

News Release

Office of Public Affairs Media Relations Washington, DC 20420 (202) 461-7600 www.va.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Jan. 15, 2021

VA, Israel Ministry of Defense renew partnership to share best practices in Veteran health care

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today it is renewing its partnership with the <u>Israel Ministry</u> of <u>Defense</u> to continue sharing expertise on caring for Veterans.

The partnership focuses on enhancing the quality of life for Veterans through the delivery of state-of-the-art, evidenced-based physical and mental health care that leverages the experience, resources and research of both partners.

"The partnership with the Ministry will augment the important work VA does to support Veterans," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "This collaboration will also identify opportunities for VA and the Ministry to share best practices in polytrauma rehabilitation and assessment, treatment and recovery for Veterans who are diagnosed with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury."

VA, the nation's largest integrated health system, is a recognized leader in medical research and education. VA's <u>National Center for PTSD</u> is the world's leading research and educational center of excellence on PTSD and traumatic stress.

The parties will also share expertise in areas such as post-deployment rehabilitation and reintegration, career transition and vocational rehabilitation, Veteran and family readjustment counseling, and the use of telehealth technology.

Israel's Ministry of Defense provides rehabilitation to disabled Veterans, support for their families and assistance for discharged soldiers.

For more information on this or other partnerships, contact the Veterans Health Administration's Office of Community Engagement.