

**OPTOMETRY SERVICE  
CONFERENCE CALL  
MINUTES  
August 21, 2015  
3 p.m. Eastern Time**

1. Announcements:
  - a. Open VA Optometry Staff Positions
    - i. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/Copy\\_of\\_Open\\_Optom\\_etry\\_Positions\\_\(2\).pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/Copy_of_Open_Optom_etry_Positions_(2).pdf)
    - ii. [http://www.va.gov/OPTOMETRY/open\\_VA\\_Optometrists\\_Positi\\_ons.asp](http://www.va.gov/OPTOMETRY/open_VA_Optometrists_Positi_ons.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/>)
  - g. Improve Your Customer Service Skills – TMS training coursework list attached (<https://www.tms.va.gov/learning/user/login.jsp>)
  - h. My VA Integrated Plan Overview
    - i. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/myva\\_integrated\\_plan\\_overview.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/myva_integrated_plan_overview.pdf)
    - ii. Dr. Townsend comment. More and more clinics are integrating direct scheduling.
  - i. VCE Eye Care Provider TBI Clinical Recommendations – 4 attachments
    - i. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/Eye\\_Vision\\_Care\\_Attachmenet.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/Eye_Vision_Care_Attachmenet.pdf)
    - ii. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/Expert\\_Workgroup\\_Panel\\_Members.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/Expert_Workgroup_Panel_Members.pdf)
    - iii. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/07202015\\_--\\_Clinical\\_Recommendation\\_for\\_the\\_Eye\\_Care\\_Provider.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/07202015_--_Clinical_Recommendation_for_the_Eye_Care_Provider.pdf)
    - iv. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/ALGORITHM\\_CARD\\_S\\_FOR\\_PROVIDERS.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/ALGORITHM_CARD_S_FOR_PROVIDERS.pdf)
  - j. ICD-10 Implementation Memo
    - i. Dr. Townsend comment that this will be implemented October 1<sup>st</sup>.
    - ii. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/ICD-10\\_Implementation\\_Memo\\_08-11-2015.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/ICD-10_Implementation_Memo_08-11-2015.pdf)
  - k. VHA Handbook 1660.04, VA-DoD Health Care Resources Sharing Agreements
    - i. This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Handbook defines tools that Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical facilities, Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISN), and other organizational components utilize to develop health care resources sharing agreements with military treatment facilities (MTF) and other Department of Defense (DoD) organizational components, which include National Guard and Reserve units.

- ii. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/VHA\\_Handbook\\_1660\\_04\\_VA-DoD\\_Health\\_Care\\_Resources\\_Sharing\\_Agreements\\_7-29-15.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/VHA_Handbook_1660_04_VA-DoD_Health_Care_Resources_Sharing_Agreements_7-29-15.pdf)
      1. VHA Directive 1660, Health Care Resources Sharing with the DoD
        - i. This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Directive establishes policy that defines the duties and responsibilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) staff who serve in planning, advisory, approval, and implementation roles for health care resources sharing with the Department of Defense (DoD).
        - ii. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/VHA\\_Directive\\_1660\\_Health\\_Care\\_Resources\\_Sharing\\_with\\_the\\_DoD\\_7-29-15.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/VHA_Directive_1660_Health_Care_Resources_Sharing_with_the_DoD_7-29-15.pdf)
      - m. VHA Directive 7705, Management of Hazardous Chemicals
        - i. This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Directive establishes policy to ensure that hazardous chemicals are purchased, stored, handled, used, and disposed of in a manner consistent with applicable regulatory, statutory, and accreditation requirements, as well as accepted safe practices. This Directive also provides the policy for the evaluation, reporting, and oversight requirements.
        - ii. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/VHA\\_Directive\\_7705\\_Management\\_of\\_Hazardous\\_Chemicals\\_8-14-15.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/VHA_Directive_7705_Management_of_Hazardous_Chemicals_8-14-15.pdf)
    2. Optometry Service Field Advisory Committee - Dr. Selvin – unavailable for comment.
    3. Optometric Education Programs – Drs. Slagle/Messer
      - a. Dr. Slagle comment. Reminder to residency supervisors – please let your new residents know of the opportunity to enlist in the VA residency-trained optometrists directory. This will allow them to receive the open VA optometry positions via e-mail as they become available. Forms were emailed to all supervisors last week and should be submitted to Kathy Wang ( [Katherine.wang@va.gov](mailto:Katherine.wang@va.gov) )
      - b. The Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) has solicited a call for comments regarding proposed changes to the ACOE’s Professional Optometric Degree Standards. The recommended changes are posted on their website at <http://www.aoa.org/optometrists/for-educators/accreditation-council-on-optometric-education/call-for-comments-on-proposed-changes?sso=y>. The ACOE welcomes any interested party to submit written comments concerning these proposed standards by **September 30, 2015**.
      - c. At its Annual Meeting, the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) approved a new policy relating to programmatic changes for residency programs. This policy will go into effect immediately and will replace the Substantive and Administration Changes document and corresponding sections of the [\*Accreditation Manual: Optometric Residency Programs\*](#) on pages 37-38. The revised policy delineates information that programs should submit with requests for approval of changes and adds more specificity regarding the time frames for programs to report changes to ACOE
      - d. All residency programs should be listing with OR match. The deadline is coming up next week. Many have submitted registration but have not received confirmation yet. There has been a delay but as a reminder, please turn in all paperwork by the deadline.
    4. COPE Approved EES Coursework – Dr. Hetrick – unavailable for comment.
    5. Optometry Productivity Workgroup - Drs. Bennett/Horn/Selvin – unavailable for comment.

6. Electronic Medical Records/Information Technology Issues - Dr. Ballinger
  - a. Dr. Ballinger comment. The committee has been in touch with Central Office's IT group relative to instrumentation and consults. It is a very complex problem without a simple resolution due to FDA regulations and how things are programmed. In order to reduce the burden it may require a national service request. The resolution may not be until the new medical record system comes out.
7. Infection Control/Reusable Medical Equipment Reprocessing - Drs. Horn/Mancil/O'Connor/White - unavailable for comment.
  - a. **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
  - a. Dr. Townsend comment. Clinical recommendations following TBI/blast exposure has been recently released. Attached are guidelines for the provider for these patients including eye related ocular history questions, supplemental testing that should be done to test for oculomotor dysfunction and other conditions that may require urgent medical eye care.
    - i. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/Eye\\_Vision\\_Care\\_Attachmentnet.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/Eye_Vision_Care_Attachmentnet.pdf)
    - ii. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/Expert\\_Workgroup\\_Panel\\_Members.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/Expert_Workgroup_Panel_Members.pdf)
    - iii. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/07202015\\_-\\_Clinical\\_Recommendation\\_for\\_the\\_Eye\\_Care\\_Provider.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/07202015_-_Clinical_Recommendation_for_the_Eye_Care_Provider.pdf)
    - iv. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08\\_2015/ALGORITHM\\_CARDS\\_FOR\\_PROVIDERS.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_2015/ALGORITHM_CARDS_FOR_PROVIDERS.pdf)
  - b. If you have any questions, please contact Felix Barker at [Felix.barker@va.gov](mailto:Felix.barker@va.gov).
10. TBI Vision Rehabilitation - Drs. Eldred/Rakoczy/Peterson
  - a. Dr. Townsend comment. If you want to become a member of the workgroup contact Kathy Gernhart but email.
11. Low Vision Rehabilitation - Drs. Chan-O'Connell/Brahm – unavailable for comment.
12. Optometry Quality Improvement - Dr. Brough
  - a. Dr. Brough comment. Reminder to continue to periodically meet with ophthalmology to update the care collaboration agreements.
    - i. Please keep these agreements up to date especially if there is changeover in staff.
13. VA Systems Redesign/Wait Times - Drs. Cantrell/Varanelli – unavailable for comment.
14. VA Optometric Research & Development - Dr. Mancil – unavailable for comment.  
**VA HSR&D Centers of Innovation (COINs) and Resource Centers:**  
<http://www.hsr.d.research.va.gov/centers/>
15. VHA Optometry Service Websites – Dr. G. Singh
  - a. Dr. Singh comment. Nothing new to report.
16. VA Optometry Service Directory - Drs. Egusa/Lim/Pewitt/Dalton – unavailable for comment.
17. VA Residency Trained Optometrist Directory – Drs. Wang/Swift – no new updates to report.

18. AFOS Report - Dr. Musick – unavailable for comment.

19. NAVAIO Report - Drs. Wong/Thomann

- a. The NAVAIO business meeting and reception will be held concurrently with the American Academy of Optometry's annual meeting in New Orleans, LA Thursday October 8.
  - i. The business meeting will be at 7:15 at the Hilton Riverside Grand Ballroom C on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor.
- b. NAVAIO will be offering 8 \$250 scholarships for current active resident NAVAIO members to the 2015 American Academy of Optometry meeting. The application includes submission of a CV and statement of intent. Information may be obtained on the NAVAIO website. **The deadline for the scholarship application is Friday, September 11, 2015.**
- c. 2015 represents an election year for NAVAIO officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer). Information about the nominees is available on the NAVAIO website. All members should log on to the website to cast their votes.