

VA NEBRASKA-WESTERN IOWA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

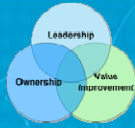
## VA Funding Opportunities & Research Resources

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**NWI Way**



## Contacts



If you are interested in exploring opportunities at the VA, please contact us first:

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<http://www.nebraska.va.gov/research/index.asp>

VA NEBRASKA-WESTERN IOWA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

## Overview



- National organization
- RFAs
- Merit Review process
- Local information
- Questions

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## Why does VA fund research?



- To make sure research is done in areas of importance to the care of veterans.
- To determine best ways to deliver healthcare so that VA care is high quality and safe.
- To discover the underlying problems in diseases of relevance to veterans and to translate those discoveries into better treatments and new strategies for prevention.

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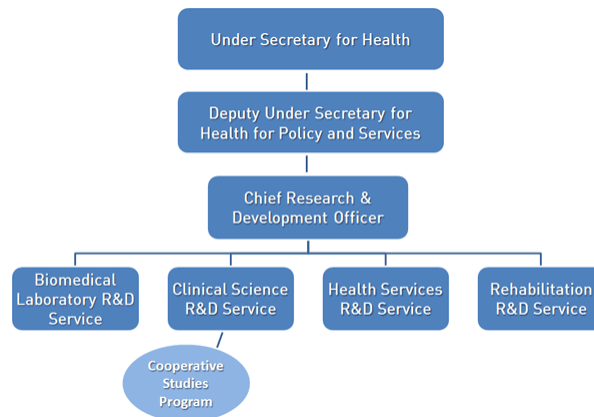
## Why does VA fund research?



- Recruit and retain highly qualified physician-scientists who help provide patient care to veterans.
- Attract trainees to consider a career in the VA  
Medicine, Pharmacy, Nurses at all levels: students, residents, fellows

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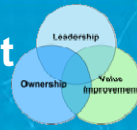
## Office of Research and Development (ORD)



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## Office of Research and Development Website



- <http://www.research.va.gov/>
- Contact VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System (NWIHCS) Research Office

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## Biomedical Laboratory Research & Development Service BLR&D

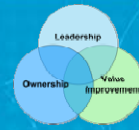


- Preclinical and clinical research
- Molecular, genomic, and physiological level
- Includes:
  - Bench research
  - Research on animal models
  - Investigations of tissues, blood, or other biologic specimens from humans.
- Includes studies on humans of moderately limited scope.

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## Clinical Science Research & Development Service CSR&D



- Focuses on intact human beings as the unit of examination
  - Interventional studies
  - Effectiveness studies
  - Clinical
  - Epidemiological
  - Technological studies
- Cooperative Studies Program (CSP)
  - Multiple VAs with one directing site
  - Central IRB

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## Health Services Research & Development Service HSR&D



- Research at the interface of health care systems, patients and health care outcomes.
  - Quality
  - Access
  - Patient outcomes
  - Health care costs
- <http://www.hsr.d.research.va.gov/>

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## Rehabilitation Research & Development Service RR&D



- Dedicated to the well-being of America's veterans through a full spectrum of research
  - Injuries, disorders and diseases with the potential to cause long term impairment and disability
  - Rehabilitation interventions and techniques
  - Evaluation and technology transfer
  - Final clinical application
- <http://www.rehab.research.va.gov/>

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## Intramural Program Eligibility to Submit to VA



- MDs are eligible to submit to any Service
  - But have to have an at least 5/8s appointment when they start (hospital staff)
- PhDs can submit to HSR&D and RehabR&D
  - But have to have an at least 5/8s appointment when they start (research staff)
- PhDs must apply for eligibility to submit for BLR&D and CSR&D
  - Format for submission, through Research Administrative Office
  - Granted for 3 years
  - Productivity and grants
  - Needs of the Service
  - Commitment/service to VA

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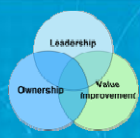
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## BLR&D RFAs

Service-Specific Requests for Applications (RFAs)	RFA #	Active Cycles
Merit Review Award (Parent I01)	BX-15-001	Spring and Fall
Merit Review Award for Deployment Health Research (OEF/OIF/OND)	BX-15-002	Spring and Fall
Merit Review Award for Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Research	BX-15-003	Spring and Fall
Merit Review Award for Research on Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease	BX-15-004	Spring and Fall
Merit Review Pilot Projects for Research on Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease	BX-15-005	Spring and Fall
Career Development Award (CDA-2)	BX-15-008	Spring and Fall
Award for Research on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses (GWVI)	BX-15-011	Spring and Fall
Pilot Projects for Research on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses (GWVI)	BX-15-012	Spring and Fall
Million Veteran Program - Consortium Award Project (MVP-CAP) for Beta Test Data Analysis (Updated August 11, 2015)	BX-15-020	Spring and Fall

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## CSR&D RFAs

Service-Specific Requests for Applications (RFAs)	RFA #	Active Cycles
Merit Review Award (Parent I01)	CX-15-001	Spring and Fall
Merit Review Award for Deployment Health Research (OEF/OIF/OND)	CX-15-002	Spring and Fall
Merit Review Award for Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Research	CX-15-003	Spring and Fall
Merit Review Award for Research on Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease	CX-15-004	Spring and Fall
Merit Review Pilot Projects for Research on Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease	CX-15-005	Spring and Fall
Merit Review Award for Clinical Trials	CX-15-006	Spring and Fall
Career Development Award (CDA-2)	CX-15-008	Spring and Fall
Award for Research on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses (GWVI)	CX-15-011	Spring and Fall
Pilot Projects for Research on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses (GWVI)	CX-15-012	Spring and Fall
Award for Research on New Treatments for Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses (GWVI)	CX-15-013	Spring and Fall

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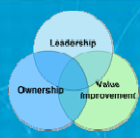


## HSR&D RFAs

Service-Specific Requests for Applications (RFAs)	RFA #	Active Cycles
Targeted Solicitation for Service-Directed Research Award on Health Services Research on the Care of Gulf War Veterans	HX-15-017	Winter and Summer
QUERI Partnered Evaluation Initiative (“Parent”) Partnered Evaluation Mechanism	HX-15-020	Winter
Targeted Solicitation for Health Services Research on Provider Behavior - A Learning Health Care System Initiative (Revised)	HX-15-022	Winter
Targeted Solicitation for Health Services Research on Measurement Science - a Learning Health Care System Initiative (Revised)	HX-15-023	Winter
VA Nursing Research Initiative (NRI) (Revised)	HX-15-025	Winter and Summer
Merit Review Award (Parent I01) (Revised)	HX-15-026	Winter and Summer
Merit Review Award for Deployment Health Research (OEF/OIF) (Revised)	HX-15-027	Winter and Summer
Merit Review Award Pilot Project Program (Revised)	HX-15-028	Winter and Summer
Career Development Award (CDA-2)	HX-15-029	Winter and Summer
Center of Innovation (COIN) Initiative (I50)	HX-16-001	Winter
QUERI - ORH Partnered Evaluation on Healthcare Resource Needs and Program Implementation for Rural Veterans	HX-16-002	Winter
VA Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI) (IP1)	HX-16-003	Winter

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## RR&D RFAs

Service-Specific Requests for Applications (RFAs)	RFA #	Active Cycles
Merit Review Award (Parent I01)	RX-16-003	Winter and Summer
Merit Review Award for Research on Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Parkinson’s Disease and Alzheimer’s Disease	RX-16-004	Winter and Summer
Merit Review Award: Deployment Health Research (OEF/OIF/OND)	RX-16-005	Winter and Summer
Merit Review Award: Studies on the Chronic Effects of Neurotrauma	RX-16-006	Winter and Summer
Merit Review Award: Traumatic Brain Injury	RX-16-007	Winter and Summer
Career Development Award (CDA-1) (IK1)	RX-16-008	Winter and Summer
Career Development Award (CDA-2) (IK2)	RX-16-009	Winter and Summer
VA-ORD Historically Black College and University Research Scientist Training Program Award	RX-16-010	Winter and Summer
Small Projects in Rehabilitation Research (SPIRE) (I21)	RX16-001	Spring and Fall

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## Career Development Award (CDA)



- **CDA-1:** This entry-level career development program is open to both clinicians and non-clinicians. Review criteria emphasize candidate qualifications, mentorship, and career development plan. Only the Rehabilitation Research and Development Service is currently offering this type of award.
- **CDA-2:** This mid-level program also is open to both clinicians and non-clinicians who must specify their career development plans and research project over a 3-5 year duration. This is the major type of Career Development Award, and it is supported by all four Services. Usually within 5 years of training.
- VA mentor required (mentoring team allowed)

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## How is it decided who gets VA Research \$



- Investigators write grant applications that are submitted to national VA level.
- Reviewed nationally in peer-review process similar to NIH (National Institutes of Health).
- Approximately 15% of applications will be selected for funding.

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## Merit Review Submission



- Local Research Service (RAO) must submit
- All submissions must be reviewed by the R&D Committee prior to submission
- Submission through Grants.gov
- Uses SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance
- Required documents listed in RFA (only available from vaww website)

## Merit Review Submission



- BLR&D and CSR&D – March and September
- HSR&D and RR&D – June and December
- Letter of Intent (LOI) or Intent to Submit required for some submissions
  - Check with Research Administrative Office

## Merit Awards



- BLR&D and CSR&D
  - Generally \$150,000 + PI's salary (PhDs only)
  - 4 years
- HSR&D and RehabR&D
  - More specific to the RFA
- Comes to the Research Service at NWI
  - Administered by Research Administrative Office (RAO)
  - Purchases, contracts, HR
  - Intergovernmental Personnel Agreements (IPAs)

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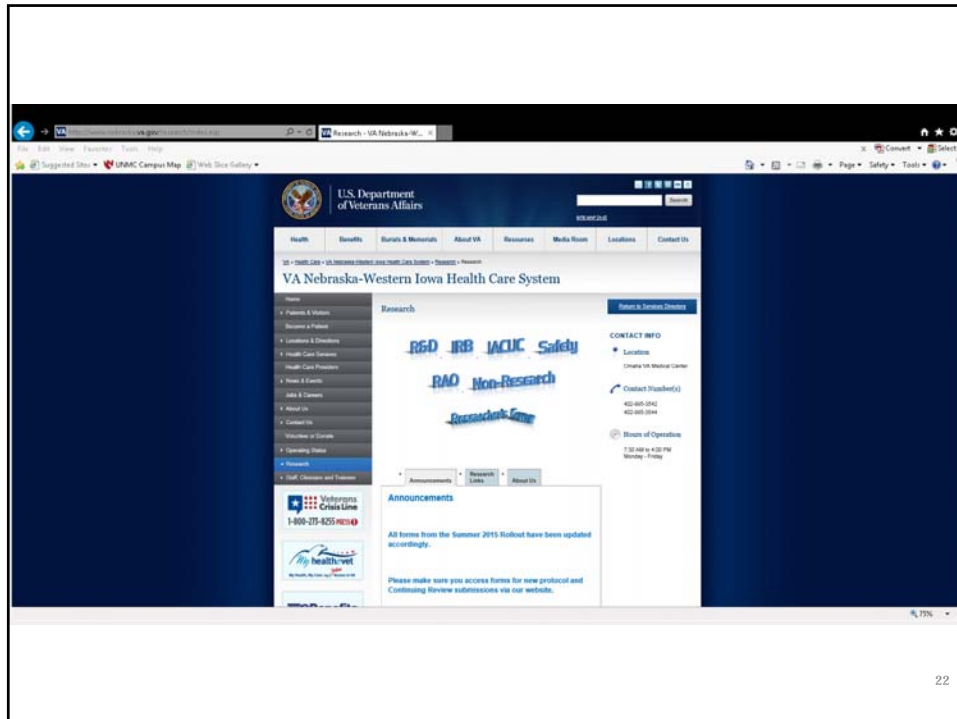
## NWIHCS Web site



- Items found there:
  - Contact information for the Research Service
  - All research forms for submitting application.
  - Form for initiating credentialing.
  - Process for distinguishing research versus non-research.
  - Standard Operating Procedures.

<http://www.nebraska.va.gov/research/index.asp>

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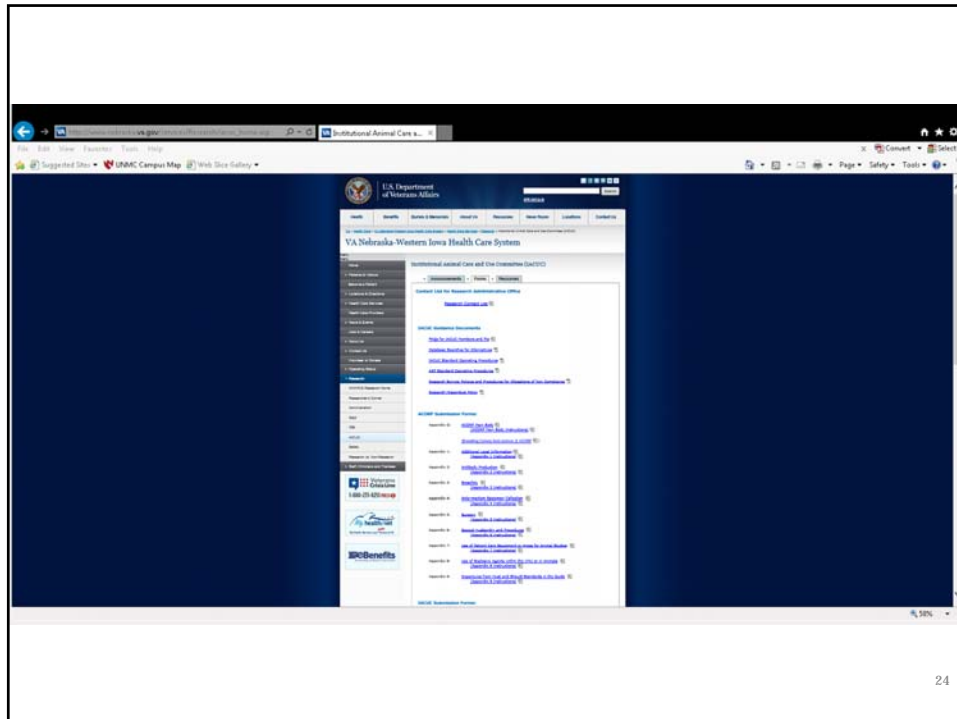


## Who approves research at VA?



- Research and Development Committee (R&D) has final approval.
- Subcommittee for Research Safety
- Subcommittee for Human Studies
  - (IRB, Institutional Review Board)
- Subcommittee for Animal Studies
  - (IACUC, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee)

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## Is there research space at VA?



- Basic science labs
- Animal facility (AAALAC accredited)
- Clinical Research Unit (CRU)
  - Dr. Robert Anderson, CRU Medical Director
  - 6 exam rooms
  - Small lab
  - VA studies are aimed at Veteran population, but can enroll non-veterans if appropriate justification.

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## VA Non-profit Corporations (NPCs)



- Congress created NPCs as venue for non-appropriated research/educational funds to come into VA system.
- Nebraska Education Biomedical Research Association (NEBRA)
- Contracts from industry sponsors, foundations, and other federal money (NIH) is administered via this mechanism.

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## Questions?



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