

Date: June 29, 2016

From: Under Secretary for Health (10)

Subj: Validity of VHA Policy Document (VAIQ # 7712168)

To: VHA Central Office (VHACO) Senior Leaders, Network Directors (10N1-23), and Medical Center Directors

1. VHA Handbook 6330.01 provides guidance on the procedures for developing and managing VHA policy documents (e.g., directives and handbooks). Pursuant to the Handbook, all policies must be recertified every 5 years; however, the Handbook does not provide guidance regarding the validity of an "expired" VHA policy document, i.e., one whose recertification date has passed, but the policy has not been rescinded or "recertified," i.e., published with a new recertification date.
2. This memorandum mandates the continued use of and adherence to VHA policy documents beyond their recertification date until the policy is rescinded, recertified, or superseded by a more recent policy or guidance.
3. The Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Health and Deputy Under Secretaries for Health are responsible for ensuring the timely rescission or recertification of policy documents over which their program offices have primary responsibility.
4. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Office of Regulatory Administrative Affairs (10B4) at (202) 461-0500 or VHA CO 10B4 Actions ([vhaco10b4actions@va.gov](mailto:vhaco10b4actions@va.gov)).



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