



Learn more about
data sharing
and privacy

Where can I learn more about data sharing and privacy?

More information about data sharing can be found:

- On the Military Health System website – <http://go.usa.gov/YMmh>

Copies of VA's Notice of Privacy Practices can be found:

- At VA health care facilities – VA facilities have hard copies of the Notice of Privacy Practices. Veterans may request a copy from the local health care facility's Privacy Officer.
- On the VA website – A full copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices can be found online: <http://go.usa.gov/YPdP>

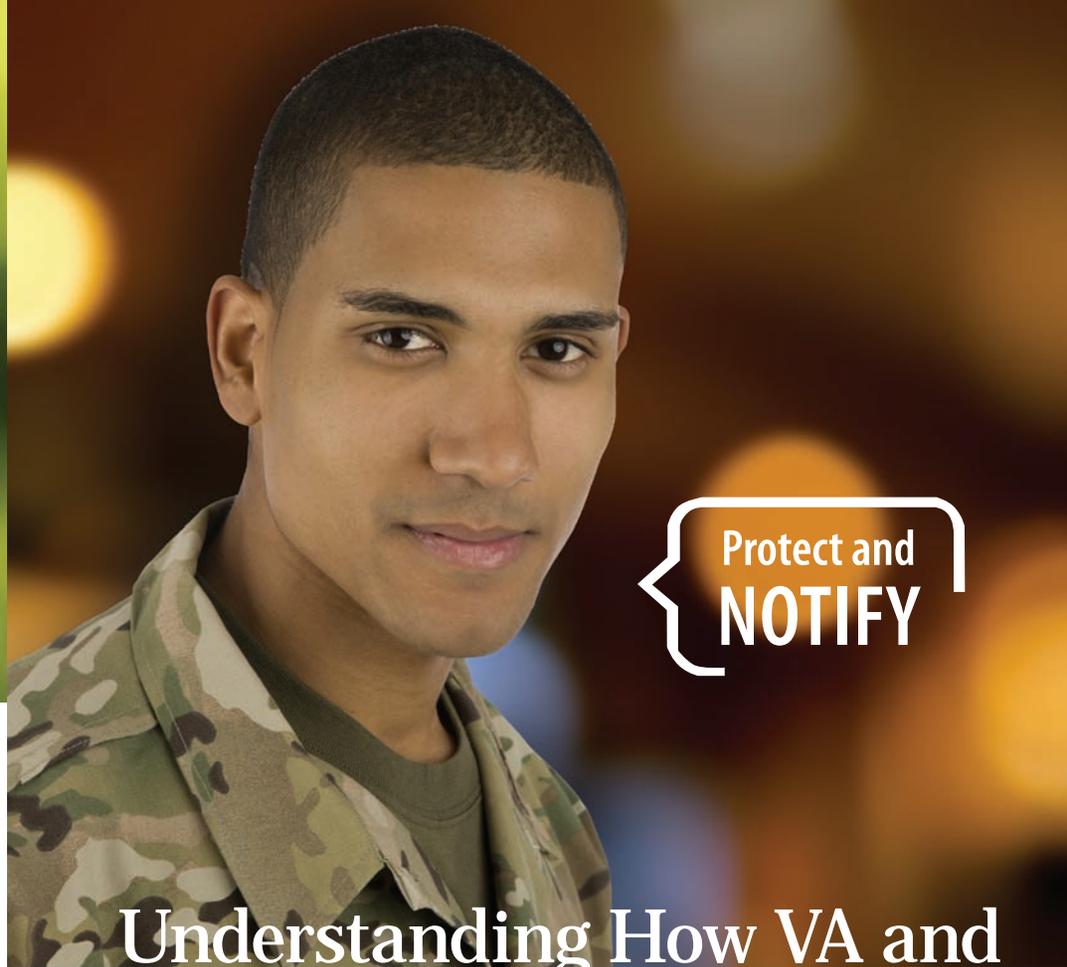
Copies of DoD's Notice of Privacy Practices can be found:

- On the DoD website – A full copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices can be found online: <http://go.usa.gov/YPdG>



Scan this QR Code with your smart phone to go directly to the VA Notice of Privacy Practices.

For more information call VHA at 1-800-983-0936 and/or DoD at 703-681-7500. Created 03/2013



Protect and
NOTIFY

Understanding How VA and DoD Share Health Data

Safeguarding Your Health Data— Providing Seamless Health Care for Service Members and Veterans

How the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DoD) health care systems safeguard, use and share patients' health information.



VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
PRIVACY OFFICE

How do VA and DoD share patients' personal health information?

VA and DoD share more health information than any two organizations in the Nation. This information helps improve the continuity of care for Service Members and Veterans, helps ensure the most accurate medical history of a patient is provided and improves patient safety.

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy Rules govern the sharing of health information between VA and DoD, as well as other health care organizations. These rules allow VA and DoD to use or disclose health information for specific and limited purposes, which are outlined in the VA and DoD Notice of Privacy Practices.

How do VA and DoD share my information?



What are VA and DoD required to do with Service Members' and Veterans' health information?

VA and DoD are required by law to maintain and safeguard the privacy of Service Members' and Veterans' Protected Health Information and provide them with a notice of key privacy practices and legal uses regarding Protected Health Information. VA and DoD are required to follow these practices and their privacy policies on a daily basis.

Does VA or DoD have to get written approval before sharing personal health information with DoD or VA?

No. VA and DoD are both committed to safeguarding Veterans' personal health information. Patients should understand that for treatment purposes, VA and DoD may share electronic health information in a safe and secure environment. Personal health information of Veterans who are active duty Service Members, Reservists or National Guard members will be shared with their DoD provider and VA cannot honor requests to restrict this information. Information shared with DoD is protected by the privacy practices of the Military Health System. Upon separation or discharge, Service Members' records are transferred to VA for VA benefits determination. Service Members must share health information with VA to obtain VA benefits.