

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The following constitutes an agreement between the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Healthcare Administration (VHA) and the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE) concerning the VA National Center for Patient Safety "Patient Safety Reporting System (PSRS)" program with National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

1. The national parties agree to participate in the Patient Safety Reporting System (PSRS) program. Voluntary participation by bargaining unit employees in using the PSRS Form is strongly supported and encouraged. Any bargaining unit employees' participation shall be voluntary, confidential, and anonymous from VHA officials.
2. In the unlikely event that the name of a bargaining unit employee using the PSRS Form is revealed to management officials, NFFE will immediately withdraw their participation in the PSRS program and this MOU.
3. The national parties agree to review de-identified data and information collected by PSRS and that an NFFE representative (an alternate can serve in the place of a designated representative) will serve on the PSRS Advisory Committee chaired by NASA. The NFFE representative's involvement on this PSRS Advisory Committee will be on duty/official time and travel and per diem will be borne by NASA and/or VHA.
4. The bargaining unit employees shall be provided information and/or training on the PSRS prior to any implementation at field facilities. This is a proper subject for local negotiation.
5. Upon receipt of this MOU, the appropriate management official shall provide a copy of this MOU to all local presidents at their facility and/or duty station.

Date: 11-7-03


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VHA HRM Group


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