

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs **News Release** Office of Public Affairs Media Relations

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VA explores new Veteran-centric treatments through Center for **Compassionate Innovation**

WASHINGTON - Today, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced the launch of the Center for Compassionate Innovation (CCI), which will explore emerging therapies that may enhance Veterans' physical and mental well-being.

In addition, VA is accepting proposals to fulfill CCI's mission of finding innovative approaches to health care, which may support those Veterans who are unsuccessful with conventional treatment. Proposals may be submitted through https://www.va.gov/healthpartnerships/ and will be evaluated through a rigorous algorithm that critically assesses the safety and efficacy of the innovation.

"VA is unique in our approach to health care," said Veterans Affairs Secretary Dr. David J. Shulkin. "We are committed to offering Veterans cutting-edge and innovative care. That means carefully exploring every avenue that will promote well-being.

CCI explores innovations in the health-care industry as well as innovative practices currently being piloted on a small scale within the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). CCI is primarily interested in innovations that address post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, chronic pain and suicidality. However, CCI will explore any safe and ethical innovation intended to improve Veterans' health and well-being.

CCI is not an implementation office intended to conduct research, clinical treatment or establish a vendor relationship. CCI is strategically positioned to spotlight cutting-edge therapies and treatment modalities emerging in private industry. CCI is an example of VA's quest to continue as a leader in providing innovative and effective treatments for Veterans.

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