WHO
Federal law requires that all VA employees, including Without-Compensation (WOC) and IPA appointees and Dual Appointment Personnel (DAP), report their inventions to TTP.

WHAT
Any invention or discovery disclosed by a VA employee, regardless of whether or not it was made using VA resources or on VA time, must be reported to TTP.

WHEN
Please report inventions to VA TTP as soon as possible.

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

WHY
It is important for TTP to document all inventions made by VA employees to make an ownership determination and work cooperatively with our Research Affiliates. Once a determination is made, TTP can work with the affiliate to establish which party should take the lead in domestic and foreign patent prosecution and identifying a partner to successfully commercialize the technology. If successful, the inventors receive royalties and the public benefits from these innovations.

HOW
Email one completed Invention Disclosure Form and an executed VA Certification Form for each VA inventor to vattid@va.gov. TTP will accept the Invention Disclosure forms used by our Research Affiliates. If you have any questions, please contact the Technology Transfer Specialist responsible for your geographic region.

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www.research.va.gov/programs/tech_transfer/
**Conduct Research With Us**

Academic scientists and engineers can work with the VA to collaborate with other experts in their research specialties. TTP works to establish IP rights for inventions derived from VA and joint research projects.

**Disclose to Us**

Submit your Invention Disclosure to TTP at vattid@va.gov. If possible, please identify all VA inventors that were involved in the creation of the invention. TTP will accept Invention Disclosure forms from our Research Affiliates.

**Manage Inventions Together**

TTP works with inventors to determine ownership interests for jointly-owned inventions. A Determination of Rights (DOR) is made by VA’s Office of General Counsel and will be sent to our Research Affiliates. Jointly-owned inventions will be managed so that either the VA or the Research Affiliate is designated as the “Lead Party” and is responsible for obtaining IP protection and marketing for the invention.

**Deploy Inventions to the Marketplace**

Work together with TTP to bring jointly-owned inventions into the marketplace. TTP will negotiate licenses on behalf of VA inventors and will distribute royalty income from any active license to VA inventors and their local VA Medical Center in accordance with federal law and TTP policy.

**Invention Management Agreements (IMAs)**

VA has IMAs with many of its research affiliates to address issues associated with jointly-owned inventions. These umbrella agreements address the important issues 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. Contact your regional Technology Transfer Specialist to discuss how to put one of these agreements in place between your institution and the VA.

**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. TTP will help you determine what type of CRADA is right for your research project.

**Material Transfer Agreements (MTA)**

A MTA is a contract that governs the transfer of tangible research materials between organizations where the recipient intends to use them for its own research purposes. The MTA defines the rights of the provider and recipient of the materials and contains terms that establish publication rights and IP ownership interests for any new inventions developed with the materials.

**VA Nonprofit Program Corporations (NPCs)**

Non-Profit Corporations provide a flexible funding mechanism for the administration of private and public grants provided for VA-approved research. NPCs provide diverse services to their affiliated VA Medical Centers and to VA investigators, such as assisting with the management of clinical trials and facilitating the identification of research sponsors. TTP collaborates closely with the NPCs to manage the relationships between the VA Medical Center, our Research Affiliates, and private research partners.