National VA Research Week
May 15 - 19, 2017

Whereas, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is committed to biomedical, clinical, rehabilitation, and health services research as an integral component of its health care mission; and,

Whereas, VA's research program plays a vital role in the delivery of high-quality, cost-effective care for our Nation's Veterans; and,

Whereas, VA research makes significant contributions to advances in diagnosis and treatment of disease and disability; and,

Whereas, public awareness of VA's research accomplishments enhances the mission of the Department.

Therefore, VA hereby designates May 15-19, 2017, as National VA Research Week. The theme is "Bridging The Gap." I encourage VA medical centers to recognize the observance of this week and emphasize the essential part VA research has in improving Veterans' lives.

David J. Shulkin, M.D.
Under Secretary for Health