INVENT
Develop a new technology or solution to a problem.

DISCLOSE
Submit an Invention Disclosure and VA Certification Form to TTP.

EVALUATE
TTP works with the inventors to determine ownership and performs commercial viability and patentability assessments.

APPLY
Real-world application of your invention by bringing it into the marketplace through licensing or cooperative research projects.

DEPLOY YOUR IDEA

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www.research.va.gov/programs/tech_transfer/

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To accomplish our mission, TTP provides:

**Intellectual Property Protection**
TTP works with inventors and outside patent counsel to secure IP protection for VA-owned and jointly-owned inventions in the U.S. and abroad.

**Marketing**
TTP actively markets VA-owned technologies through targeted and passive marketing to ensure timely commercial development and introduction into the marketplace. TTP coordinates and offers centralized marketing support for all VA-owned inventions as well as jointly-owned inventions where VA leads in commercialization.

**Licensing**
TTP negotiates licenses on behalf of VA inventors to establish terms of use and royalties.

**Royalties**
TTP distributes royalty income from any active licenses to inventors and their local VAMC in accordance with federal law and TTP policy.

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**WHO**
Federal law requires that all VA employees (including WOC and IPA appointees and Dual-Appointed Personnel) report their inventions to TTP. Even if your invention was not made during official working hours or with no VA contribution, you must disclose your inventions to the VA.

**WHAT**
Any invention, whether or not you believe that it is patentable, must be disclosed. Sometimes, it can be hard to determine if what you have created or discovered actually constitutes a reportable invention. Don’t worry about this; we want you to report your invention to us. Big or small, disclose them all!

**WHEN**
Disclose as soon as possible, but before making any public disclosure of the invention. This includes lectures, poster presentations, all publications, public use, sales and offers for sale. If you need to discuss your invention or share materials with a potential collaborator, please ensure that you utilize a VA-approved Non-Disclosure Agreement.

**WHERE**
The VA Invention Disclosure and Certification Form can be found at:
www.research.va.gov/programs/tech_transfer/forms_templates.cfm

**WHY**
VA employees have a legal duty to disclose their inventions to TTP. Additionally, TTP will assist with all stages of domestic and foreign patent prosecution and try to find a partner to successfully commercialize the technology. If successful, the inventors receive royalties and the public benefits from VA innovations.

**HOW**
Submit one completed Invention Disclosure Form (either VA or University form) and an executed VA Certification Form for each VA inventor. If you have any questions, please contact the TTS responsible for your geographic region. Email all completed invention disclosures and VA Certification Forms to vattid@va.gov.

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**Agreements for Collaboration**

**Invention Management Agreements (IMA)**
VA has IMAs with many of its academic affiliates to address issues associated with jointly-owned inventions. These umbrella agreements address the important issues of retention of ownership and protection of intellectual property rights.

IMAs outline the procedures for managing jointly-owned inventions. In these agreements, the parties designate who will take the lead in patenting and commercialization of jointly-owned inventions.

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**Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADA)**
A CRADA is an agreement between VA and non-federal parties under which a VA medical center director may receive funds and other support from collaborating parties for a project’s research and development. Under a CRADA, collaborators benefit from VA investigators’ expertise in discovery and innovation.