



**Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Inspector General**

Office of Healthcare Inspections

Report No. 13-03414-46

**Community Based Outpatient Clinic
and Primary Care Clinic Reviews
at
VA Central Iowa Health Care System
Des Moines, Iowa**

January 21, 2014

Washington, DC 20420

To Report Suspected Wrongdoing in VA Programs and Operations

Telephone: 1-800-488-8244

E-Mail: vaoighotline@va.gov

(Hotline Information: www.va.gov/oig/hotline)

Glossary

AUD	alcohol use disorder
CBOC	community based outpatient clinic
DWHP	designated women's health provider
EHR	electronic health record
EOC	environment of care
FY	fiscal year
MH	mental health
MM	Medication Management
NM	not met
OIG	Office of Inspector General
PACT	Patient Aligned Care Teams
PCC	primary care clinic
PCP	primary care provider
RN	registered nurse
VHA	Veterans Health Administration
VISN	Veterans Integrated Service Network
WH	women's health

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Executive Summary

Review Purpose: The purpose of the review was to evaluate selected patient care activities to determine whether the community based outpatient clinics (CBOCs) and primary care clinics provide safe, consistent, and high-quality health care for our veterans. We conducted site visits during the week of November 18, 2013, at the following CBOCs which are under the oversight of the VA Central Iowa Health Care System and Veterans Integrated Service Network 23:

- Fort Dodge CBOC, Fort Dodge, IA
- Marshalltown CBOC, Marshalltown, IA

Review Results: We conducted four focused reviews and had no findings for the Alcohol Use Disorder, Medication Management, and Designated Women's Health Provider Proficiency reviews. However, we made recommendations in the following review area:

Environment of Care. Ensure that:

- Processes are improved to ensure review of the hazardous materials inventory occurs every 6 months at the Marshalltown CBOC.
- Sharps containers are secured at the Fort Dodge CBOC.

Comments

The VISN and Facility Directors agreed with the CBOC and PCC review findings and recommendations and provided acceptable improvement plans. (See Appendixes C and D, pages 14–16, for the full text of the Directors' comments.) We consider recommendation 2 closed. We will follow up on the planned actions for the open recommendation until it is completed.



JOHN D. DAIGH, JR., M.D.
Assistant Inspector General for
Healthcare Inspections

Objectives, Scope, and Methodology

Objectives

The CBOC and PCC reviews are an element of the OIG's efforts to ensure that our Nation's veterans receive high-quality VA health care services. As such, the CBOC and PCC reviews are recurring evaluations of selected primary care operations that focus on patient care quality and the EOC. In general, our objectives are to:

- Determine whether the CBOCs are compliant with EOC requirements.
- Determine whether CBOCs/PCCs are compliant with VHA requirements in the care of patients with AUD.
- Determine compliance with requirements for the clinical oversight and patient education of fluoroquinolones for outpatients.
- Evaluate if processes are in place for DWHPs to maintain proficiency in WH.

Scope

To evaluate for compliance with requirements related to patient care quality and the EOC, we conducted onsite inspections, reviewed clinical and administrative records, and discussed processes and validated findings with managers and employees. The review covered the following four activities:

- EOC
- AUD
- MM
- DWHP Proficiency

The scope of this review is limited to the established objectives. Issues and concerns that come to our attention that are outside the scope of this standardized inspection will be reviewed and referred accordingly.

Methodology

The onsite EOC inspections were only conducted at randomly selected CBOCs that had not been previously inspected.^a Details of the targeted study populations for the AUD, MM, and DWHP Proficiency focused reviews are noted in Table 1.

^a Includes 93 CBOCs in operation before March 31, 2013.

Table 1. CBOC/PCC Focused Reviews and Study Populations

Review Topic	Study Population
AUD	All CBOC and PCC patients screened within the study period of July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013, and who had a positive AUDIT-C score ^b and all providers and RN Care managers assigned to PACT prior to October 1, 2012.
MM	All outpatients with an original prescription ordered for one of the three selected fluoroquinolones from July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013.
DWHP Proficiency	All WH PCPs designated as DWHPs as of October 1, 2012, and who remained as DWHPs until September 30, 2013.

In this report, we make recommendations for improvement. Recommendations pertain to issues that are significant enough to be monitored by the OIG until corrective actions are implemented.

The review was done in accordance with OIG standard operating procedures for CBOC and PCC reviews.

^b The AUDIT-C is a brief alcohol screen that reliably identifies patients who are hazardous drinkers or have active alcohol use disorders. Scores range from 0-12.

Results and Recommendations

EOC

The purpose of this review was to evaluate whether CBOC managers have established and maintained a safe and clean EOC as required.¹

We reviewed relevant documents and conducted physical inspections of the Fort Dodge and Marshalltown CBOCs. The table below shows the areas reviewed for this topic. The areas marked as NM did not meet applicable requirements and needed improvement.

Table 2. EOC

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings
	The CBOC's location is clearly identifiable from the street as a VA CBOC.	
	The CBOC has interior signage available that clearly identifies the route to and location of the clinic entrance.	
	The CBOC is Americans with Disabilities Act accessible.	
	The furnishings are clean and in good repair.	
	The CBOC is clean.	
X	The CBOC maintains a written, current inventory of hazardous materials and waste that it uses, stores, or generates.	The inventory of hazardous materials at the Marshalltown CBOC was not reviewed for accuracy twice within the prior 12 months.
	An alarm system or panic button is installed in high-risk areas (e.g., MH clinic).	
	Alcohol hand wash or soap dispenser and sink are available in the examination rooms.	
X	Sharps containers are secured.	Sharps containers were not secured at the Fort Dodge CBOC.
	Safety needle devices are available.	
	The CBOC has a separate storage room for storing medical (infectious) waste.	
	The CBOC conducts fire drills at least every 12 months.	
	Means of egress from the building is unobstructed.	
	Access to fire alarm pull stations is unobstructed.	
	Access of fire extinguishers is unobstructed.	
	The CBOC has signs identifying the location of fire extinguishers.	
	Exit signs are visible from any direction.	
	No expired medications were noted during the onsite visit.	

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings
	All medications are secured from unauthorized access.	
	Personally Identifiable Information is protected on laboratory specimens during transport so that patient privacy is maintained.	
	Adequate privacy is provided to patients in the exam room.	
	Documents containing patient-identifiable information are not lying around, visible, or unsecured.	
	Window coverings provide privacy.	
	The CBOC has a designated examination room for women veterans.	
	Adequate privacy is provided to women veterans in the exam room.	
	The information technology network room/server closet is locked.	
	All computer screens are locked when not in use.	
	Staff use privacy screens on monitors to prevent unauthorized viewing in high-traffic areas.	
	EOC rounds are conducted semi-annually (at least twice in a 12-month period).	
	The CBOC has an automated external defibrillator.	
	Safety inspections are performed on the CBOC medical equipment in accordance with VA and Joint Commission standards.	
	The parent facility includes the CBOC in required education, training, planning, and participation leading up to the annual disaster exercises.	
	The parent facility's Emergency Management Committee evaluates CBOC emergency preparedness activities, participation in annual disaster exercise, and staff training/education relating to emergency preparedness requirements.	

Recommendations

1. We recommended that processes are improved to ensure review of the hazardous materials inventory occurs twice within a 12-month period at the Marshalltown CBOC.
2. We recommended that sharps containers are secured at the Fort Dodge CBOC.

AUD

The purpose of this review was to determine whether the facility's CBOCs and PCCs complied with selected alcohol use screening and treatment requirements.²

We reviewed relevant documents. We also reviewed 38 EHRs and validated findings with key managers and staff. The table below shows the areas reviewed for this topic. The facility generally met requirements. We made no recommendations.

Table 3. AUD

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings
	Alcohol use screenings are completed during new patient encounters, and at least annually.	
	Diagnostic assessments are completed for patients with a positive alcohol screen.	
	Education and counseling about drinking levels and adverse consequences of heavy drinking are provided for patients with positive alcohol screens and drinking levels above National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism guidelines.	
	Documentation reflects the offer of further treatment for patients diagnosed with alcohol dependence.	
	For patients with AUD who decline referral to specialty care, CBOC/PCC staff monitored them and their alcohol use.	
	Counseling, education, and brief treatments for AUD are provided within 2 weeks of positive screening.	
	CBOC/PCC RN Care Managers have received MI training within 12 months of appointment to PACT.	
	CBOC/PCC RN Care Managers have received National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention approved health coaching training (most likely TEACH for Success) within 12 months of appointment to PACT.	
	The facility complied with any additional elements required by VHA or local policy.	

MM

The purpose of this review was to determine whether appropriate clinical oversight and education were provided to outpatients prescribed oral fluoroquinolone antibiotics.³

We reviewed relevant documents. We also reviewed 38 EHRs and validated findings with key managers and staff. The table below shows the areas reviewed for this topic. The facility generally met requirements. We made no recommendations.

Table 4. Fluoroquinolones

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings
	Clinicians documented the medication reconciliation process that included the fluoroquinolone.	
	Written information on the patient's prescribed medications was provided at the end of the outpatient encounter.	
	Medication counseling/education for the fluoroquinolone was documented in the patients' EHRs.	
	Clinicians documented the evaluation of each patient's level of understanding for the education provided.	
	The facility complied with local policy.	

DWHP Proficiency

The purpose of this review was to determine whether the facility’s CBOCs and PCCs complied with selected DWHP proficiency requirements.⁴

We reviewed the facility self-assessment, VHA and local policies, Primary Care Management Module data, and supporting documentation for DWHPs’ proficiencies. The table below shows the areas reviewed for this topic. The facility generally met requirements. We made no recommendations.

Table 5. DWHP Proficiency

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings
	CBOC and PCC DWHPs maintained proficiency requirements.	
	CBOC and PCC DWHPs were designated with the WH indicator in the Primary Care Management Model.	

CBOC Profiles

This review evaluates the quality of care provided to veterans at all of the CBOCs under the parent facility's oversight.^c The table below provides information relative to each of the CBOCs.

Location	State	Station #	Locality ^e	CBOC Size ^f	Uniques ^d				Encounters ^d			
					MH ^g	PC ^h	Other ⁱ	All	MH ^g	PC ^h	Other ⁱ	All
Mason City	IA	636GC	Rural	Mid-Size	597	4,011	3,136	4,443	6,931	9,326	13,086	29,343
Fort Dodge	IA	636GK	Rural	Mid-Size	441	3,986	1,561	4,376	2,766	7,441	3,541	13,748
Knoxville	IA	636GR	Rural	Mid-Size	792	1,931	1,830	2,506	13,478	3,841	7,910	25,229
Marshalltown	IA	636GD	Rural	Mid-Size	342	1,460	908	1,807	1,726	4,403	3,158	9,287
Carroll	IA	636GM	Rural	Small	176	1,164	722	1,293	944	2,907	1,787	5,638

^c Includes all CBOCs in operation before March 31, 2013.

^d Unique patients and Total Encounters – Source: MedSAS outpatient files; completed outpatient appointments indicated by a valid stop code during the July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013, timeframe at the specified CBOC.

^e http://vaww.pssg.med.va.gov/PSSG/DVDC/FY2013_Q1_VAST.xlsx

^f Based on the number of unique patients seen as defined by VHA Handbook 1160.01, *Uniform Mental Health Services in VA Medical Centers and Clinics*, September 11, 2008, the size of the CBOC facility is categorized as very large (> 10,000), large (5,000-10,000), mid-size (1,500-5,000), or small (< 1,500).

^g Mental Health includes stop codes in the 500 series, excluding 531 and 563, in the primary position.

^h Primary Care includes the stop code list in the primary position: 323 – Primary Care; 322 – Women's Clinic; 348 – Primary Care Group; 350 – Geriatric Primary Care; 531 – MH Primary Care Team-Individual; 563 – MH Primary care Team-Group; 170 – Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) Physician.

ⁱ All other non-Primary Care and non-MH stop codes in the primary position.

CBOC Services Provided

In addition to primary care integrated with WH and MH care, the CBOCs provide various specialty care, ancillary, and tele-health services. The following table lists the services provided at each CBOC.^j

CBOC	Specialty Care Services^k	Ancillary Services^l	Tele-Health Services^m
Mason City	Optometry Oncology	Audiology Electrocardiography MOVE! Program ⁿ Diabetic Retinal Screening Social Work	Tele Primary Care
Fort Dodge		Audiology Electrocardiography Social Work	Tele Primary Care
Knoxville	Optometry Podiatry Dermatology	Audiology Electrocardiography Pharmacy Diabetic Retinal Screening Nutrition	Tele Primary Care
Marshalltown	Optometry	Audiology MOVE! Program Electrocardiography	Tele Primary Care
Carroll	---	Audiology	Tele Primary Care

^j Source: MedSAS outpatient files; the denoted Specialty Care and Ancillary Services are limited to Primary Clinic Stops with a count ≥ 100 encounters during the July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 timeframe at the specified CBOC.

^k Specialty Care Services refer to non-Primary Care and non-Mental Health services provided by a physician.

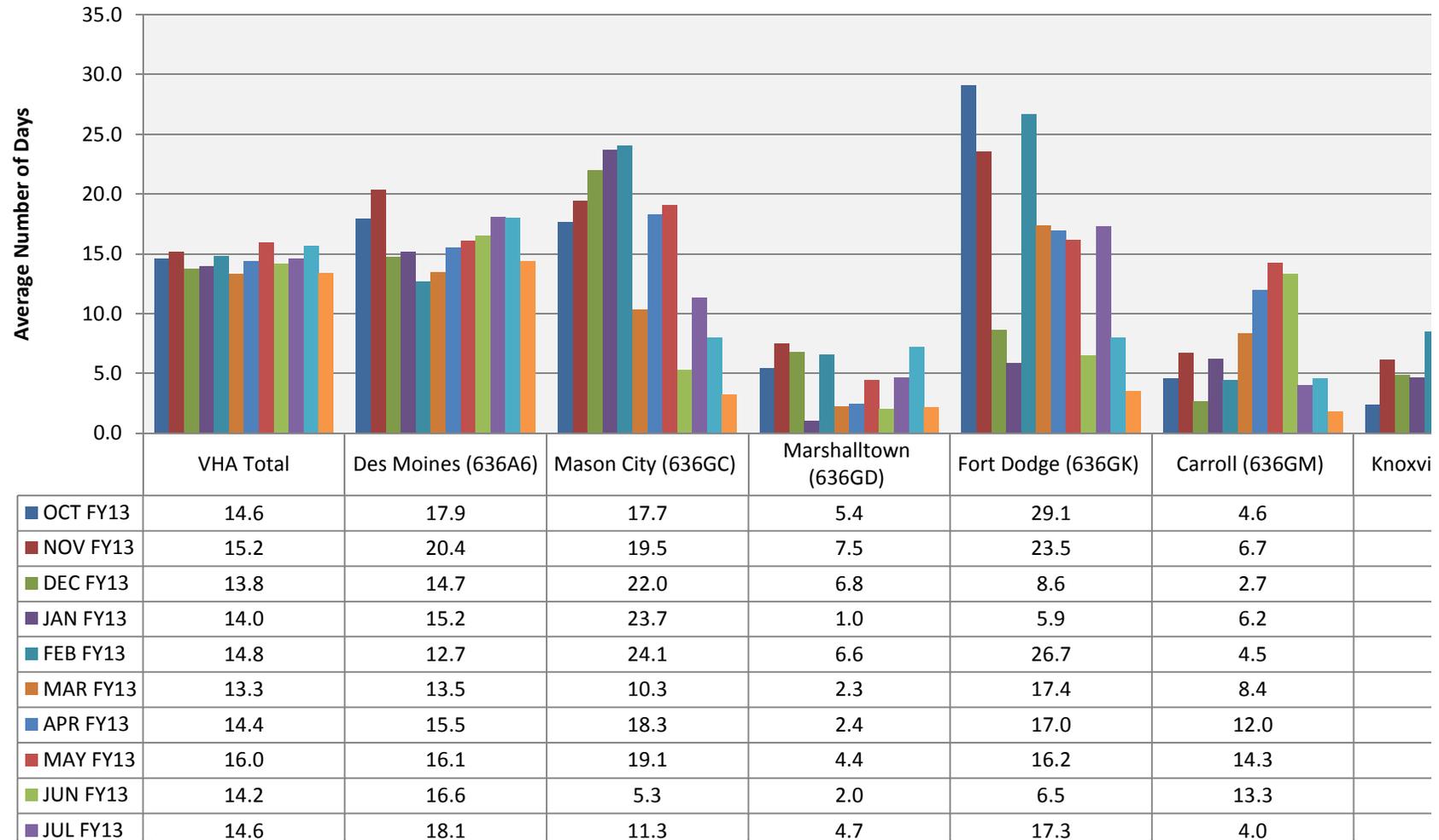
^l Ancillary Services refer to non-Primary Care and non-Mental Health services that are not provided by a physician.

^m Tele-Health Services refer to services provided under the VA Tele health program (<http://www.telehealth.va.gov/>)

ⁿ VHA Handbook 1120.01, *MOVE! Weight Management Program for Veterans*, March 31, 2011.

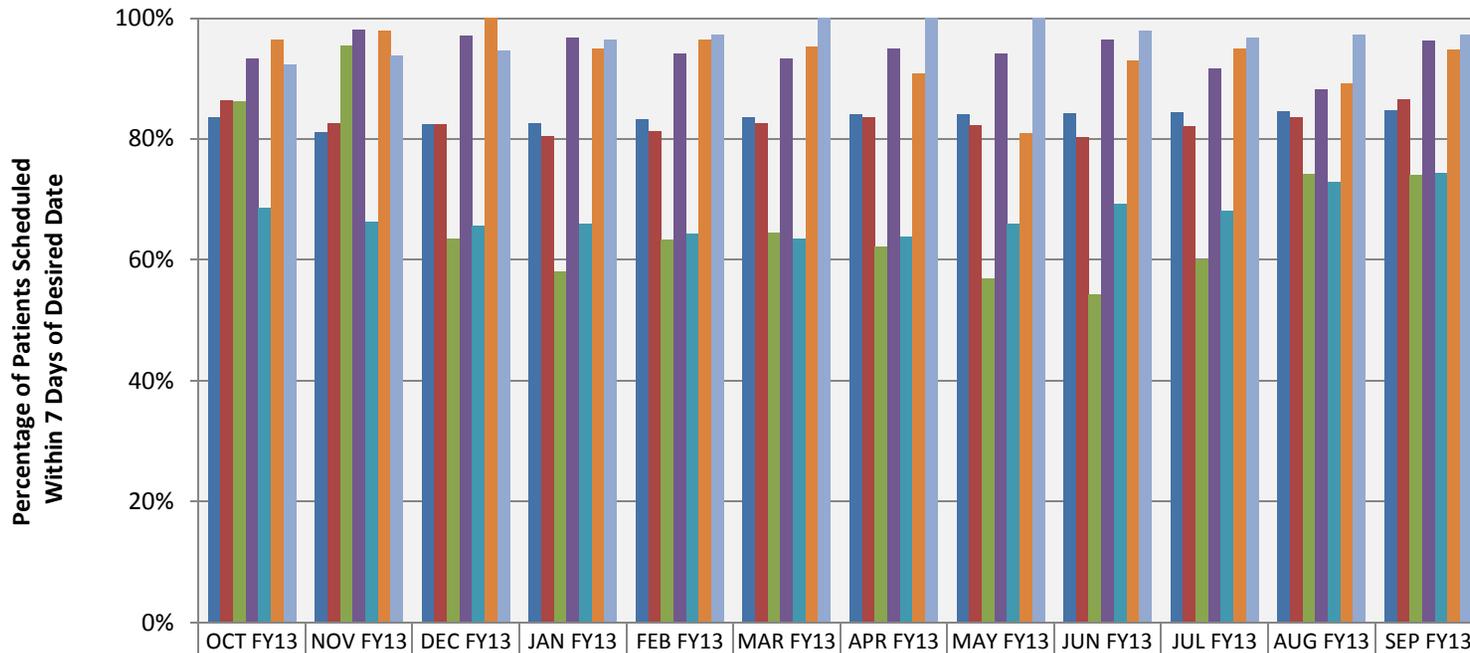
PACT Compass Metrics

FY 2013 Average 3rd Next Available in PC Clinics



Data Definition.⁵ The average waiting time in days until the next third open appointment slot for completed primary care appointments in stop code 350. Completed appointments in stop code 350 for this metric include completed appointments where a 350 stop code is in the primary position on the appointment or one of the telephone stop codes is in the primary position, and 350 stop code is in the secondary position. The data is averaged from the national to the division level.

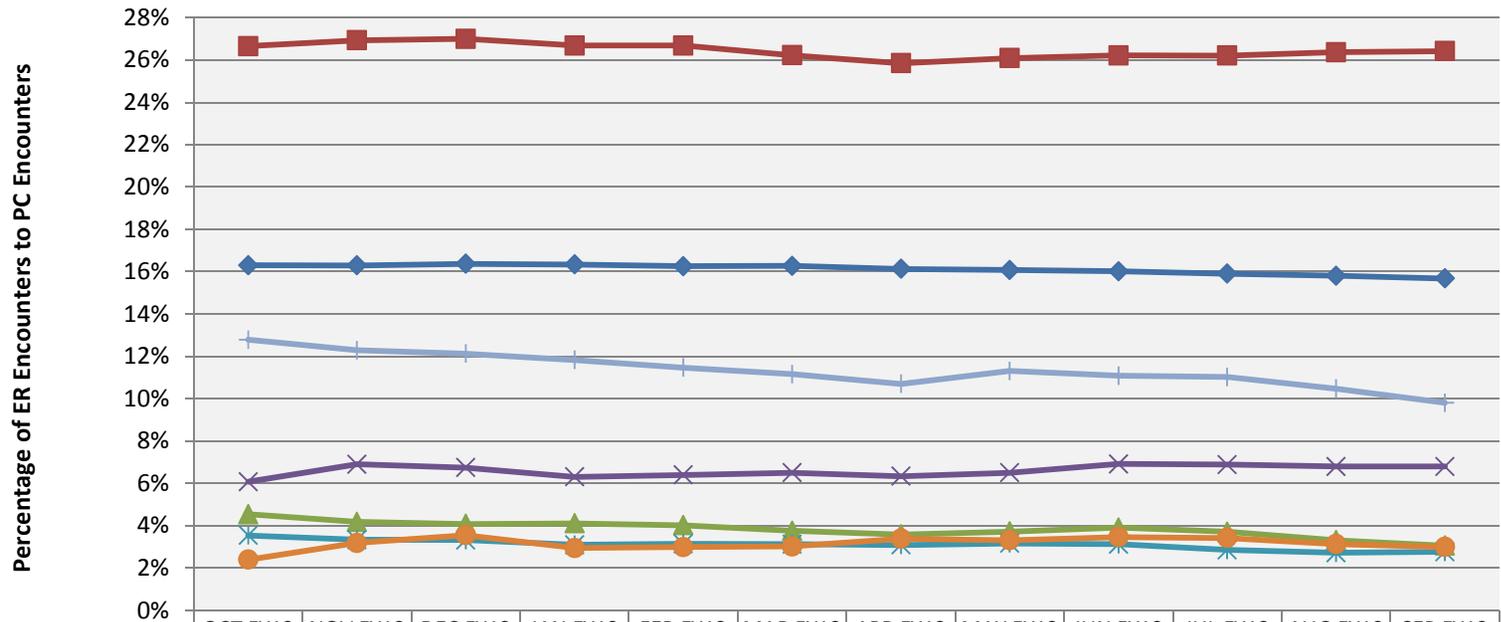
FY 2013 Established PC Prospective Wait Times 7 Days



	OCT FY13	NOV FY13	DEC FY13	JAN FY13	FEB FY13	MAR FY13	APR FY13	MAY FY13	JUN FY13	JUL FY13	AUG FY13	SEP FY13
■ VHA Total	83.5%	81.1%	82.4%	82.6%	83.2%	83.6%	84.0%	84.0%	84.1%	84.3%	84.5%	84.7%
■ Des Moines (636A6)	86.3%	82.6%	82.3%	80.4%	81.3%	82.5%	83.6%	82.2%	80.3%	82.0%	83.6%	86.4%
■ Mason City (636GC)	86.2%	95.3%	63.4%	57.9%	63.3%	64.5%	62.2%	56.9%	54.2%	60.0%	74.2%	74.0%
■ Marshalltown (636GD)	93.3%	98.0%	97.1%	96.7%	94.1%	93.2%	94.8%	94.1%	96.3%	91.7%	88.1%	96.2%
■ Fort Dodge (636GK)	68.5%	66.3%	65.6%	65.8%	64.3%	63.4%	63.7%	66.0%	69.2%	68.1%	72.9%	74.4%
■ Carroll (636GM)	96.3%	97.8%	100.0%	94.8%	96.3%	95.2%	90.8%	80.9%	92.9%	94.8%	89.2%	94.7%
■ Knoxville (636GR)	92.3%	93.8%	94.6%	96.4%	97.2%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	97.8%	96.8%	97.2%	97.2%

Data Definition.⁵ The percent of patients scheduled within 7 days of the desired date. Data source is the Wait Times Prospective Wait Times measures. The total number of scheduled appointments for primary care-assigned patients in primary care clinics 322, 323 and 350. Data is collected twice a month on the 1st and the 15th. Data reported is for the data pulled on the 15th of the month. There is no FY to date score for this measure.

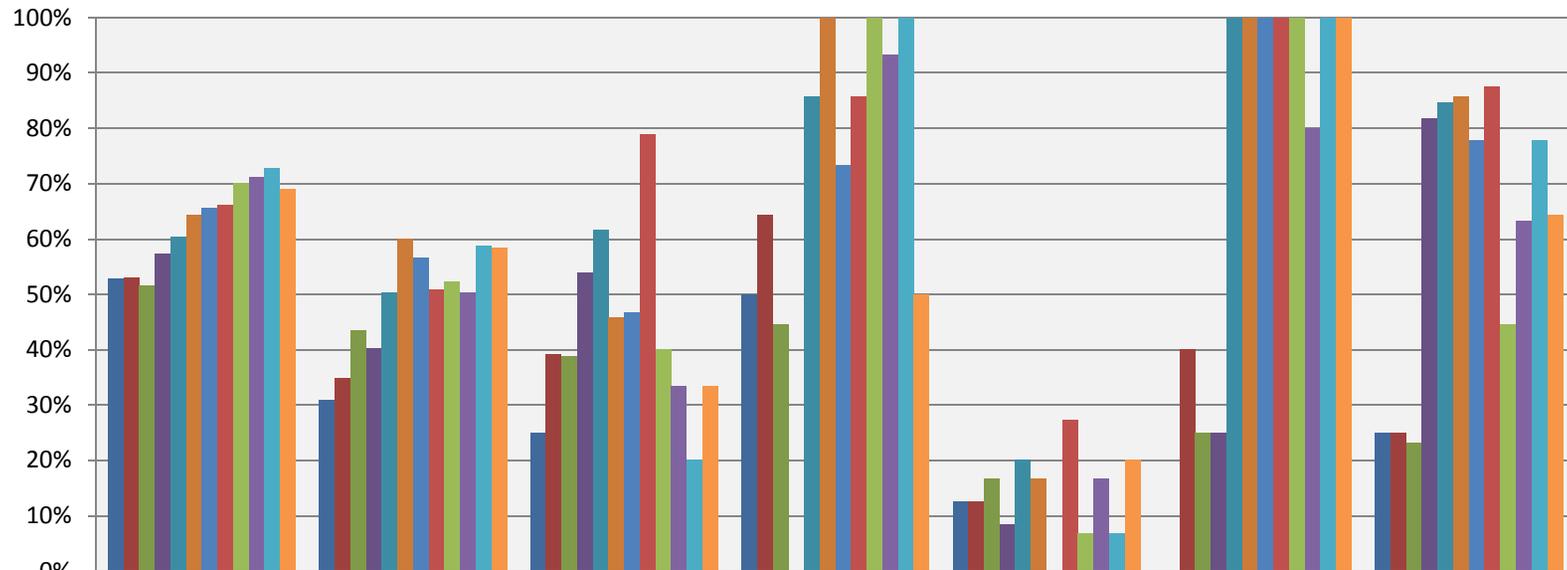
FY 2013 Ratio of ER Encounters While on Panel to PC Encounters While on Panel (FEE ER Included)



	OCT FY13	NOV FY13	DEC FY13	JAN FY13	FEB FY13	MAR FY13	APR FY13	MAY FY13	JUN FY13	JUL FY13	AUG FY13	SEP FY13
◆ VHA Total	16.3%	16.3%	16.4%	16.3%	16.3%	16.3%	16.1%	16.1%	16.0%	15.9%	15.8%	15.7%
■ Des Moines (636A6)	26.7%	26.9%	27.0%	26.7%	26.7%	26.2%	25.9%	26.1%	26.2%	26.2%	26.4%	26.4%
▲ Mason City (636GC)	4.5%	4.2%	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	3.8%	3.6%	3.7%	3.9%	3.7%	3.3%	3.1%
× Marshalltown (636GD)	6.1%	6.9%	6.7%	6.3%	6.4%	6.5%	6.3%	6.5%	6.9%	6.9%	6.8%	6.8%
* Fort Dodge (636GK)	3.5%	3.3%	3.3%	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%	3.2%	3.1%	2.9%	2.7%	2.8%
● Carroll (636GM)	2.4%	3.2%	3.6%	2.9%	3.0%	3.0%	3.4%	3.3%	3.5%	3.4%	3.1%	3.0%
+ Knoxville (636GR)	12.8%	12.3%	12.1%	11.8%	11.5%	11.2%	10.7%	11.3%	11.1%	11.0%	10.5%	9.8%

Data Definition.⁵ This is a measure of where the patient receives his or her primary care and by whom. A low percentage is better. The formula is the total VHA ER/Urgent Care/FEE ER Encounters WOP (including FEE ER visits) *divided by* the number of primary care encounters WOP with the patient’s assigned primary care (or associate) provider plus the total VHA ER/Urgent Care/FEE ER Encounters (including FEE ER visits) WOP plus the number of primary care encounters WOP with a provider other than the patient’s PCP/AP.

FY 2013 2-Day Contact Post Discharge Ratio



	VHA Total	Des Moines (636A6)	Mason City (636GC)	Marshalltown (636GD)	Fort Dodge (636GK)	Carroll (636GM)	Knoxville (636GR)
■ OCT FY13	52.8%	30.9%	25.0%	50.0%	12.5%	0.0%	25.0%
■ NOV FY13	52.9%	34.8%	39.1%	64.3%	12.5%	40.0%	25.0%
■ DEC FY13	51.5%	43.5%	38.9%	44.4%	16.7%	25.0%	23.1%
■ JAN FY13	57.2%	40.1%	53.8%	0.0%	8.3%	25.0%	81.8%
■ FEB FY13	60.4%	50.4%	61.5%	85.7%	20.0%	100.0%	84.6%
■ MAR FY13	64.4%	60.0%	45.8%	100.0%	16.7%	100.0%	85.7%
■ APR FY13	65.5%	56.6%	46.7%	73.3%	0.0%	100.0%	77.8%
■ MAY FY13	66.1%	50.8%	78.9%	85.7%	27.3%	100.0%	87.5%
■ JUN FY13	70.1%	52.3%	40.0%	100.0%	6.7%	100.0%	44.4%
■ JUL FY13	71.1%	50.3%	33.3%	93.3%	16.7%	80.0%	63.2%
■ AUG FY13	72.7%	58.8%	20.0%	100.0%	6.7%	100.0%	77.8%
■ SEP FY13	68.9%	58.3%	33.3%	50.0%	20.0%	100.0%	64.3%

Data Definition.⁵ Total Discharges Included in 2-day Contact Post Discharge Ratio: The total VHA and FEE Inpatient Discharges for assigned primary care patients for the reporting timeframe. Discharges resulting in death and discharges where a patient is readmitted within 2 days of discharge are excluded from this metric.

VISN Director Comments

Department of
Veterans Affairs

Memorandum

Date: January 2, 2014

From: Acting Director, VA Midwest Health Care Network (10N23)

Subject: **CBOC and PCC Reviews of the VA Central Iowa Health Care System, Des Moines, IA**

To: Director, Denver Office of Healthcare Inspections (54DV)
Director, Management Review Service (VHA 10AR MRS
OIG CAP CBOC)

I concur with the planned actions to be taken by VA Central Iowa Health Care System regarding the two identified recommendations.



Steven C. Julius, M.D.

Facility Director Comments

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

Memorandum

Date: January 2, 2014

From: Director, VA Central Iowa Health Care System (636A6/00)

Subject: **CBOC and PCC Reviews of the VA Central Iowa Health Care System, Des Moines, IA**

To: Director, VA Midwest Health Care Network (10N23)

1. I have reviewed and concur with the findings and recommendations in the draft report of the Office of the Inspector General Community Based Outpatient Clinic and Primary Care Clinic Review conducted the week of November 18, 2013.

2. Corrective action plans have been established with target completion dates, as detailed in the attached report.

(original signed by:)
Fred Bahls MD, PhD

JUDITH JOHNSON-MEKOTA, FACHE
Director

Comments to OIG's Report

The following Director's comments are submitted in response to the recommendations in the OIG report:

OIG Recommendations

Recommendation 1. We recommended that processes are improved to ensure review of the hazardous materials inventory occurs twice within a 12-month period at the Marshalltown CBOC.

Concur

Target date for completion: February 1, 2014

Facility response: A hazardous material inventory has been completed at the Marshalltown CBOC. The Occupational Safety and Health Manager/designee will ensure that a review of the inventory is completed twice within a 12-month period. Medical Center policy will be updated to reflect a biannual review.

Recommendation 2. We recommended that sharps containers are secured at the Fort Dodge CBOC.

Concur

Target date for completion: Completed - December 31, 2013

Facility response: All sharp containers have been secured at the Fort Dodge CBOC. Physical inspection ensuring security of sharp containers will occur as part of recurring environment of care rounds conducted routinely at the CBOC, both on a weekly basis by CBOC staff and biannually by the VA Central Iowa Health Care System multi-disciplinary EOC team.

OIG Contact and Staff, Acknowledgments

Contact	For more information about this report, please contact the OIG at (202) 461-4720.
Onsite Contributors	Cheryl Walker, ARNP, MBA, Team Leader
Other Contributors	Michael Bishop, MSW Lin Clegg, PhD Matt Frazier, MPH Zhana Johnson, CPA Jeff Joppie, BS Jennifer Reed, RN, MSHI Victor Rhee, MHS Clarissa Reynolds, CNHA, MBA Patrick Smith, M. Stat Marilyn Stones, BS Mary Toy, RN, MSN Ann Ver Linden, RN, MBA Jarvis Yu, MS

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National Veterans Service Organizations
Government Accountability Office
Office of Management and Budget
U.S. Senate: Chuck Grassley, Tom Harkin
U.S. House of Representatives: Bruce L. Braley, Steve King, Tom Latham,
David Loebsack

This report is available at www.va.gov/oig.

Endnotes

¹ References used for the EOC review included:

- US Access Board, *Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG)*, September 2, 2002.
- US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, *The Privacy Rule*, August 14, 2002.
- US Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, *Laws and Regulations*.
- US Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, *Guidelines for Preventing Workplace Violence*, 2004.
- Joint Commission, *Joint Commission Comprehensive Accreditation and Certification Manual*, July 1, 2013.
- VA Directive 0324, *Test, Training, Exercise, and Evaluation Program*, April 5, 2012.
- VA Directive 0059, *VA Chemicals Management and Pollution Prevention*, May 25, 2012.
- VA Handbook 6500, *Risk Management Framework for VA Information System*, September 20, 2012.
- VHA Center for Engineering, Occupational Safety, and Health, *Emergency Management Program Guidebook*, March 2011.
- VHA Center for Engineering, Occupational Safety, and Health, *Online National Fire Protection Association Codes, Standards, Handbooks, and Annotated Editions of Select Codes and Standards*, July 9, 2013.
- VHA Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management, Memorandum: *Environmental Rounds*, March 5, 2007.
- VHA Directive 2011-007, *Required Hand Hygiene Practices*, February 16, 2011.
- VHA Directive 2012-026, *Sexual Assaults & Other Defined Public Safety Incidents in VHA Facilities*, September 27, 2012.
- VHA Handbook 1006.1, *Planning and Activating Community-Based Outpatient Clinics*, May 19, 2004.
- VHA Handbook 1330.01, *Health Care Services for Women Veterans*, May 21, 2010.
- VHA Handbook 1850.05, *Interior Design Operations and Signage*, July 1, 2011.

² References used for the AUD review included:

- VHA Handbook 1120.02, *Health Promotion Disease Prevention (HPDP) Program*, July 5, 2012.
- VHA Handbook 1160.01, *Uniform Mental Health Services in VA Medical Centers and Clinics*, September 11, 2008.

³ References used for the Medication Management review included:

- VHA Directive 2011-012, *Medication Reconciliation*, March 9, 2011.
- VHA Directive 2012-011, *Primary Care Standards*, April 11, 2012.
- VHA Handbook 1108.05, *Outpatient Pharmacy Services*, May 30, 2006.
- VHA Handbook 1108.07, *Pharmacy General Requirements*, April 17, 2008.
- Joint Commission, *Joint Commission Comprehensive Accreditation and Certification Manual*, July 1, 2013.

⁴ References used for the DWHP review included:

- VHA Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management, Memorandum: *Health Care Services for Women Veterans*, Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Handbook 1330.01; Women's Health (WH) Primary Care Provider (PCP) Proficiency, July 8, 2013.
- VHA Handbook 1330.01 *Health Care Services for Women Veterans*, May 21, 2010.
- VHA Handbook 1100.19, *Credentialing and Privileging*, November 14, 2008.

⁵ Reference used for PACT Compass data graphs:

- Department of Veterans' Affairs, *Patient Aligned Care Teams Compass Data Definitions*, August 29, 2013.