DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Advisory Commission on the Future Structure of Veterans Health Care;
Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs gives notice under Public Law 92-463 that a meeting of the Commission on the Future Structure of Veterans Health Care will be held on June 13, 1991. The session will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on June 13, 1991 at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel, Grand Ballroom, 999 9th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20001-9000. The Commission's purpose is to review the missions and programs of the VA's health care facilities to determine whether changes in services, programs, or missions at individual facilities are needed, with a focus on providing care to eligible veterans in 2010. The agenda for the meeting will include presentations to the Commission by various VA and non-VA officials as well as working sessions for the Commissioners to discuss, study, and analyze specific critical VA health care issues. The meeting will be open to the public up to the seating capacity of the room. Interested persons may file written statements with the Commission before or within 10 days after the close of the meeting.

Persons wanting to file written statements or wanting additional information regarding the meeting should contact Mr. Robert Moran, Commission on the Future Structure of Veterans Health Care, Techworld Plaza, 600 K Street, NW., P.O. Box 88, Washington, DC 20001, telephone (202) 633-7073.


By Direction of the Secretary:
Sylvia Chavez Long,
Committee Program Manager.

Privacy Act of 1974; Amendment of Systems of Records

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Amendment of Systems of Records.

1. Notice is hereby given that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is deleting a system of records entitled "Patient and Employee Infectious Disease Records-VA" (22VA100) which is set forth on page 867 of the Federal Register publication, "Privacy Act Issuances, 1989 Compilation, Volume II," The records included information concerning infection sites and antibiotic sensitivities of patients and employees at the VA Medical Center at Palo Alto, California. The system of records 22VA100 is being deleted since the records were destroyed when there was no longer a need for the information.

2. Notice is hereby given that VA is deleting a system of records entitled "Rejected Applicant for Medical Care Records-VA" (30VA136) which is set forth on page 694 of the Federal Register publication, "Privacy Act Issuances, 1989 Compilation, Volume II." This system of records included the applications and related materials of individuals who applied for treatment in a VA health care facility and who were not placed in a treatment program for such reasons as being legally ineligible, not in need of treatment, refusal by the individual to accept treatment or care, etc. A patient medical record is now created to store these documents and such records are covered by the system of records entitled "Patient Medical Records-VA" (24VA136). Therefore, the system of records 30VA136 is being deleted.

3. Notice is hereby given that VA is revising certain paragraphs in the system of records entitled "Veteran's Spouse or Dependent Civilian Health and Medical Care Records-VA" (54VA136) which is set forth on page 912 of the Federal Register publication, "Privacy Act Issuances, 1989 Compilation, Volume II." The VA office that maintains the system of records, the CHAMPVA Center located in Denver, Colorado, has been relocated and the System Location and Notification Procedures paragraphs in the system notice are being amended to reflect that move. In addition to these changes, the Storage paragraph is being revised to add digitized image as a new record storage medium and the Retrievability paragraph is being revised to add the claims processing control number as an additional identifier which is used for record retrieval. The Safeguards paragraph has been updated to include electronic intrusion alarm systems as additional security measures and the Retention and Disposal paragraph has been amended to show when the records are destroyed.
4. Notice is hereby given that VA is deleting a system of records entitled, "Automated Medication Processing Records-VA" (56VA119) which is set forth on page 917 of the Federal Register publication, "Privacy Act Issuances, 1989 Compilation, Volume II." This system of records was established when a pharmacy computer system was being developed to service VA health care facilities. The computer system was discontinued, however, when the Decentralized Hospital Computer Program (DHCP) was installed at each VA medical center. DHCP is an automated integrated information system which provides comprehensive support for each medical center's specific clinical and administrative needs. The DHCP pharmacy application is included in the systems of records entitled "Patient Medical Records-VA" (24VA138) and "Decentralized Hospital Computer Program (DHCP) Medical Management Records-VA" (79VA162). Therefore, the system of records 56VA119 is being deleted.

5. Notice is hereby given that certain paragraphs which were omitted when the original system notices were published are being added to two systems of records. The paragraphs for System Manager, Notification Procedures, Records Access Procedures, Contesting Record Procedures, and Record Source Categories are being added to the system of records entitled, "Vietnam Veterans Readjustment Counseling Program-VA" (64VA116). The paragraph for Authority for Maintenance of the System has also been updated. The paragraph for System Manager is being added for the system of records entitled, "Community Placement Program-VA" (63VA122).

These systems of records are set forth on page 925 of the Federal Register publication, "Privacy Act Issuances, 1989 Compilation, Volume II."

6. Notice is hereby given that VA is revising certain paragraphs in the system of records entitled, "Ionizing Radiation Registry-VA" (69VA114) which is set forth on page 929 of the Federal Register publication, "Privacy Act Issuances, 1989 Compilation, Volume II." The System Manager, Notification Procedures, and Record Access Procedures paragraphs are being revised to reflect a change in the designation of the office which is responsible for the maintenance of these records.

The Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(c), requires agencies to inform the public of any changes to their system of records. These changes are administrative in nature, therefore, no public comment is required.

Edward J. Derwinski,
Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Notice of Amendments to Systems of Records

1. The system identified as 54VA136, "Veteran's Spouse or Dependent Civilian Health and Medical Care Records-VA" appearing on page 912 of the Federal Register publication, "Privacy Act Issuances, 1989 Compilation, Volume II" is amended by revising the entries for System Location, Storage, Retrievability, Safeguards, Retention and Disposal and Notification Procedure to read as follows:

54VA136
System name:
Veteran's Spouse or Dependent Civilian Health and Medical Care Records-VA.

System location:
Paper and computer records are maintained at the CHAMPVA Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs Center, 4600 Cherry Creek Drive South, Box 94, Denver, CO 80222.

Policies and Practices for storing, retrieving, accessing, retaining and disposing of records in the system:

Storage:
Records are stored in paper folders, magnetic discs, magnetic tape, and as digitized image.

Retrievability:
Paper records are retrieved by name or VA claims file number or social security number of the veteran sponsor. Computer and digitized image records are retrieved by name or social security number of the veteran sponsor, spouse, and/or dependent, VA claims file number of the veteran sponsor, or by claims processing control number.

Safeguards:
Records are stored in locked file cabinets or locked rooms. Generally, file areas are locked after normal duty hours and the premises are protected from outside access by Federal Protective Service or other security personnel as well as electronic intrusion alarm systems. Access to working spaces and record storage areas is restricted to VA employees on a "need-to-know" basis. Access to the computer room is generally limited by appropriate locking devices and restricted to authorized VA employees and vendor personnel. ADD peripheral devices are generally placed in secure areas (areas that are locked or have limited access) or are otherwise protected. Information in the computer system may be accessed by authorized VA employees by a series of individually unique passwords/codes.

Retention and disposal:
Records are maintained during the period of time the spouse or dependent is eligible for CHAMPVA and destroyed 90 days after eligibility is terminated.

Notification procedure:

An individual who wishes to determine whether a record is being maintained in this system under his or her name or other personal identifier, or wants to determine the contents of such record, should submit a written request or apply in person to the Director, CHAMPVA Center, 4600 Cherry Creek Drive South, Box 94, Denver, Colorado 80222. Inquiries should include the veteran sponsor's full name and social security and VA claims file numbers and the spouse or dependent's name, social security number and return address.

2. The system identified as 64VA116, "Vietnam Veterans Readjustment Counseling Program-VA" appearing on page 925 of the Federal Register publication, "Privacy Act Issuances, 1989 Compilation, Volume II" is amended by revising the entry for Authority for Maintenance of the System and by adding the entries for System Manager and Address, Notification Procedures, Records Access Procedures, Contesting Record Procedures, and Record Source Categories to read as follows:

64VA116
System name:
Vietnam Veterans Readjustment Counseling Program-VA.

Authority for maintenance of the system:
Title 38, United States Code, Section 612a

System manager(s) and address:
Director, Readjustment Counseling Service, (147), VA Central Office, Washington, DC 20420
Notification procedure:

An individual who wishes to determine whether a record is being maintained by the Veterans Readjustment Program under his or her name or other personal identifier or wishes to determine the contents of such records should submit a written request or apply in person to: (1) The team leader of the Vet Center or the Readjustment counselor at the VA medical center with whom he or she had contact, or (2) Director, Readjustment Counseling Service (147), VA Central Office, Washington, DC 20420.

Inquiries should include the individual's full name and social security number.

Record access procedures:

An individual (or duly authorized representative of such individual) who seeks access to or wishes to contest records maintained under his or her name or other personal identifier may write, call or visit the above named individuals.

Contesting record procedures:

(See Record Access Procedures above.)

Record source categories:

(1) Relevant forms to be filled out by Vet Center team members on first contact and each contact thereafter; counseling sessions with veterans and other eligible counselors. (2) Other VA and Federal agency systems.

3. The system identified as 65VA122, "Community Placement Program-VA" appearing on page 925 of the Federal Register publication, "Privacy Act Issuances, 1969 Compilation, Volume II" is amended by adding the paragraph for System Manager(s) and Address to read as follows:

65VA122

System name:

Community Placement Program-VA.

System manager(s) and address:

Director, Social Work Service (141A10), VA Central Office, Washington, DC 20420.

4. The system identified as 69VA114, "Ionizing Radiation Registry-VA" appearing on page 929 of the Federal Register publication, "Privacy Act Issuances, 1969 Compilation, Volume II" is amended by revising the entry for System Manager(s) and Address to read as follows:

69VA114

System name:

Ionizing Radiation Registry-VA.

System manager(s) and address:

Director, Environmental Agents Service (146A), VA Central Office, Washington, DC 20420.