

benefits to, or on behalf of, children of female Vietnam veterans born with certain birth defects. Pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 1815(d), birth defects rates are subject to adjustment under the provisions of 38 U.S.C. 5312, which provides for the adjustment of certain VA benefit rates whenever there is an increase in benefit amounts payable under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 *et seq.*). Effective December 1, 2003, birth defects monthly rates are as follows:

Level I: \$108
 Level II: \$237
 Level III: \$821
 Level IV: \$1,402

Dated: March 26, 2004.

Anthony J. Principi,

Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 04-7822 Filed 4-6-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Office of Research and Development; Government Owned Invention Available for Licensing

AGENCY: Office of Research and Development, VA.

ACTION: Notice of Government-owned invention available for licensing.

SUMMARY: The invention listed below is owned by the U.S. Government as represented by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and is available for licensing in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 207 and 37 CFR part 404 to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of federally funded research and development. Foreign patents are filed on selected inventions to extend market coverage for U.S. companies and may also be available for licensing.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Technical and licensing information on the invention may be obtained by writing to: Robert W. Potts, Department of Veterans Affairs, Director Technology Transfer Program, Office of Research and Development (12TT), 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420; fax: 202-254-0473; e-mail at bob.potts@hq.med.va.gov. Any request for information should include the Number and Title for the relevant invention as indicated below. Issued patents may be obtained from the Commissioner of Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The invention available for licensing is: International Patent Application No.

PCT/US02/37988 "Use of Gingko Biloba Extracts to Promote Neuroprotection and Reduce Weight Loss".

Dated: March 30, 2004.

Anthony J. Principi,

Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 04-7820 Filed 4-6-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

ACTION: Notice of amendment to system of records.

SUMMARY: As required by the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a(e), notice is hereby given that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending the system of records currently entitled "Patient Medical Records-VA" (24VA136) as set forth in the **Federal Register** 56 FR 6048. VA is amending the system by revising the System Number, the System Location, Categories of Records in the System, Routine Uses of Records Maintained in the System, Including Categories of Users and the Purposes of Such Uses, Policies and Practices for Storing, Retrieving, Accessing, Retaining, and Disposing of Records in the System, and System Manager(s) and Address. VA is republishing the system notice in its entirety.

DATES: Comments on the amendment of this system of records must be received no later than May 7, 2004. If no public comment is received, the amended system will become effective May 7, 2004.

ADDRESSES: You may mail or hand-deliver written comments concerning the proposed amended system of records to the Director, Regulations Management (00REG1), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420; or fax comments to (202) 273-9026; or e-mail comments to "OGCRegulations@mail.va.gov". All relevant material received before May 7, 2004 will be considered. Comments will be available for public inspection at the above address in the Office of Regulations Management, Room 1063B, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Privacy Act Officer, Department of

Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420; telephone (727) 320-1839.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The System number is changed from 24VA136 to 24VA19 to reflect the current organizational alignment.

The System Location is amended to reflect current organization structure with Veterans Integrated Service Network Offices having replaced Regional Director Offices. The System Location is also amended to reflect the transition from maintaining paper medical records to computerized medical records. This includes computerized medical record data stored in the VA Health Data Repository (HDR). The HDR is defined as a repository of clinical information normally residing on one or more independent platforms for use by clinicians and other personnel in support of longitudinal patient-centric care. Data will be organized in a format that supports the clinical decision-making process requisite to patient care, independent of the physical location of that patient information. The key objective of the HDR project is the ability to create a composite, portable, legal medical record that will enable providers to obtain integrated data views (computable views) and acquire the patient-specific clinical information needed to support treatment decisions. Initially, data from existing Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) systems will be used to populate the HDR. Thus, current VistA files (and the service processes using the files) will continue to be used. As VistA files and processes are replaced by commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) applications, data will be mapped from these new locations. The HDR functionality will include notifications, clinical reminders, decision support, and alerts. The HDR will be located at the VA National Data Centers. Addresses of VA facilities are removed from the System Location and can be found in Appendix 1 of the biennial publication of the VA Privacy Act Issuances.

Categories of Records in the System are amended to remove specific titles of VA databases, as these are included in the VA National Database system of records. As of August 1992, paper perpetual medical records, which included the applications(s) for medical benefits, hospital summary(ies), operation report(s), and tissue examinations(s) for all episodes of care, and if applicable, autopsy reports and certain Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts related records, are no