

CONFERENCE CALL ANNOUNCEMENT

February 9, 2001

This information is provided to update you on the status of the national recovery audit contract regarding payments made for inpatient care.

The contractor, a partnership between Abacus Technology Corporation and Foundation Federal Health Services, and the VA continue to “ramp up” operations for this contract. We anticipate no major problems with operations starting on March 1, 2001.

Each VISN and each medical center has established a point of contact who will be the interface between the contractor and the VA. We anticipate that the first request for documentation from medical centers will occur in late March or early April. These requests will come electronically and be sent to each VISN point of contact who will in turn, send them to the medical center point of contact.

Funds recovered, either through checks or offsets, will be tracked by a team at the Health Administration Center. This team will provide recurring reports to the VISN points of contact and the committee that is overseeing the administration of this contract. This committee includes medical center directors, financial officials at medical centers and VISNs, staff of the Central Office and staff from the Health Administration Center.

Funds that are recovered will be returned to the appropriate medical center via an expenditure transfer. More details on this process will be forthcoming in writing to each VISN point of contact.

The HAC will also be fielding an Intranet site so that you can obtain additional information at your leisure. You can access this site starting February 15, 2001 through the HAC homepage at www.va.gov/hac.

If you receive an inquiry from outside the VA regarding this contract, other than from the contractor, please direct the inquiry to the HAC contracting officer technical representative – Mr. Tom Wayburn. This includes inquiries from VSOs, media and Congressional staff.

More information on this effort will be provided in a future conference call later this month. Questions regarding this announcement may be directed to Tom Wayburn at phone 303-331-7507.