improvements across complex healthcare systems.

[Electronic Medical Record Implementation in a Large Healthcare System from a Leadership Perspective](#) (2022) examines the implementation of an electronic medical record (EMR) system within a large healthcare organization and identifies leadership engagement, stakeholder collaboration, communication, and strategic planning as critical factors for success. The study demonstrates how project management principles support complex healthcare initiatives from project initiation through implementation and evaluation. The findings emphasize a clear project vision, defined roles, and organizational alignment, which are essential components of a foundational project charter. The evidence suggests that project success should be assessed through user adoption, workflow, integration, organizational readiness, and achievement of strategic goals rather than focusing solely on schedule and budget performance. These findings reinforce the importance of value-driven project management practices in supporting healthcare transformation and organizational objectives.

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) article [Opinion Leaders: Effect on Healthcare Practice and Evidence Use](#) (2025) highlights how influential clinical leaders and Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) promote the adoption of evidence-based practices and support successful quality improvement (QI) initiatives. Opinion leaders play a critical role in supporting healthcare QI projects by influencing the adoption of evidence-based practices throughout the project management cycle. Their expertise and credibility help project teams align initiatives with value-driven principles, engage key stakeholders, and establish clear goals during project charter development. By promoting organizational buy-in and evidence-based decision-making, opinion leaders contribute to successful project implementation and sustainability. Their impact can also be evaluated through measures such as staff engagement, practice adoption, patient outcomes, and strategic alignment, providing a more comprehensive assessment of project health than schedule and budget metrics alone. Together, these principles underscore the importance of integrating evidence-based leadership and structured project management practices to advance the quality of health care.



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References

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