

TRANSCRIPT: Accelerating Knowledge Through Partnerships

BETH FRAULO: My name's Beth Fraulo, and I'm currently the director of Health Services Research at DCRI. DCRI has a unique partnership with Verily; we complement each other extremely well. They have a Baseline data platform that provides methods and ways for collecting data. They have engineers that work with our teams. We're able to gather data directly from the participants. It's provided a rapid startup for a few of our projects that we've done during COVID. One example would be the HERO project. We were able to bring that project active within 2 weeks, and the teams came together and were truly devoted, meeting daily throughout the 2 weeks.

A part that's very unique about the partnership is, perhaps, the different people and their backgrounds that have come together. At the DCRI, many people are coming from health care backgrounds, and, perhaps at Verily, people are coming with engineering backgrounds, different communication backgrounds, definitely techie backgrounds—so it adds a new perspective and a way that we're both looking at research. And another part of the Verily/DCRI partnership is now we are working with Rob Califf at Verily and now Amy Abernethy, so it is an extension and people that we've worked with for years.

One of the key projects we're working on is called the Project Baseline Health Study, and that was started back in 2017. One unique part is thinking about return of results. I think, in the past, we've returned clinical results to participants, but we haven't returned, often, clinical research results... And understanding, then, what do they mean as we're returning some of the information that we've collected from the people over the past few years and comparing that with the people who have submitted the information, and then, what does it mean when I'm returning the result about you.

Partnerships are our way of the future, I would say, just because having different minds coming together...We're just stronger together; that we'll complement each other going forward.