

Products...As-Is...Business Line...Medical Research

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1. Medical Research

The major functions within this business line are the four items denoted surrounding "VHA" (the administration responsible for carrying out these actions): Medical Research Service, Cooperative Studies Program, Health Services Research and Development Services, and Rehabilitation Research and Development Service. This diagram shows the major stakeholders and some of the relationships between those stakeholders, the agency, and its denoted functions.

Scroll down for descriptions of objects shown in this diagram. Clicking over a function name can directly bring up related process diagrams and activity descriptions.

Links to Z11 (listed alphabetically)	
Name	Description
Agency Funding Requests	Budget proposals and other forms of requests for funding that VA sends to Congress and other funding approval bodies.
Agency Reports	Standard and ad-hoc reports about VA operations that are prepared and submitted to external organizations and oversight groups.
Agreements and Contracts	Formal agreements and contracts with parties outside VA .
Industry Regulations	Official resource guidelines developed by outside industry regulatory groups.
Legislation and Executive Orders	Laws and Executive Orders that either define or limit the scope of VA activities, products and services.
Medical Organizations	Information about external medical organizations that form part of VA's information resource.
Non-VA Healthcare Facilities	State or private-owned hospitals and clinics available as resources for the delivery of veteran healthcare benefits.
Official Government Guidance	Government circulars and other official guidance

	from external organizations that affect VA's operations.
Public Opinion	Feedback from the general public regarding the operations of the VA or ideas about any of the products and services that VA provides.
Research Grants	Information about research grants.
Research Information	Research information products sent out or made available to individuals, groups, and organizations outside the VA .
Subsidies	Financial subsidies given by VA to State governments and other program partners.
VA Program Funds	Monetary resource products from external sources for use in funding VA programs.

Links to Z12 (listed alphabetically)	
Name	Description
Cooperative Studies Program	The Cooperative Studies Program (CSP) is responsible for the development, administration, and coordination of phase III, multi-center clinical trials within the VA health care system. VA may conduct studies independently, or they may involve coordination with non-VA partners including the Department of Defense (DoD), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), pharmaceutical industry, international healthcare systems, universities, and private and public corporations or foundations.
Health Services Research and Development Service	Health Services Research and Development Service (HSRD) is responsible for evaluating how social factors, financing systems, organizational structures and processes, health technologies, and human behavior affect access to health care, the quality, and cost of health care, and ultimately the health and well-being of veterans. Its research domains are individuals, families, organizations, institutions, communities, and populations. Health services research emphasizes studies that have practical

	applications and can assist patients, health care providers, managers, and policy makers.
Medical Research Service	Medical Research Service (MRS) is responsible for developing, administering, and coordinating a program of biomedical and behavioral research that focuses on the etiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis, and treatment of the wide range of diseases and disorders most prevalent among the veteran population. The primary goals of MRS are to support high quality biomedical research relevant to the health care needs of veterans and to develop and enhance an intramural research environment that promotes research while attracting and retaining productive research clinicians and scientists.
Rehabilitation Research and Development Service	Rehabilitation Research and Development Service (RR&D) is responsible for developing, administering, and coordinating a rehabilitation research program that provides new knowledge to advance optimal rehabilitation healthcare for veterans. Emphasis is placed on prosthetics, orthotics, orthopedic rehabilitation, disabilities as a consequence of aging, neurological dysfunction, spinal cord injury restoration/rehabilitation, visual and hearing impairment rehabilitation, engineering and rehabilitation outcomes.

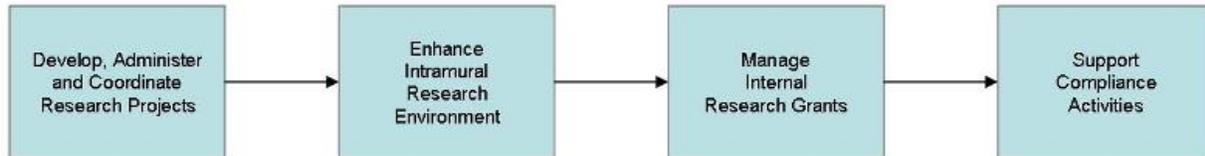
Links to Z14 (listed alphabetically)	
Name	Description
Department of Defense	An executive department of the U.S. Government consisting of the Secretary of Defense and his office, the War Council, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Joint Staff and joint agencies, as well as the Departments of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force. It is headed by the Secretary of Defense.
Government Policy Makers (Owners)	A category of VA stakeholders. Stakeholders falling under this category possess the authority to create and enforce major government policies and regulations that affect the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Higher Education	Educational institutions that enter into partnerships with the VA in the fields of higher medical education and medical research.
Medical Care Practitioners	Healthcare professionals who work for, or with, VA in the delivery of healthcare products and services under the VA programs.
Public	A category of V A stakeholders. Stakeholders falling under this category possess the power to elect people who hold public offices, the ability to pay government taxes, and assist government in other ways.
Regulators	A category of VA stakeholders. Stakeholders that belong to this group possess the authority to develop quality and performance standards that VA needs to uphold.
Veterans Health Administration (VHA)	The VHA is one of the three Administrations under the VA. With 158 VA medical centers (VAMCs) nationwide, VHA manages one of the largest health care systems in the United States. VAMCs within a Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) work together to provide efficient, accessible health care to veterans in their areas. The VHA also conducts research and education, and provides emergency medical preparedness.

Links to Z22 (listed alphabetically)	
Name	Description
Cooperative Studies Program	The Cooperative Studies Program (CSP) is responsible for the development, administration, and coordination of phase III, multi-center clinical trials within the VA health care system. VA may conduct

	<p>studies independently, or they may involve coordination with non-VA partners including the Department of Defense (DoD), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), pharmaceutical industry, international healthcare systems, universities, and private and public corporations or foundations.</p>
<p>Health Services Research and Development Service</p>	<p>Health Services Research and Development Service (HSRD) is responsible for evaluating how social factors, financing systems, organizational structures and processes, health technologies, and human behavior affect access to health care, the quality, and cost of health care, and ultimately the health and well-being of veterans. Its research domains are individuals, families, organizations, institutions, communities, and populations. Health services research emphasizes studies that have practical applications and can assist patients, health care providers, managers, and policy makers.</p>
<p>Medical Research Service</p>	<p>Medical Research Service (MRS) is responsible for developing, administering, and coordinating a program of biomedical and behavioral research that focuses on the etiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis, and treatment of the wide range of diseases and disorders most prevalent among the veteran population. The primary goals of MRS are to support high quality biomedical research relevant to the health care needs of veterans and to develop and enhance an intramural research environment that promotes research while attracting and retaining productive research clinicians and scientists.</p>
<p>Rehabilitation Research and Development Service</p>	<p>Rehabilitation Research and Development Service (RR&D) is responsible for developing, administering, and coordinating a rehabilitation research program that provides new knowledge to advance optimal rehabilitation healthcare for veterans. Emphasis is placed on prosthetics, orthotics, orthopedic rehabilitation, disabilities as a consequence of aging, neurological dysfunction, spinal cord injury restoration/rehabilitation, visual and hearing impairment rehabilitation, engineering and rehabilitation outcomes.</p>

1.1. Medical Research Service

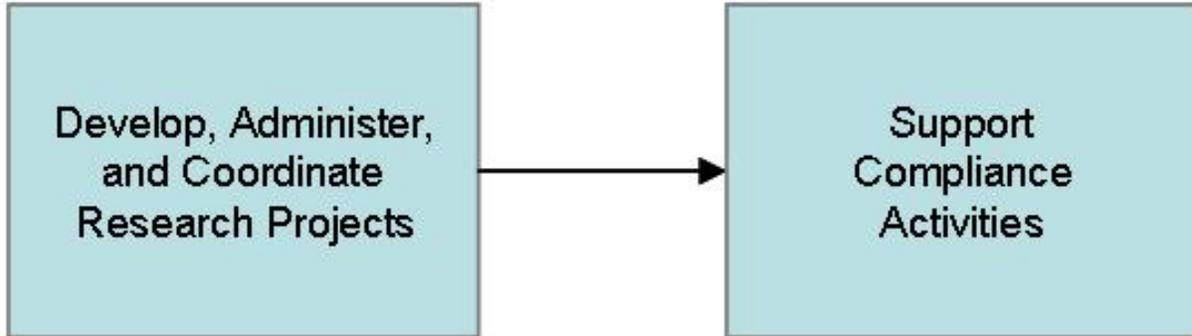


Reference(s):

- [Medical Research Medical Research Service.html](#)

Links to Z22 (listed alphabetically)	
Name	Description
Develop, Administer and Coordinate Research Projects	Identify and pursue worthwhile biomedical and behavioral research projects that focus on the etiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis, and treatment of the wide range of diseases and disorders most prevalent among the veteran population.
Enhance Intramural Research Environment	Provide and administer incentives for scientific research efforts within the VA organization. Enhance an intramural research environment that promotes research while attracting and retaining productive research clinicians and scientists.
Manage Internal Research Grants	Evaluate grant applications and award medical research grants to applicants from within the VA organization.
Support Compliance Activities	Monitor compliance with specific congressional mandates contained within US Code Title 38 and other appropriate regulations relative to the conduct of medical research.

1.2. Rehabilitation Research and Development Service



Reference(s):

- [Medical Research Rehabilitation R and D Service.html](#)

Links to Z22 (listed alphabetically)	
Name	Description
Develop, Administer, and Coordinate Research Projects	Identify and pursue worthwhile rehabilitation research projects that focus on prosthetics, orthotics, orthopedic rehabilitation, disabilities as a consequence of aging, neurological dysfunction, spinal cord injury restoration/rehabilitation, visual and hearing impairment rehabilitation, engineering and rehabilitation outcomes, and management of a wide range of physical disabilities most prevalent among the veteran population.
Support Compliance Activities	Monitor compliance with specific congressional mandates contained within US Code Title 38 and other appropriate regulations relative to the conduct of research in the field of rehabilitation.

1.3. Health Services Research and Development Service



Reference(s):

- [Medical Research Health Service R and D Service.html](#)

Links to Z22 (listed alphabetically)	
Name	Description
Analyze Environmental & Healthcare Systems Impact	Evaluate the roles and impact of social factors, financing systems, organizational structures and processes, health technologies, and human behavior in healthcare systems. Analyze how these factors affect the quality and cost, and ultimately the health and well-being of veterans.
Assess & Pursue Research with Practical Applications	Identify and pursue worthwhile research projects in the field of healthcare services. Select health services research that have practical applications and can assist patients, health care providers, managers, and policy makers.

1.4. Cooperative Studies Program



Reference(s):

- [Medical Research Cooperative Studies Program.html](#)

Links to Z22 (listed alphabetically)	
Name	Description
Conduct and Manage Clinical Trials	Design research projects involving phase III, multi-center clinical trials within the VA health care system. Plan and implement clinical trials. Analyze results and validate conclusions.
Coordinate with Government & Private Partners	Enter into clinical research partnerships with other research institutions under the Cooperative Studies Program (CSP). VA may conduct studies independently, or they may involve coordination with non-VA partners including the Department of Defense (DoD), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), pharmaceutical industry, international healthcare systems, universities, and private and public corporations or foundations.
Support Compliance Activities in All Studies	Monitor compliance with specific congressional mandates contained within US Code Title 38 and other appropriate regulations relative to the conduct of clinical studies under the Cooperative Studies Program.