

# The WHI Virtual Data Enclave (VDE)

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# What is the VDE?

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- A secure computing platform housed at the CCC
- Provides access to sensitive data not available outside of the CCC
- Self-contained analysis environment with statistical software, data and documentation
- Accessed remotely over the internet using Remote Desktop Connection (PC or Mac)

# VDE - Data

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- Medicare (CMS)
- Address geocodes
- Dates (e.g. rand/enroll date, birth date)
- Latest WHI datasets from [whi.org](http://whi.org)
- Access to data is determined by an approved analysis
- User data can be imported

# VDE - Software

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- SAS
- Stata
- R
- Microsoft Office
- User code can be imported

# VDE – Working Environment

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- Connect over the internet using Remote Desktop Connection
- Windows desktop with shortcuts to software and data folders
- User folders are private and secure
- Pre-mapped access to the appropriate WHI data

# VDE – Security

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- The VDE does not allow:
  - Internet access
  - Copying files into or out of the VDE
  - Printing
  - Screen shots
- User files are backed up to a secure server.

# Transferring Files Out of the VDE

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- Files are reviewed by CCC staff for compliance with confidentiality restrictions and conformance with your study proposal.
- File content that is considered restricted is redacted prior to the release of the file.

# Requesting Access to the VDE

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- Approved Manuscript or ancillary study proposal
- Submit a VDE Intake Form
- Local IRB approval
- Sign a Data Use Agreement
- Base fee of \$3000
- More information is available at [whi.org](http://whi.org) in the Researchers/Data section



# VDE

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Questions?