

Type of Review: Existing collection in use without an OMB Control Number.

Abstract: VA Form 21-0844 is used to process a claim within 90 days after receipt by a claimant or their representative. Claimants or their representative are required to sign and date the certification, certifying as of the signed date, no additional information or evidence is available or needs to be submitted in order to adjudicate the claim.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on November 17, 2009, at page 59349.

Affected Public: Individuals and Households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 132 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per

Respondent: 5 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On Occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,584.

Dated: January 21, 2010.

By direction of the Secretary.

Denise McLamb,

Program Analyst, Enterprise Records Service.

[FR Doc. 2010-1506 Filed 1-26-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Health Services Research and Development Service Merit Review Board; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that a meeting of the Health Services Research and Development Service Merit Review Board will be held March 2-4, 2010, at the Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore, 2225 North Lois Avenue, Tampa, FL. Various subcommittees of the Board will meet. Each subcommittee meeting of the Merit Review Board will be open to the public the first day for approximately one half-hour from 8 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. to cover administrative matters and to discuss the general status of the program. The remaining portion of the meetings will be closed. The closed portion of each meeting will involve discussion, examination, reference to, and oral review of the research proposals and critiques.

The purpose of the Board is to review research and development applications involving the measurement and evaluation of health care services, the

testing of new methods of health care delivery and management, and nursing research. Applications are reviewed for scientific and technical merit. Recommendations regarding funding are submitted to the Chief Research and Development Officer.

On March 2, the subcommittee on Nursing Research Initiative will convene from 8 a.m. to 12 noon and Career Development will convene from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. On March 3, Career Development will reconvene from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and five subcommittees on Health Services Research (A, D, E, and G [B/C]) will convene from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. On March 4, the subcommittee for pilot proposal review (F) will convene from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

After the subcommittees meet, there will be a debriefing provided to members of the Health Services Research & Development Scientific Merit Review Board. The purposes of the debriefing are to discuss the outcomes of the review sessions and to ensure the integrity and consistency of the review process.

During the closed portion of each meeting, discussion and recommendations will include qualifications of the personnel conducting the studies (the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), as well as research information (the premature disclosure of which would likely compromise significantly the implementation of proposed agency action regarding such research projects). As provided by subsection 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, as amended by Public Law 94-409, closing portions of each meeting is in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B).

Those who plan to attend the open session should contact Mrs. Kristy Benton-Grover, Scientific Merit Review Program Manager (124R), Health Services Research and Development Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, or e-mail at Kristy.benton-grover@va.gov, at least five days before the meeting. For further information, please call (202) 461-1521.

Dated: January 21, 2010.

By Direction of the Secretary.

Vivian Drake,

Acting Committee Management Officer.

Scientific Merit Review Board

Health Services Research and Development Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore, 2225 North Lois Avenue, Tampa, FL 33607-2355, Tel: 1-813-877-6688, Fax: 1-813-879-3264.

Agenda

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

7:30 a.m.–8 a.m. Check-in
8 a.m.–12 p.m. Nursing Research Initiative (NRI) Review
8 a.m.–5 p.m. Career Development Award (CDA) Review
4:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m. Director and Chair Meeting
5:30 p.m.–6 p.m. Coffee Reception
6 p.m.–7 p.m. Director's Opening Session

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Meetings conducted simultaneously.
8 a.m.–1 p.m. Career Development Award (CDA) Review continued
8 a.m.–5 p.m. Health Services Research A, D, E, G (B/C)

Thursday, March 4, 2010

8 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Health Services Research F–Pilots

[FR Doc. 2010-1504 Filed 1-26-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans will be held February 24–26, 2010, in the Lafayette Park Room at the Hamilton Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1001 14th Street, NW., Washington, DC. On February 24 and 25, the meeting will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. On February 26, the meeting will be held from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the Committee is to provide the Secretary of Veterans Affairs with an on-going assessment of the effectiveness of the policies, organizational structures, and services of the Department in assisting homeless Veterans. The Committee shall assemble and review information relating to the needs of homeless Veterans and provide on-going advice on the most appropriate means of providing assistance to homeless Veterans. The Committee will make recommendations to the Secretary regarding such activities.

The agenda will include briefings from VA and other officials regarding services for homeless Veterans. The Committee will also discuss final preparation of its upcoming annual report and recommendations to the Secretary.

Those wishing to attend the meeting should contact Mr. Pete Dougherty, Designated Federal Officer, at (202) 461-7401 or at mary.rooney@va.gov. No time will be allocated for receiving oral presentations from the public. However, the Committee will accept written comments from interested parties on issues affecting homeless Veterans. Such comments should be referred to the Committee at the following address: Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans, Homeless Veterans Programs Office (075D), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420.

Dated: January 21, 2010.

By Direction of the Secretary.

Vivian Drake,

Acting Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2010-1510 Filed 1-26-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Privacy Act of 1974

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

ACTION: Notice of Amendment to System of Records.

SUMMARY: The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552(e) (4)) requires that all agencies publish in the **Federal Register** a notice of the existence and character of their systems of records. Notice is hereby given that VA is amending the system of records currently entitled "Decentralized Hospital Computer Program (DHCP) Medical Management Records-VA" (79VA162) as set forth in the **Federal Register** 56 FR 6048. VA is amending the system by revising the System Name and number and the paragraphs for System Location, Categories of Records in the System, Authority for Maintenance of the System, Routine Uses of Records Maintained in the System, and System Manager. The change in name will more accurately identify the system and the change in number will reflect organizational changes. 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 February 26, 2010. If no public comment is received, the new system will become effective February 26, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be submitted through <http://www.Regulations.gov>; by mail or hand-delivery to Director, Regulations

Management (02Reg), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Room 1068, Washington, DC 20420; or by fax to (202) 273-9026. Comments received will be available for public inspection in the Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Room 1063B, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays). Please call (202) 461-4902 (this is not a toll-free number) for an appointment. In addition, during the comment period, comments may be viewed online through the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at <http://www.Regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Privacy Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, telephone (704) 245-2492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The name and number of the system is changed from "Decentralized Hospital Computer Program (DHCP) Medical Management Records-VA" (79VA162) to the "Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) Records-VA" (79VA19). The change in name will more accurately reflect the new, open systems, client-server based architecture, and the change in system number will reflect organizational changes. The System Location was amended to reflect the current organization structure with Veterans Integrated Service Network Offices having replaced Regional Director Offices. Categories of Records in the System were amended to add five new types of records maintained in VistA. The Authority for Maintenance of the System was amended to reflect current codification of the statute. The System Manager was amended to reflect organization changes.

Background: In the 1980s, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) developed an electronic health care architecture called the Decentralized Hospital Computer Program (DHCP) that was comprised of software applications that were integrated into a complete hospital information system primarily for hospital-based activities. DHCP was installed at VA medical facilities to provide comprehensive support for clinical and administrative needs and for VA-wide management information. By 1990, VHA upgraded computer capacity at all medical facilities, and implemented software on a national scale that supported integrated health care delivery. In 1996, VHA introduced the VistA, a client-server architecture that tied together workstations and

personal computers and supported the day-to-day operations at all health care facilities, as well as software developed by local medical facility staff. VistA also includes the links that allow commercial off-the-shelf software and products to be used with existing and future technologies.

The purpose of the system of records is to provide a repository for the administrative information that is used to accomplish the purposes described. The records include information provided by applicants for employment, employees, volunteers, trainees, contractors and subcontractors, consultants, maintenance personnel, students, patients, and information obtained in the course of routine work done. Quality assurance information that is protected by 38 U.S.C. 5705 and 38 CFR 17.500-17.511 is not within the scope of the Privacy Act and, therefore, is not included in this system of records or filed in a manner in which the information may be retrieved by reference to an individual identifier.

Data stored in VistA is used to prepare various management, tracking and follow-up reports that are used to assist in the management and operation of the health care facility, and the planning and delivery of patient medical care. Data may be used to track and evaluate patient care services, the distribution and utilization of resources, and the performance of vendors and employees. The data may also be used for such purposes as scheduling employees' tours of duty and for scheduling patient treatment services, including nursing care, clinic appointments, survey, diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. Data may also be used to track the ordering, delivery, maintenance and repair of equipment, and for follow-up activities to determine if the actions were accomplished and to evaluate the results.

Routine use disclosures have been added, as described below, to enable efficient administration and operation of health care facilities, and to assist in the planning and delivery of patient medical care:

- Routine use twenty-three (23) states the social security number, universal personal identification number and other identifying information of a health care provider may be disclosed to a third party where the third party requires the agency to provide that information before it will pay for medical care provided by VA. VA, under Public Law 99-272, is required to recover costs for medical services in certain circumstances provided to the veteran from the veteran's third party insurance carrier. Third party insurance