

Date: February 21, 2022

From: Chief Research and Development Officer (1OX2)

Subj: **National VA Research Week, May 16-20, 2022**

To: 14RD All Staff; 14RD ACOSs; 14RD AOs; DEAN Front Office

1. It is my pleasure to announce the theme for National VA Research Week 2022: **Science in Service of Veterans**. This year, Research Week will be observed May 16-20 and will mark the 97th anniversary of VA Research. I look forward to interacting with team members across the research enterprise as we acknowledge VA's extraordinary achievements in research and innovation and celebrate our meaningful partnerships with academic affiliates, nonprofits, and organizations within the private and public sectors.
2. Recognizing our ongoing safety concerns due to COVID-19, we are developing a comprehensive VA Research Week toolkit for use by VA public affairs offices, with an emphasis on material that can be shared virtually. These will include a **new series of VA Research videos** that you can share with internal and external stakeholders. Please use your best judgment and be mindful of local guidelines as you consider in-person events to recognize VA Research Week at your medical center.
3. The Office of Research and Development will also **host an online virtual Research Symposium on May 20**, featuring presentations by award-winning VA researchers. Expect a "save-the-date" email with further details shortly.
4. We urge you to visit the ORD [website](#) to find updated information and resources to support your local VA Research Week commemorations. Outreach materials will include the 2022 VA Research Week poster, the VA Research Week Designation, electronic billboard posts, graphics, social media messages, and slotted news releases. You may also access VA Research Week materials on the ORD Share Point site.
5. Remember, when planning your VA Research Week activities, please coordinate with your local VA public affairs office. They can assist you in planning activities and maximizing outreach to Veterans, elected officials, media, and local community partners. Positive stories about VA research help raise awareness about the importance of your work and how it directly benefits Veterans and others.
6. Innovative research is going strong at VA medical centers around the country, focused on a range of high-priority health conditions affecting Veterans. We in ORD are excited to help you share your stories of success during Research Week and throughout the year. Thank you, as always, for your dedication and hard work.



Rachel Ramoni, DMD, ScD
cc: VA Public Affairs Offices