

Facts About the Veterans Health Administration (VHA)

- 6 million patients treated in 2010
- More than 1,600 sites of care. Includes 152 hospitals, 965 outpatient clinics, 133 community living centers, and 293 Vet Centers
- 244,000 employees
- More than 20,000 physicians and more than 53,000 nurses
- 139,000 volunteers provided more than 12.5 million hours of service in 2010
- More than 75 million outpatient visits in 2010
- Nearly 680,000 inpatient admissions in 2010
- The number of women Veterans using VA healthcare doubled from 2000 (160,000) to 2010 (315,000)
- VA provides more public data about quality and safety than any healthcare system in the world. www.hospitalcompare.va.gov, www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov.
- Affiliations with more than 1,200 educational institutions
- More than 100,000 health care students receive clinical training from VA each year

Did you know VHA ...?

- Created the nicotine patch to help people stop smoking
- Performed the first successful liver transplant
- Invented the cardiac pacemaker
- Pinpointed genes for HIV, diabetes, and obesity susceptibility
- Identified schizophrenia gene and developed a unique preventive drug
- Created the bionic ankle
- Contributed to the development of the CAT (or CT) scan
- Developed new drugs and treatment for diseases such as AIDS/HIV, diabetes, Alzheimer's, and osteoporosis
- Originated the use of Bar Code Medical Administration to prevent inpatient prescription errors.
- Reduced a common healthcare-associated infection (MRSA) by more than 60 percent in intensive care units nationwide
- Created the first enterprise-wide Electronic Health Record
- Jointly performed the first U.S. hand transplant with University of Pittsburgh
- Since 2007, rescued more than 18,000 Veterans in serious danger of suicide through Veterans Crisis Line and counseled more than 490,000 callers.