

Date: March 7, 2023

From: Chief Research and Development Officer (1OX2)

Subj: **National VA Research Week, May 8-12, 2023**

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 2023: **Cutting-Edge Care Through Research**. This year, Research Week will be observed May 8-12 and will mark the 98<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VA Research. I look forward to interacting with team members across the VA Research enterprise as we celebrate VA's extraordinary achievements in research and innovation, as well as our meaningful partnerships with academic affiliates, nonprofits, and other organizations within the private and public sectors.
2. We are developing a comprehensive VA Research Week toolkit for use by VA public affairs offices, with an emphasis on material that can be easily adapted for each VAMC to have unique contributions shared virtually and assist public affairs officers in obtaining local coverage of their researchers' contributions. Please use your best judgment and be mindful of local guidelines as you consider in-person events and social media posts to recognize VA Research Week at your medical center.
3. The Secretary of the VA will also **host a Research Week Kick-Off on May 9**, recognizing the contributions of some of our VA Research luminaries. This event will be live-streamed and recorded, so expect a "save-the-date" email soon with further details on how to watch this landmark celebration.
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 2023 VA Research Week poster, the VA Research Week Designation, electronic billboard posts, graphics, social media messages, historical videos, 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 and ORD Communications staff. They can assist you in planning activities and maximizing outreach to Veterans, elected officials, media, and local community partners.
6. We in ORD are excited to help you share your stories of success both during Research Week and throughout the year. It is only through innovative research that clinicians at VA medical centers around the country can continue to provide cutting-edge care for our Veterans on a range of high-priority health conditions, ranging from toxic exposures and oncology to suicide prevention and Women's Health.

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