

# Boston

## VISN 1 – Boston - Healthcare Delivery Study, General Capital and Reuse Plans

### Secretary's CARES Decision

- Four existing VA Medical Centers in Boston range in age from 36 to 62 years.
- All require ongoing renovation and upgrades and are in need of modernization.
- Feasibility of consolidating its existing four Boston area medical centers into one state-of-the-art tertiary care facility that will act as a hub for VA health care in the greater Boston area.
- Current fragmented nature of care across the four existing Boston area facilities.
- VA's need to remain competitive in a medical care environment where recruitment and retention of quality staff is difficult.
- The system to be studied would be anchored by a state-of-the-art tertiary care medical center and would include plans for development of strategically located multi-specialty outpatient clinics and CBOCs.
- The study also will analyze the demand for nursing home care services and plan to locate facilities in places that would preserve access for aging veterans and their families.
- The tertiary care medical center would deliver comprehensive inpatient care services, while allowing specialty care services such as cardiology, neurology, audiology, as well as primary and special VA mental health services to spread out into the community closer to where patients live.
- Supported by CBOCs, the system of care would bring VA health care into communities throughout the Boston area, improving access to specialty care, primary care, mental health care, and nursing home services.

# Specific Considerations/Requirements

- The Boston study consists of two major components, the Healthcare Delivery Study and the proposed general Capital and Reuse Plans.
- Healthcare Delivery Study - The study provides an opportunity to examine the feasibility of redesigning the Boston area VA health care delivery system. Health care services are currently delivered at the Bedford, Jamaica Plains, West Roxbury and Brockton campuses.
- Using forecasted health services utilization data and patient origin data; provide a minimum of three options for providing health care in the Boston area. For one of the options, determine the feasibility of consolidating acute care services at one tertiary care medical center to meet future demand. This center would be the hub of a system of primary care and multi specialty clinics located throughout the Boston area. These sites would be identified at a level of specificity required to accurately analyze improvements in access and the costing required in order to make a recommendation. In addition to acute care services, key questions in the study are the location of Domiciliary care, Nursing Home care, non acute psychiatric programs, residential treatment facilities as well as specialized programs such as the Alzheimer's disease unit at Bedford. The analysis could/should include consideration of partial use of current campuses for these services, collocation with the tertiary care center, free standing Nursing Homes, and the clustering of these programs for continuity and quality.
- General Capital and Reuse Plans - General Capital and Reuse Plans for the current and proposed campuses would include the proposed capital infrastructure if services would continue to be delivered on campus or reuse if the campus will no longer deliver VA health care services. These will be developed complementary to the Healthcare Delivery Studies.