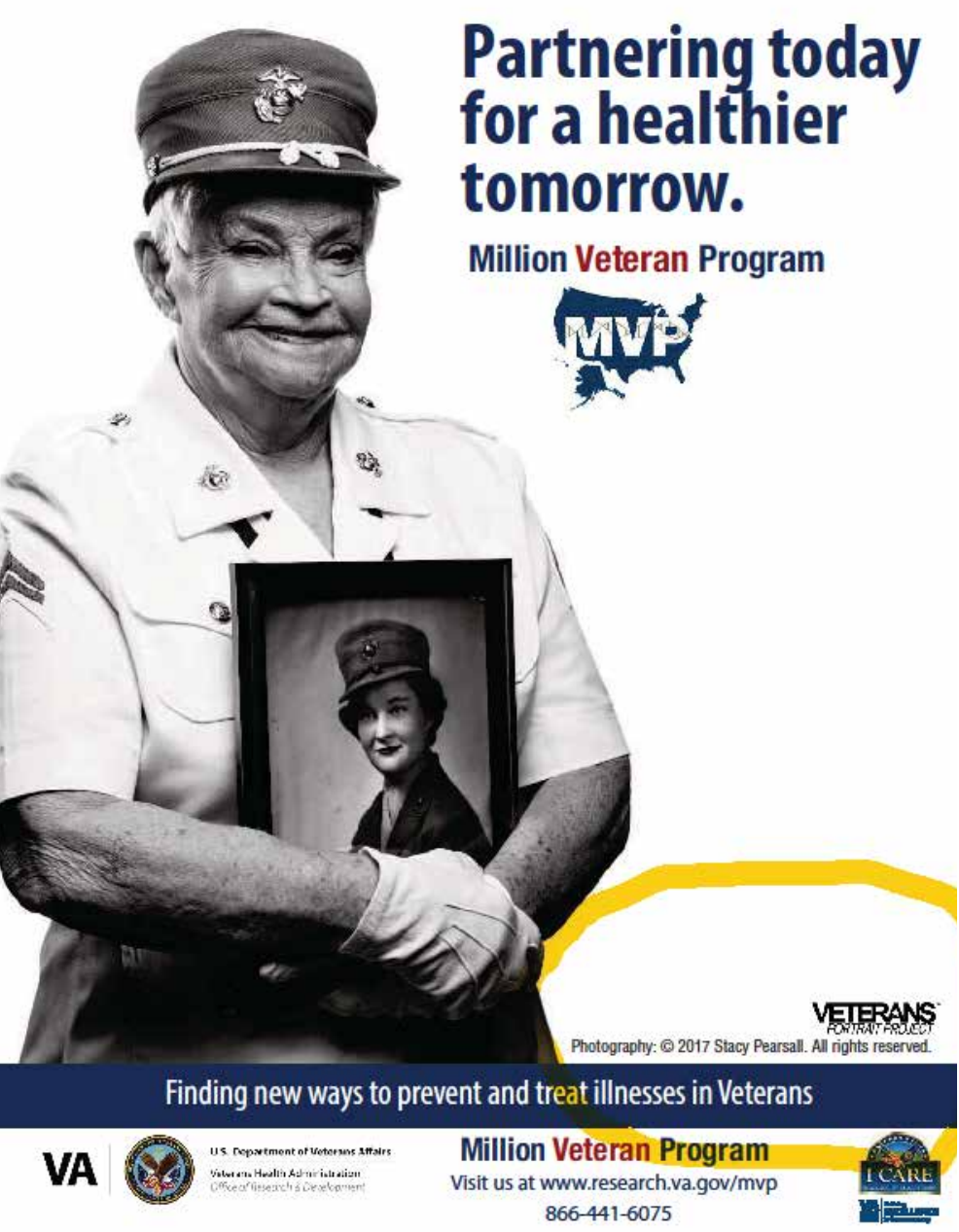


VA Research Highlight

Advances in VA Women Veterans' Health Research



VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System

Why this research is important:

Women Veterans continue to be the fastest-growing segment of new VA users, and they are changing the face of VA care.

This trend has challenged VA to provide gender-specific services, train providers with historically limited exposure to female patients, and address gender differences in quality and patient experience.

VA research historically has focused on men, and thus there is a limited evidence base for improving women Veterans' care.

Summary:

VA developed a national VA women's health research agenda and funded the VA Women's Health Research Network to foster research aimed at improving women Veterans' health and health care. VA women's health research base has grown substantially in size and diversity as a result.

How the research will improve Veterans' lives:

- Increased inclusion of women Veterans in VA research (Million Veteran Program, VA clinical trials, etc.).
- Increased emphasis on high-priority topics (e.g., access, suicide prevention, mental health, community care)
- Increased engagement of women Veterans in research priorities, design, dissemination
- Increased reporting of research on women Veterans health and health care needs
- Increased implementation of evidence-based practice and policy VA-wide



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Veterans Health Administration
Office of Research & Development