

ORD Field Conference Call Notes

Monday, April 18, 2011

1. **Welcome** – Joel Kupersmith, M.D.

2. **Research Week Update** – Suzana Iveljic and Christine Amereihn
 - 1) Congratulations and Thank You to those VAMCs that have presenters attending Central Office Events.
 - 2) Registration ends on 4/29/11 at www.research.va.gov.
 - 3) PAO Resources will be posted on 4/27/11.
 - 4) Nearly 35 VAMC Research offices have replied to date regarding their planned activities for 2011 research week.
 - 5) RW Posters were sent out Wednesday
 - 6) 2011 *VA Research Today* magazine sent out on Wednesday
 - 7) 3rd Shipment/Box to be sent next week, includes:
 - 2011 Research Week Declaration
 - The new Tier 2 Brochure titled: '*VA –Academic Research Collaboration*'
 - Updated 2011 *Personalized Medicine* brochure
 - Updated 2011 *Genomics* brochure
 - Updated *VA Research Advances*
 - 8) 4th Shipment to arrive by 4/29 – Box of New *VA Research and Academic Affiliates* DVDs

For additional information and artwork, please see VA R&D Sharepoint site at:

<https://vaww.ord.portal.va.gov/sites/comm/ResearchWeek>

3. **Service Updates:**

- **HSR&D Update** – Dr. Andrew Guccione

SMRB funding for March 2011 Review:

Funding for the recent March SMRB Review is as follows:

17 IIRs will be funded out of the 111 reviewed; 7 Pilots will be funded out of the 64 Pilots reviewed; and 8 CDAs will be funded out of the 34 CDAs reviewed.

Summer 2011 HSR&D Merit Review Program:

The ITS for the summer 2011 HSR&D merit review program opened on Monday, April 4, 2011. HSR&D requires that Intent to Submit (ITS) information be provided for any application that is going to be submitted for the June 15th Merit Review verification deadline. Intent to Submit (ITS) information, including the proposal abstract, must be submitted electronically **by 8:00 pm Eastern Time on Monday, May 2, 2011** (as May 1 falls on a Sunday) using the form at HSR&D's [ART Website](#). Proposals which have not completed the ITS will not be reviewed.

Submission of Proposals for the June 15 Merit Review Verification Deadline:

HSR&D has posted 8 Request for Applications (RFAs) for the June 15 verification deadline. The [RFAs](#) can be accessed at <http://vaww.research.va.gov/funding/rfa.cfm>. Please remember that the **Pilot Project Program has been suspended** until further notice and therefore new or resubmissions of pilot projects will not be accepted. As always, early submission is strongly advised. The first day to submit a Merit Review application to Grants.gov is **May 15**. The verification deadline for applications submitted in the eRA system is June 15th. In order to meet the verification deadline and have time to correct any problems, applications should be submitted and accepted in Grants.gov on **or before 6:00 p.m. on June 8th**. If you are absolutely sure that a proposal will not have errors or warnings, the last possible date for submission in Grants.gov is **on or before 6:00 p.m. on June 10th**. All proposals should be proofread carefully prior to submission. Late applications will not be reviewed.

CREATE RFA Released:

On Friday, April 8th HSR&D released an RFA for the new Collaborative Research to Enhance and Advance Transformation and Excellence (CREATE) funding program. **CREATE** is a new funding mechanism within the Health Services Research and Development Service (HSR&D).

As its title suggests, the purpose of CREATE is to expand collaboration and coordination of research across VHA and to strengthen partnerships between researchers and health system stakeholders. As a result, CREATE will produce research that is aligned with needs of the organization, advance knowledge more rapidly, and produce results that can be readily taken up and used to improve the health of Veterans. Each VA Medical Center with a currently funded HSR&D REAP or COE may submit one Letter of Intent. Letters of intent are due June 1st.

Evidence Synthesis Program Reports:

Two new ESP reports have recently been released and are posted to the HSR&D web site. They are (a) Non-pharmacological Interventions for Behavioral Symptoms of Dementia and, (b) A Critical Review of the Literature Regarding Homelessness among Veterans.

- **RR&D** – Dr. Patricia Dorn

RR&D will be accepting late LOIs through May 23, 2011 for resubmissions of applications reviewed in February/March 2011. This only applies to resubmissions.

JRRD recently released issue 48(3) features a single-topic section titled “Research Consensus and Current Studies on Evidence-Based Wound Care Practice” edited by Dr. Kath Bogie. Please look for it. The section is marked by gray margins so can easily be distinguished from the articles. JRRD is available on-line at <http://www.rehab.research.va.gov/jour/jourindx.html>

- **BLR&D / CSR&D** – Dr. LeRoyFrey

The Spring 2011 review cycle for Biomedical Laboratory and Clinical Science R&D Services is underway. For Spring 2011, we are reviewing 503 Merit Review proposals, 7 Pilot Project proposals, 79 Career Development CDA-2 proposals, and 29 Program Project proposals. Each of the proposals will be reviewed in 1 of 22 Panels scheduled to meet between May 25th and June 15, 2011.

- **PRIDE** – Dr. Lynn Cates

The 2011 Local Accountability for Research Meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 1-2, 2011 in the Baltimore or Washington, DC area. We are waiting for EES to contract with a hotel before we can proceed with registration and details on logistics. We are hoping to be able to send out more information this Wednesday, April 20. This meeting will be for up to six representatives from each VA that has a Federalwide Assurance to perform human research. The six representatives will be the ACOS/R&D, AO/R&D, IRB Administrator, ISO, Privacy Officer, and Research Compliance Officer. ORO will pay for travel for RCOs, and ORD will pay for travel for other meeting participants.

ORD is working with ORO, the VHA Privacy Office, and OI&T on the agenda. The theme of the meeting is human research protection with a special emphasis on privacy, confidentiality, and information security issues. The first day of the meeting, and the first two hours of the second day will be general plenary sessions for everyone. These sessions will include interactive cases for the audience to work on with your local team. The second day of the meeting after about 10 a.m. will be devoted to breakout groups for ACOS, AO, IRB Administrators, ISOs, Privacy Officers, and RCOs to meet in their own groups respectively.

Please note: We are strictly limited by the Deputy Secretary to 620 “on VA travel.” We have had some requests from VA facilities that would like to send more than 6 people at the expense of the local facility. This is not possible because the 620 includes everyone on VA travel, no matter which VA office provides the funds.

If you have a large research program with a Deputy ACOS, more than one RCO, ISO, etc. you are welcome to request an additional person come to the meeting. Please provide justification and we will put that person on a waiting list and accommodate him/her if we can.

Please hold your questions until after we have a meeting hotel and we have sent out registration information for the meeting. That information should answer most of your questions.