

Department of
Veterans Affairs

Memorandum

Date: February 18, 2020

From: Chief Research and Development Officer (10X2)

Subj: **National VA Research Week, May 11 – 15, 2020**

To: Associate Chiefs of Staff for Research and Development
Administrative Officers for Research and Development
Research Week Coordinators

1. It is my pleasure to announce the 2020 Research Week theme: **Empowering Veterans Through Research**. It will be observed May 11-15 and will mark VA Research's 95th anniversary. I am excited that we can celebrate advances and milestones achieved through the decades, resulting in the improvement of so many Veterans' lives. I look forward to joining medical centers and research team members to showcase some of VA's extraordinary research achievements, innovations, and dynamic collaborations with university affiliates, nonprofit organizations, and federal and non-federal partners.

2. To support your activities this year, I would love to hear about your 2020 Research Week plans as soon as possible. Requests for an ORD guest speaker can be sent along with your plans to erica.sprey@va.gov. Please use the *VAMC Summary of Plans* form available on the VA Research Week website at www.research.va.gov/researchweek. Make sure you include a tentative agenda, place, date, and time with the invite request and submit it NLT March 13, 2020.

3. Resources to support your activities can be found on the above-mentioned website as well, such as the VA Research & Development logo, the 95th R&D logo, graphics, activity ideas, event guidelines, and news release/media templates. In addition, the 2020 Research Week poster and proclamation will be mailed to each research office by the end of March.

4. When planning research-related activities, please remember to include your local VA public affairs officers so that national VA Research Week awareness efforts can be maximized. Positive VA research stories from your extraordinary efforts continue to help raise awareness of our program in a variety of news outlets and social media forums.

5. It is truly a pleasure to see the many advances resulting from your VA research endeavors. The improvements in health and quality of life that you help bring about for Veterans and their families are meaningful and noteworthy. Your dedication and creative efforts are always appreciated, and I look forward to hearing about your plans soon.



Rachel Ramoni, DMD, ScD

cc: VA Public Affairs Offices