PRESENTATION and PUBLICATION of RESEARCH RESULTS

1. PURPOSE: To establish a service level policy identifying the requirements for all forms of VA research results, including presentations, manuscripts, abstracts, interviews and other professional activities, for the VA Portland Health Care System (VAPORHCS). This policy will help ensure VAPORHCS affiliation, acknowledgment and relevant subcommittee approval in all such presented and published research results.

2. POLICY: All individuals working in Research Service at the VAPORHCS are required to submit all forms of VA research results, independent of where their name (first, last, and/or middle) appears, to the Research Administration Office prior to submission for publication or other public presentation.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES:
   a. Responsibilities of the Investigator (An investigator is defined as any individual who conducts research):
      1) Acknowledge VA support (including resources) and/or employment in all forms of research results that are being publicized, presented, recognized, or discussed.
      2) Make available to the public all peer-reviewed publications reporting the results of ORD-funded research without restriction, in accordance with VHA Handbook 1200.19.
      3) Submit all forms of research results to the Research Administration Office (via PVAMC.publications@va.gov) prior to submission for publication or other public presentation.
      4) Notify PVAMC.publications@va.gov as soon as possible prior to the expected publication, presentation, media interview, or professional activity where VA research results are being publicized, presented, recognized, or discussed.
      5) Notify all other required entities regarding publications or presentation of research findings.
      6) Failure to acknowledge VA support or employment, as stipulated in VHA Handbook 1200.19, may result in discontinuation of current VA R&D funding and/or ineligibility to receive future R&D funding. In extreme circumstances, it may result in the revocation of the privilege to conduct research in VA.
b. **Responsibilities of the Facility Director:**
   1) Encourage appropriate presentation and publication of all significant research results to ensure that:
      a) VA support for research is publicly disclosed;
      b) VA receives appropriate recognition for its contribution to medical and scientific research;
      c) research presentations are made in a scientifically responsible manner;
      d) potential for controversy is anticipated and dealt with appropriately; and
      e) VA research policies and procedures regarding publications, presentations, media interviews, and other professional activities related to the research are followed.

c. **Responsibilities of the Research Administration Office:**
   1) Notifies the VA Office of Research and Development (ORD) Communications staff when:
      a) Research results are accepted for publication in a scientific journal;
      b) Presentations are scheduled involving a national venue or the media;
      c) Media interviews are scheduled; or
      d) Professional activities are scheduled or known that involve a national venue or formal recognition.
   2) Ensures that the notification occurs in advance of the activity whenever possible and, when that is not possible, provides notification at the earliest possible opportunity.
   3) Follows the applicable procedures for providing notification and required elements of information, as indicated on the ORD website at: [http://www.research.va.gov/resources/policies/pub_notice.cfm](http://www.research.va.gov/resources/policies/pub_notice.cfm).

4. **PROCEDURES:**

a. **The Investigator must:**
   1) Acknowledge the VA for research that involved either direct or indirect support from the VA, either in the form of research funding, resources (e.g., facilities or patients), or as a result of the investigator’s full-time, part-time, or without compensation (WOC) employment status.
      a) This policy extends to all forms of research results, including manuscripts in a scientific journal, as well as other presentations and activities resulting from the research.

   2) **Acknowledgement of VA Research Support.** All manuscripts and presentations of VA Research results must contain the following (or equivalent) acknowledgement:
      a) "This work was supported (or supported in part) by (type of award - e.g., Merit Review, Career Development Award, Pilot Project) Award # (award/project number, e.g., I01 RX000123) from the United States (U.S.) Department of Veterans Affairs (add as applicable: Biomedical Laboratory Research and
Development: Clinical Sciences Research and Development, including the Cooperative Studies Program; Rehabilitation Research and Development Service; and Health Services Research and Development.”

b) If VA provided no direct research funding, but the research involved the use of other VA resources (e.g., facilities or patients), the publications, or presentations must contain a similar acknowledgement. For example, “This material is the result of work supported with resources and the use of facilities at the (name and location of VA medical center).”

3) Disclaimer Requirement. Publications or presentations must include a disclaimer stating that the contents do not represent the views of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or the United States Government.

4) Acknowledgement of VA Employment. Authors of research manuscripts, abstracts, books, book chapters, and presentations must acknowledge their employment using the following format: “VA Title, Name of VA Medical Facility, City, and State.”

a) When the work was solely funded by VA, authors must list their VA affiliation first.

b) When the author also holds a faculty appointment, the academic title and school also may be acknowledged.

5) Acknowledgement of VA in Media Reports. News media and other individuals outside VA may not understand the contributions and roles of VA in intellectual advances, or VA’s collaborative relationships with universities and other affiliated institutions. Accordingly, investigators with VA salaries or funding support must, when presenting their work or discussing it with the news media, make a serious and good-faith effort to obtain appropriate recognition for VA. A serious and good-faith effort requires:

a) Securing a written agreement, or verbal agreement when a written agreement is not possible, that VA will be cited in news reports before participating in a media interview; or

b) Providing news media, prior to interviews, with a document on VA letterhead that:

   (i) Contains the investigator’s name, VA title, and VA medical center;

   (ii) Explains the importance to VA of citing the investigator’s VA employment in any resulting feature; and

   (iii) Expresses a preference that the investigator’s VA title be used when media time or space limitations permit the use of only one professional title.

NOTE: The media’s failure to acknowledge VA support despite an investigator’s good-faith effort to comply does not jeopardize the investigator’s funding.

6) Acknowledgement of VA During Other Professional Activities. VA support and employment, as appropriate, must be acknowledged during professional activities
where research results are being discussed or recognized. Acknowledgement may be
verbal (e.g. in receipt of an award) or written (e.g. as in the acceptance of an
appointment to a board, in accordance with the nature of the professional activity).

7) U.S. Copyright Act. Title 17 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 105, the U.S.
Copyright Act provides that copyright protection is not available for any "work of the
United States Government" defined under the Copyright Act as a work prepared by
Consequently, VA employees cannot copyright material prepared in the course of
their employment and must decline to sign any copyright assignment. However, they
may authorize a publication to publish a submitted article in accordance with their
standard editorial policies.

8) Submission to the Research Administration Office.
a) Submit all forms of research results to the PVAMC.Publications@va.gov mail
box prior to submission for publication or other public presentation.
b) Send an email to the PVAMC.Publications@va.gov mail box as soon as possible
prior to the expected publication, presentation, media interview, or professional
activity where research results are being publicized, presented, recognized, or
discussed. The email must include the following:
(i) Title of the article, abstract or other publication/presentation document, along
with an electronic copy of the abstract, manuscript, poster, etc. that will be
published or presented;
(ii) VA investigators’ full names and degrees; and
(iii) Identification of where the publication or presentation will be made (e.g.
journal title, meeting title and date).

9) PubMed Central. Investigators are responsible for depositing manuscripts in PubMed
Central operated by the National Library of Medicine (NLM) upon acceptance for
publication. Manuscripts are made available to the public no later than 12 months
after publication in PubMed Central. Specific procedures for depositing manuscripts
are detailed at: http://www.research.va.gov/resources/policies/default.cfm.
a) Investigators are responsible for ensuring that any publishing or copyright
agreements concerning submitted articles fully comply with this policy.
b) The final peer-reviewed manuscript must include all graphics and supplemental
materials that are associated with the article.
NOTE: VA investigators receiving research funds from entities external to VA (e.g.,
the National Institutes of Health, Department of Defense) may be subject to public
access requirements specific to those funders.

10) Health Services Research & Development (HSR&D) Service. All HSR&D-supported
investigators are responsible for notifying VA Central Office when a paper has been
accepted for publication, regardless of the source of funding for the project. A copy of
the accepted manuscript must also be provided. In addition, PIs are responsible for notifying VA Central Office when a major scientific presentation is planned, regardless of the funding source for the investigator’s salary or the research project. 

*NOTE: Detailed information on the notification process can be found at HSR&D’s Web site at: [http://www.hsrd.research.va.gov](http://www.hsrd.research.va.gov).*


5. **REFERENCES:**

6. **CONCURRENCES:** Endorsed by the Research & Development Committee on 12/01/2014.

7. **RECISSION:** Presentation and Publication Policy endorsed by the R&D Committee on 01/09/2012.

8. **FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY:** ACOS/Research & Development (R&D)

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ACOS/R&D