

**OPTOMETRY SERVICE
CONFERENCE CALL
MINUTES
March 20, 2015
3 p.m. Eastern Time**

1. Announcements:
 - a. Open VA Optometry Staff Positions
 - i. Ms. Gernhart comment. Please see the links below for available open Optometry positions.
 - ii. Dr. Townsend comment. There will be a position opening next month for Chief of Optometry in Honolulu, HI. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Riezman through Outlook.
 - iii. http://www.navao.org/documents/03_2015/Open_optometry_positions.pdf
 - iv. http://www.va.gov/OPTOMETRY/open_VA_Optomestrist_Positions.asp or <http://jobsearch.usajobs.gov/>
 - b. VA Core Values and Characteristics (I CARE) <http://www.va.gov/ICARE/index.asp>
 - c. Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) <http://www.diversity.va.gov/programs/pwd.aspx>
 - d. Office of Resolution Management (ORM) – <http://vaww.va.gov/orm/> (three related links: EEO Complaint Processing <http://vaww.va.gov/ORM/EEOcomplaint.asp> ; Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) <http://www.va.gov/adr/> + VA Directive 5978; and Resolution Support Center <http://www.va.gov/orm/RSC.asp>)
 - e. Continuous Readiness in Information Security Program (CRISP) <http://vaww.vhaco.va.gov/CRISP/>
 - f. Professional Development: VA MyCareer (<http://mycareeratva.va.gov/>)
2. Optometry Service Field Advisory Committee - Dr. Selvin – unavailable for comment.
3. Optometric Education Programs – Drs. Slagle/Messer – unavailable for comment.
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. ORMATCH released the assignments on March 9th. There are still a few residency openings within the VA and will be viewable on March 23rd.
4. COPE Approved EES Coursework – Dr. Hetrick
 - a. Dr. Hetrick comment. The module teams are finishing up their reviews of their sections as well as updating the existing module. They are aiming for all the changes to be complete in EES by the end of the month or middle of April. They hope to have everything released and accredited by July.
5. Optometry Productivity Workgroup - Drs. Bennett/Horn/Selvin – unavailable for comment.
6. Electronic Medical Records/Information Technology Issues - Dr. Ballinger – unavailable for comment.
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. Included in the link below is a document that provides a list of VA approved DICOM connectivity information for multiple vendors and the status on whether or not it has been approved by VA.
 - b. http://www.navao.org/documents/03_2015/VA_DICOM_approved_list_of_devices_March_2015_abbr.pdf
7. Infection Control/Reusable Medical Equipment Reprocessing - Drs. Horn/Mancil/O'Connor/White – unavailable for comment.

- a. Please review the memo on RME. This memorandum is to clarify the Chief; Sterile Processing Service (SPS) is responsible for the reprocessing of semi-critical and critical reusable medical equipment throughout the facility or affiliated sites to include decontamination, preparation, case carts and distribution of RME.
 - i. [http://www.navao.org/documents/03_2015/Memorandum - Clarification of Oversight and Management Responsibilities of the Reprocessing of Semi-Critical and Critical Reusable Medi.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/03_2015/Memorandum_-_Clarification_of_Oversight_and_Management_Responsibilities_of_the_Reprocessing_of_Semi-Critical_and_Critical_Reusable_Medi.pdf)
 - b. **One Source Document Site:**
<http://onesourcedocs.com/member/index.html>
8. Teleretinal Imaging Screening Program - Drs. Cavallerano/Selvin – unavailable for comment.
 9. DoD/VA Vision Center of Excellence & Eye Injury Registry - Dr. Barker – unavailable for comment.
 10. TBI Vision Rehabilitation - Dr. Eldred/Dr. Rakoczy – unavailable for comment.
 11. Low Vision Rehabilitation - Drs. Chan-O’Connell/Brahm – unavailable for comment.
 12. Optometry Quality Improvement - Dr. Brough
 - a. Dr. Brough comment. Please make sure you are following through on your Joint Collaboration of Care Reviews with Ophthalmology regarding diabetic retinopathy, macular degeneration and glaucoma.
 - b. There are three examples of OPPE on the optometry website that cover diabetes, macular degeneration, and glaucoma which are consistent with the Eye Care Handbook. Any OPPEs that are developed locally are consistent with what is on the website.
 - c. There are additional OPPEs that were created by different groups specialized in those areas (i.e. low vision), please feel free to use those at your discretion.
 - d. Dr. Cantrell question – Is there any for Compensation and Pension?
Answer: None has been developed at this time.
 13. VA Systems Redesign/Wait Times - Drs. Cantrell/Varanelli
 - a. Dr. Cantrell comment. They will be postponing their monthly meeting this month due to other obligations. Please send in questions or concerns you may have for the April meeting.
 - b. Dr. Townsend comment. They are starting a pilot program at 3 sites where there will be direct scheduling into the Eye Clinic and Audiology Clinic. This will go live March 30th. This has been well received by Primary Care; however, there are still concerns about access.
 14. VA Optometric Research & Development - Dr. Mancil – unavailable for comment.
VA HSR&D Centers of Innovation (COINs) and Resource Centers:
<http://www.hsrd.research.va.gov/centers/>
 15. VHA Optometry Service Websites – Dr. G. Singh
 - a. Dr. Singh comment. They are updating the font to make the website easier to view for its users.
 16. VA Optometry Service Directory - Drs. Egusa/Lim/Pewitt
 - a. Dr. Pewitt comment. They are working on getting updates from every optometrist in the VISN. They are working down the alphabet to complete this task.
 17. VA Residency Trained Optometrist Directory – Drs. Wang/Swift

- a. Dr. Wang comment. There are over 800 residents within the database and over 1200 in the email listserv that are receiving open optometry positions.

18. AFOS Report - Dr. Musick

- a. Dr. Carla Engelke comment. They had a successful AFOS meeting in conjunction with SECO. They awarded the SECO Executive Director, Elizabeth Taylor-Creed, honorary membership to AFOS for all the contributions and support over the years.
- b. Please remember to pay at least a quarter of your dues by April 15 to help maximize votes for the upcoming AOA meeting in June. AFOS is planning to propose a bylaws change that will directly impact VA Optometrists.

19. NAVAIO Report - Drs. Wong/Thomann

- a. Dr. Wong comment. No new updates to report at this time.