



2017 GME States Initiatives Summit How Partnership with VHA can enhance your GME programs

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October, 2016



Objectives

- 1) Discuss the size and scope of the VA healthcare system and how it interfaces with trainees.
- 2) Understand VACAA funding with regard to Choice funded medical care and the new residency positions (emphasizing primary care, mental health and “critical needs” specialties)
- 3) Review special initiatives including PACT, PCMH, same day mental health access creating "no wrong door" to diagnosis and treatment.
- 4) Understand partnership opportunities for interdisciplinary training.

70 Year History of Academic Affiliations

VA Policy
Memorandum
 January 1946
 Began VA's visionary
 association with
 American medical
 schools

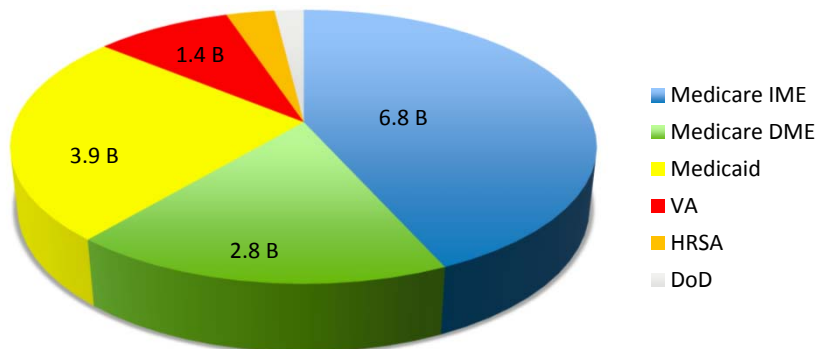


General Omar Bradley
 VA Administrator
 1945-1947

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2012 GME Spending by Federal Sources

> \$15 Billion GME Spending Annually



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Veterans Healthcare Administration

- Largest integrated healthcare system in the USA serving more than 8.9 million Veterans each year.
- Care provided at 168 Medical Centers and 1053 other outpatient sites of care in 50 states, Puerto Rico, and Guam.
- The VA healthcare system has a budget of about \$59 billion/year spends \$900 million for trainee stipends (second largest to CMS Center for Medicare/Medicaid Services), and \$630 million on research.
- The VA employs more than 305,000 healthcare professionals and participates in training more than 123,000 health professionals. Between 60%-70% of physicians receive some training at through VHA.

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Medical Education Scope

- OAA GME support:
 - 10,500 positions
 - Over 40,000 individual residents
- 22,000 medical students receive clinical training in VA each year
- All but 3 program groups sponsored outside of VA (through Affiliation Agreements)

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Scope of Affiliations (AY2014-15)

- 135 of 141 allopathic medical schools
- 36 of 40 osteopathic medical school sites
- 40+ health professions
 - 1,800+ colleges and universities
 - 7,200+ program agreements

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Training Portfolio – FY2009-15

Years	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Advanced Fellows	175	239	288	297	253	311	387
Associated Health	23,483	23,871	24,608	25,122	26,121	26,454	26,135
Dental Residents & Students	1,280	1,267	1,231	1,195	1,397	1,398	986
Physician Residents	36,410	36,745	36,816	37,809	40,420	41,697	43,013
Medical Students	20,245	20,516	21,502	20,218	21,541	23,031	24,283
Nursing Trainees	33,092	32,662	32,349	32,859	29,067	28,086	28,389
Non-Health Profession	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	368	359
Grand Total	114,685	115,300	116,794	117,500	118,799	121,345	123,552

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Veterans Access Choice and Accountability Act -2014

- Goal was to reduce wait times and improved access to care for Veterans.
- Included funding for 1,500 additional trainees in primary care, mental health, and “critical needs” specialties. (to increase academic footprint).
- Provided new method for Veterans living more than 40 miles from VA facility, those waiting >30 days for an appointment, and those requiring services not available in the VA to get treatment in the community.

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Funding Priorities in VACAA

Facility Characteristics

- A shortage of physicians
- No prior GME
- Areas with a “high concentration of Veterans”
- Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) as defined by HRSA

Program Characteristics

- Primary Care
- Mental Health
- Other specialties “the Secretary deems appropriate” (interpreted as those specialties having excessive wait times for care)

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Veterans Access, Choice, & Accountability Act (VACAA)

- Provision to expand VA GME by “up to 1,500 positions” over 5 years beginning 2015
- Round 1: 204.2 (residents started 7/15)
- Round 2: 168 (residents started 7/16)
- Round 3: 175.2 (will start 7/17)
- Current Totals: 547.4 new positions, with 2/3 in Primary Care and Mental Health

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VA Opportunity?

- VACAA GME authority can be used as leverage to assist with US physician maldistribution and sub-specialty predominance
- Working with community partners, VA GME expansion can greatly impact smaller communities and smaller VAMCs by
 - Increasing the local VA and community workforce pipeline
 - Over 60% of GME participants stay within 100 miles of their training location post-residency

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VACAA Sources of Funding

- ✓ Direct GME Payments
- ✓ Planning Grants
- ✓ Infrastructure Grants

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Special Care Initiatives

- Patient Aligned Care Teams (PACT)- model of treating patients using the multidisciplinary (interprofessional) team approach.
- Primary Care/Mental Health Integration (PCMHI) – brings psychiatric and psychological expertise to the primary care team. “no wrong door” for mental health/substance abuse treatment.
- Same day access now available for urgent mental health and medical care.

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VA Research Funding

- FY 17 Budget is \$673,366,000
- ORD funds approximately 2,200 intramural research projects, including individual investigator awards, large clinical trials, research centers, and career development awards at any one time.
- Approximately 20% of applicants are successful in any given funding round.
- Approximately 60% of investigators are clinicians.
- Program depends on close ties to academic affiliates.

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VA Researchers: Bridging VA and Academic Affiliates



Double the benefits, opportunities and challenges between two institutions:

Salary support, Time/effort
Regulatory requirements

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Special Thanks to:



Defining
EXCELLENCE
in the 21st Century

- Robert Jesse MD, PhD –Chief Academic Affiliations Officer
- Karen Sanders MD – Deputy Chief Academic Affiliations Officer
- Kathleen Klink MD, FAAFP – Chief Health Professions Education
- Edward Bope MD, FAAFP- Acting Chief Medical and Dental Education
- Christopher Pelic, MD- Clinical Director, Medical and Dental Education
- Stuart Gilman MD, MPH – Director, Advanced Fellowships/Professional Development
- Jeff Cully PhD – Clinical Director, Advanced Fellowships / Professional Development

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