

## A. ACRONYMS

ACC	Ambulatory Care Center
ACP	Agency Capital Plan
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADC	Average Daily Census
AHA	American Hospital Association
ALOS	Average Length of Stay
ARC	Allocation Resource Center
BDOC	Bed Days of Care
CARES	Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services
CBOC	Community Based Outpatient Clinic (Primary Care)
CBOC+	Community Based Outpatient Clinic (Multi-Specialty)
CDI	Chronic Disease Index
CPM	Critical Path Model
CPT	Current Procedural Terminology
CSTF	CARES Support Task Force
CTV	Composite Time Value
DoD	Department of Defense
DOM	Domiciliary
DRG	Diagnostic Related Groupings
EMPO	Emergency Medical Preparedness Office
FY	Fiscal Years
GAO	General Accounting Office
HEC	Healthcare Eligibility Center
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services
ISC	Installation Support Center
JCAHO	Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations
KLF	Kathy L. Frisbee
LT PSYCH	Long term Psychiatry
MCCF	Medical Care Collections Fund

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MCCR	Medical Care Cost Recovery
NHCU	Nursing Home Care Unit
NCA	National Cemetery Administration
NCPT	National Cares Project Team
NCSC	National CARES Steering Committee
NDMS	National Disaster Medical System
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PI	Preventative Index
PRCs	Primary Receiving Centers
PRRTP	Psychiatric Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program
PTSD	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
PVA	Paralyzed Veterans of America
RCF	Residential Care Facility
RIF	Reduction In Force
SA	Substance Abuse
SCI	Spinal Cord Injury
SDO	Service Delivery Option
SSC	Secondary Support Center
TBI	Traumatic Brain Injury
TOPM	Task Order Project Manager
TRICARE	Tri-services Care
VA	US Department of Veterans Affairs
VAHQ	VA Headquarters
VAMC	VA Medical Center
VBA	Veterans Benefits Administration
VERA	Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation Model
VFW	Veterans of Foreign Wars
VHA	Veterans Health Administration
VISN	Veterans Integrated Service Network (22 networks of hospitals and clinics)
VSO	Veterans Service Organization (e.g., Paralyzed Veterans Association)



## B. GLOSSARY

<b>Acute Inpatient Care</b>	Inpatient (medical, surgical, psychiatric) services that are not long term in nature.
<b>Ambulatory Care Center</b>	These facilities are independent of hospitals and usually provide a full range of services for the types of surgeries and procedures that can be performed on an outpatient basis.
<b>Assets</b>	Equipment, land, and structures
<b>Average Daily Census</b>	Average number of patients occupying beds over a period of time.
<b>Baseline</b>	An evaluation of previous performance that is used as a comparison with current data in order to determine success or areas for improvement in the attainment of stated goals and objectives.
<b>Bed Days of Care</b>	A workload measure that indicates number of days of care delivered to hospitalized patients, e.g. one patient in a hospital for five days generates five bed days of care
<b>Census Patient</b>	Inpatient remaining at the end of a period of time, whose inpatient stay has not yet generated a discharge.
<b>Chronic Disease Index</b>	A clinical performance measure that assesses how well VHA follows nationally recognized guidelines for the management of five high volume chronic diseases.
<b>Community Based Outpatient Clinic Primary Care (CBOC)</b>	A CBOC is a VA operated or a VA funded or reimbursed healthcare facility or site geographically distinct or separate from a parent medical facility. This term encompasses all types of VA outpatient clinics, except hospital-based, independent, and mobile clinics. Satellite, community-based, and outreach clinics have been redefined as CBOCs.
<b>Community Based Outpatient Clinic + Multi-specialist-(CBOC)</b>	A CBOC+ is a facility where services are provided by medical specialists (e.g., dermatologist, oncologist) who generally do not have first contact with patients.
<b>Community hospital</b>	Provides short-term inpatient care for patients with acute illnesses and injuries, are typically available to the entire community, and meet most of the public's needs for hospital services.

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<b>Constant Dollar Value</b>	Amount determined by a method of inflation accounting where accounts are measured according to historical cost accounting principles, the values are expressed in units of the same purchasing power, i.e., using the same price index.
<b>Cost Element Structure</b>	A standard vocabulary for the identification and classification of cost estimates to be used with cost analysis, and provides a framework for the development of specific cost elements.
<b>Discount Rate</b>	The percent used for reducing the amounts of a stream of future cash flows to their present value.
<b>Domiciliary</b>	Provides comprehensive health and social services in a VA facility for eligible veterans who are ambulatory, and do not require the level of care provided in nursing homes.
<b>Enhanced Use Lease</b>	Fully defined at <a href="http://www.va.gov/facmgt/homefm.htm">http://www.va.gov/facmgt/homefm.htm</a> . A VA-private sector joint business endeavor that benefits both parties. It is an innovative way for VA to economically acquire goods, services and/or facilities. Typically, underutilized VA property is leased to the private sector for a nominal rent. The private sector then finances and develops an income-generating non-VA use. In return, VA receives substantial discounts, facilities, services and/or revenue.
<b>Enrollee</b>	A veteran who has enrolled with the VA to receive healthcare services. An enrollee is not necessarily a “user”. A veteran must be enrolled in order to receive VA health care. Renewal is automatic unless the veteran chooses not to enroll or if VA resources limit the number of veterans to whom VA can provide care. Enrollment is on an annual basis, and enrollments are reviewed every year.
<b>Extended care</b>	Nursing home care, domiciliary programs, adult day health care, and other noninstitutional alternatives to nursing home care
<b>Fee Basis</b>	A type of contractual arrangement on an individual basis, for an individual situation, for a designated period of time, and authorized via special form or Fee Basis ID Card.

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<b>Facility</b>	Each geographically distinct VA medical center, CBOC, cemetery, regional office, or other VA service site. Two or more VA medical center facilities may be integrated to form a health care system that is designated by the same root station number. For example, the VA Central Alabama Veterans Healthcare System consists of VAMC Tuskegee (lead facility, Station Number 619A4) and VAMC Montgomery (Station Number 619). Thus, a station can consist of more than one facility.
<b>Full Time Equivalent</b>	The term FTE refers to an employee who works an average of 2,080 hours per year
<b>Health Eligibility Center</b>	Formerly called IVM, Income Verification and Match. An Atlanta-based VHA office that verifies veterans' self-reported income information (means test) using IRS and SSA databases. HEC is designated VA Station #742.
<b>Hospital-Based Clinic</b>	Outpatient clinic located in a medical center.
<b>Independent Clinic</b>	A full-time, self-contained freestanding ambulatory care clinic which has no management, program, or fiscal relationship with a VA medical center.
<b>Integration</b>	Two or more VA medical centers that have been consolidated to form a VA Health Care System under one management.
<b>Life Cycle</b>	The total number of years that an investment will be useful.
<b>Long Term Psychiatry/ Substance Abuse</b>	A long-term care facility devoted to chronic mentally ill and substance abuse patients. Substance abuse is defined as the problematic consumption or illicit use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and drugs, including misuse of prescription drugs.
<b>Major Construction</b>	Construction Fund Code 0110. A no-year fund. Major construction projects are valued at \$4,000,000 or more.
<b>Minor Construction</b>	Construction Fund Code 0111. A no-year fund. Minor improvement construction projects are valued between \$500,000 and \$4,000,000.

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<b>Medical Care Collections Fund</b>	Funds collected from eligible veterans in the form of co-payments, and third party health insurance carrier reimbursements for treatment of non-service connected conditions. These funds are allocated to VISNs. VISNs in turn may allocate MCCF distributions in whole or in part to their facilities. These funds may be used for all non-travel hospital operating expenses. A no-year fund
<b>Medical Care Cost Recovery Program</b>	The program that collects veteran co-payments and third party health insurance reimbursements for non-service connected treatments and deposits them into the MCCF.
<b>Mobile Clinic</b>	Specially equipped van with multiple scheduled stops providing outpatient care. A mobile clinic is under the jurisdiction of a parent medical center.
<b>Net Present Value</b>	The difference between the amount of an investment and the present value of the future net cash receipts it will produce.
<b>Non-veteran User</b>	An individual who uses VA services who is not a veteran. For example, VAMCs may provide healthcare services to non-veterans and bill for services.
<b>Nursing Home Care Unit</b>	Nursing Home Care Units provide care to individuals who are not in need of hospital care but require nursing care and related medical or psychosocial services in an institutional setting. VA NHCUs are usually hospital-based facilities designed to care for patients who require a comprehensive care management system coordinated by an interdisciplinary team. Services provided include nursing, medical, rehabilitative, recreational, dietetic, psychosocial, pharmaceutical, radiological, laboratory, dental and spiritual.
<b>Outsource</b>	To pay an external organization to carry out activities that would otherwise be conducted within the organization/company by internal employees.
<b>Patients Treated</b>	In the traditional sense, used in computing a measure of work—total discharges plus patients remaining in bed status.
<b>Payback Period</b>	Time it takes to recover an investment.
<b>Practice Management</b>	A long-term process to develop clinical performance tools including practice guidelines, utilization management programs, a computerized patient record, automated alerts and reminders, and event capture notification systems.

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<b>Preferred Facility</b>	The VAMC or CBOC where a veteran chooses to receive primary care. The preferred facility is selected as part of the enrollment process.
<b>Preventive Index</b>	A clinical performance measure that assesses how well VHA follows nationally recognized prevention and early detection recommendations for diseases with major social consequences.
<b>Priority Groups</b>	Under the new VHA enrollment program, established by the Veterans Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996, there are seven priority groups. Each year, depending on available resources, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may decide to limit eligibility to veterans in higher priority groups.
<b>Primary Care</b>	Basic health care and a branch of medicine that emphasizes the point when a patient first seeks assistance in a healthcare system and the care of the simpler and more common illnesses and injuries. Primary care can be provided by primary care physicians and health professionals other than physicians, notably Nurse Practitioners or physician assistants. Primary care is typically characterized by the nature of the contact rather than the qualifications of the practitioners providing that care.
<b>Real Property</b>	Land and structures.
<b>Reduction In Force (RIF)</b>	Separation of an employee from his/her competitive level and position required by an agency because of lack of work or funds, abolition of the position or agency, or cuts in personnel authorization.
<b>Return on Investment</b>	The ratio expressing the amount of an investment and the present value of the future net cash receipts it will produce.
<b>Service Connected Condition</b>	A service-related medical condition that has been rated 0-100% disabling by VA officials.
<b>Sharing Agreement</b>	May be federal or non-federal. A contract that permits VHA facilities to buy, sell or exchange health care resources. The term “health care resources” includes administrative resources, space, and medical equipment. P.L. 104-262 significantly expanded VA’s sharing authority effective FY 97, especially VA’s ability to sell in order to generate revenue. Sharing agreements must be competitive unless they are with academic affiliates or entities associated with affiliates, in which case sharing contracts can be non-competitive.

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<b>Spinal Cord Injury/ Disability</b>	Spinal cord injury/disability including spinal cord injury that is war-related, accident-related or related to a disease such as Multiple Sclerosis
<b>Seriously Mentally Ill</b>	Seriously mentally ill; in VA this is defined as 30 visits per year; this is not the diagnostic definition, which applies to specific illnesses
<b>Special Disability Care</b>	Special emphasis programs including spinal cord injury (SCI), traumatic brain injury (TBI), severely mental ill (SMI), blind rehabilitation, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and prosthetics (amputation).
<b>Telemedicine</b>	The use of electronic information and communications technologies to provide and support healthcare when distance separates the participants.
<b>Tertiary Hospital</b>	A medical facility that receives referrals from both primary and secondary care levels and usually offers tests, treatments, and procedures that are not available elsewhere. Most tertiary care centers offer a mixture of primary, secondary, and tertiary care services.
<b>Time Value of Money</b>	Concept that a dollar received or paid today has a different value from a dollar received or paid a year from now.
<b>Uniform Benefits Package</b>	The defined set of healthcare services that an enrolled veteran may receive. The uniform benefits package resulted from the Veterans Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996 to ensure that an enrolled veteran will receive a uniform level of care anywhere in the VA system.
<b>Uniques</b>	Refers to a unique patient treated (identified by social security number).
<b>VISN</b>	Veterans Integrated Service Network (22 networks of hospitals and clinics nationwide)
<b>VERA</b>	Current VISN funding methodology which funds networks based on their numbers of unique patients and their “basic” or “complex” needs.
<b>Veteran User</b>	A veteran who <i>uses</i> VA healthcare services.