

**OPTOMETRY SERVICE
CONFERENCE CALL**

MINUTES

August 17, 2012

3 p.m. Eastern Time

1. Announcements:
 - a. Open VA Optometry Staff Positions
 - i. Note: For the position in Ann Arbor, search by the title optometrist not the JOB ID number.
 - ii. http://www.va.gov/OPTOMETRY/open_VA_Optometrist_Positions.asp or <http://jobsearch.usajobs.gov/>
 - iii. http://www.navao.org/documents/08_17_2012/OPEN_OPTOMETRY_POSITIONS.doc
 - b. VA Core Values and Characteristics (I CARE)
<http://vaww.va.gov/default.asp>
 - c. Continuous Readiness in Information Security Program (CRISP)
<http://vaww.vhaco.va.gov/CRISP/>
 - i. If you have any suspicious emails, please see the link below and contact your local ISO.
 1. http://www.navao.org/documents/08_17_2012/VA-NSOC_SAR_P-12-004_VA_Themed_Phishing_Alert.pdf
 - d. IL 10-2012-011, Antimicrobial Stewardship
 - i. This Information Letter describes the importance of optimizing antimicrobial use through the process of antimicrobial stewardship and provides guidance for the development of antimicrobial stewardship programs (ASPs) in Veterans Health Administration (VHA) facilities.
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/08_17_2012/IL_10-2012-011_Antimicrobial_Stewardship.pdf
 - e. IL 10-2012-012, Respiratory Protection Used for Infectious Disease and Annual Fit-Testing
 - i. This Information Letter addresses management of respiratory protection programs in follow-up to an Office of the Inspector General (OIG) Combined Assessment Program Review (CAP), Evaluation of Infection Prevention Practices in Veterans Health Administration Facilities, Report No. 11-03361-274, dated September 13, 2011. The CAP review identified problems with annual fit-testing and covered populations.
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/08_17_2012/IL_10-2012-012_Respiratory_Protection_Used_for_Infectious_Disease_and_Fit_Testing.pdf
 - f. VHA Handbook 1105.05, Magnetic Resonance Imaging Safety
 - i. This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Handbook provides procedures for the safe conduct of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI).

- ii. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08_17_2012/VHA_Handbook_1105.05, Magnetic Resonance Imaging Safety.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_17_2012/VHA_Handbook_1105.05_Magnetic_Resonance_Imaging_Safety.pdf)
 - g. VA Handbook 6500 - Appendix G, VA National Rules of Behavior
 - i. Dr. Townsend comment. There are National Rules of Behavior to safeguard information and passwords. Please review the policies and procedures from the link below.
 - ii. [http://www.navao.org/documents/08_17_2012/VA_National_Rules_of_Behavior, VA Handbook 6500, Appendix G.pdf](http://www.navao.org/documents/08_17_2012/VA_National_Rules_of_Behavior_VA_Handbook_6500_Appendix_G.pdf)
- 2. Optometry Service Field Advisory Committee - Dr. Selvin –
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. They are preparing for the joint committee meeting in September with ophthalmology.
- 3. Optometric Education Programs - Drs. Messer/Slagle
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. Everyone with a current residency training program should have received a notice from OR match about information on how to register your program on the new match system. If you did not receive these materials, please contact Dr. Slagle, Dr. Townsend or Kathy Gernhart.
- 4. Optometry Productivity Workgroup - Drs. Bennett/Horn/Selvin
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. We are in the physicians productivity cube for the first year and are gathering data currently.
- 5. Electronic Medical Records/Information Technology Issues - Dr. Ballinger
 - a. They are working on developing an IT technology guideline for the field for reference when considering IT acquisitions.
 - b. The new EMR development is progressing and four locations have been identified as test centers. The core of this system's development will be available for beta testing by October 1st but a functioning system nationwide will still be a few years out.
- 6. Infection Control/Reusable Medical Equipment Reprocessing - Drs. Horn/Mancil/White/O'Connor
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. Please see the link below for the most recent manufacturer's guidelines for medical equipment. These guidelines are also posted on the optometry service intranet website on the administrative page in the patient care section under infectious disease.
One Source Document Site: <http://onesourcedocs.com/member/index.html>
- 7. Teleretinal Imaging Screening Program - Drs. Cavallerano/Selvin
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. There has been a dramatic increase in telemedicine nationwide. There have been a record number of patients screened through this program.
- 8. DoD/VA Vision Center of Excellence & Eye Injury Registry - Dr. Barker
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. There will be a workgroup meeting next week in Galveston, TX looking at the expert workgroup meeting summary for development of clinical recommendations for visual dysfunction following traumatic brain injury. They are looking at various algorithms of care and referral from primary care to eye care and to other specialists.

9. TBI Vision Rehabilitation - Dr. Eldred – unavailable for comment.
10. Low Vision Rehabilitation - Drs. Chan-O'Connell/Mancil – unavailable for comment.
11. Optometry Quality Improvement - Dr. Norden – unavailable for comment.
12. VA Systems Redesign/Wait Times - Drs. Boyer/Horn – unavailable for comment.
13. VA Optometric Research & Development - Dr. Mancil – unavailable for comment.
<http://vaww1.va.gov/OPTOMETRY/research.asp>
14. VHA Optometry Service Websites - Drs. Hamilton/G. Singh
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. They have updated some information on the websites on the education and training pages.
15. VA Optometry Service Directory - Drs. Egusa/Lim/Pewitt – unavailable for comment.
16. VA Residency Trained Optometrist Directory - Dr. Wang
 - a. Dr. Wang comment. She is working on this year's current residents for the directory.
17. AFOS Report - Drs. Hunter/Wasik
 - a. Dr. Townsend. Please refer to the AFOS website for more information and to register for the annual meeting before the academy meeting in Phoenix.
18. NAVAO Report - Drs. Kawasaki/Storer
 - a. Registration is now open for the 2012 NAVAO Annual Meeting, which will be held the evening of Thursday, October 25, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix in conjunction with the American Academy of Optometry Meeting. Please register online at our website (www.navao.org). Please note that the registration deadline is September 21.
 - b. Please be sure to read our Summer Newsletter which was published last month. An email blast was sent to all members with a link to the newsletter. It is also posted to Member's Area *Newsletters* page of the NAVAO website.