DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Advisory Committee on Prosthetics and Special-Disabilities Programs; 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 Prosthetics and Special-Disabilities Programs will be held on November 9–10, 2010, in room 730, at VA Central Office, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. The sessions will convene at 8:30 a.m. on both days, and will adjourn at 4:30 p.m. on November 9 and at 12 noon on November 10. The meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on VA’s prosthetics programs designed to provide state-of-the-art prosthetics and the associated rehabilitation research, development, and evaluation of such technology. The Committee also provides advice to the Secretary on special disabilities programs which are defined as any program administered by the Secretary to serve Veterans with spinal cord injuries, blindness or visual impairments, loss of extremities or loss of function, deafness or hearing impairment, and other serious incapacities in terms of daily life functions.

On November 9, the Committee will be briefed by the Director of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation; Chief Consultant for Women Veterans Strategic Healthcare Group; Director of Optometry Service; and Chief Consultant for Dental Services. On November 10, the Committee will be briefed by the Chief Consultant for Prosthetics and Sensory Aids Service.

No time will be allocated for receiving oral presentations from the public. However, members of the public may direct questions or submit written statements for review by the Committee in advance of the meeting to Mr. Larry N. Long, Designated Federal Officer, Veterans Health Administration, Patient Care Services, Rehabilitation Services (117D), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, or by e-mail at lonlar@va.gov. Any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting should contact Mr. Long at (202) 461–7354.

Dated: October 17, 2010.

By Direction of the Secretary,
Vivian Drake,
Acting Committee Management Officer.

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

ACTION: Notice of Establishment of New 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 the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is establishing a new system of records entitled “Suicide Prevention Database-VA” (158VA111).

DATES: Comments on this new system of records must be received no later than November 22, 2010. If no public comment is received, the new system will become effective November 22, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Written comments concerning the proposed amended system of records may be submitted by: mail or hand-delivery to Director, Regulations Management (02REG), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Room 1068, Washington, DC 20420; fax to (202) 273–9026; or e-mail to http://www.Regulations.gov. All 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet Kemp RN, Ph.D., Department of Veterans Affairs, 400 Fort Hill Avenue, Canandaigua, NY 14424; telephone (585) 393–7939.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Description of Proposed Systems of Records

The Suicide Prevention Database will serve two purposes. First, the database will store records associated with the National Suicide Hotline call logs via the National Suicide Hotline Web Application Program. The National Suicide Hotline Web Application Program is an electronic call log database that stores information from a Hotline call. In addition to the ability to retrieve and view information obtained from the calls the Web Interface program performs the following functions:

1. The system accepts Hotline calls and stores them according to the following:
   a. Anonymous persons with incomplete identification information;
   b. All Veterans, including Veterans who are not registered in the VA health care system (non-VA);
   c. From family and friends of the affected Veteran:
      • In this case, the system shall indicate that the call was not made from the affected Veteran.

2. The system provides a mechanism for Hotline staff to identify the VA Medical Center closest to the caller’s physical location;

3. The system provides a means for recording Hotline referrals in the Veteran’s electronic medical record when the referral is made to a VA Medical Center for follow-up care;

4. The system provides a means for Suicide Prevention Coordinators to document their follow-up measures;

5. The system provides access to call log data for reporting purposes. The data will be used to provide information related to the number of calls, caller’s demographic information, the types of calls, and follow-up care.

   In addition to the National Suicide Hotline call logs via the National Suicide Hotline Web Application Program, the “Suicide Prevention Database-VA” will maintain Suicide Attempts and Completions information. This information is documented using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). Information collected in SPSS includes attempt or completion, military conflict, VA enrolled, gender, age, mental health diagnosis, medical diagnosis, previous attempts, month of event, method used, outcome, intent, seen at a VA within 7 days of attempt, seen at VA within 30 days of attempt, where seen, had suicide been addressed, and last recorded pain score. The data will be used to generate national reports. In addition, the information obtained will be used to develop further VA educational programs and research opportunities surrounding suicide prevention.

II. Proposed Routine Use Disclosures of Data in the System

We are proposing to establish the following Routine Use disclosures of information maintained in the system:

1. The record of an individual who is covered by a system of records may be