

March 29, 2019

**AMENDMENT TO VHA DIRECTIVE 1635, CLINICAL CASE REGISTRY SOFTWARE:
MAINTENANCE AND CLINICAL STAFF SUPPORT, DATED NOVEMBER 28, 2017**

1. By direction of the Office of the Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration (VHA), VHA Directive 1635, Clinical Case Registry Software: Maintenance and Clinical Staff Support, dated November 28, 2017 has been amended.

2. The amendment revises the directive as follows:

a. Replaces the National HIV CCR with VHA Support Services Center (VSSC) HIV Clinical Cube as the data source for VERA allocation. **NOTE: There is no change to the hepatitis C virus (HCV) CCR.**

b. Removes the requirement for the local HIV CCR Coordinator to review and confirm pending HIV patients.

c. It is still required that this function be continued for HCV. This function is now optional for HIV. The CCR software will continue to be supported, therefore any facility wishing to use their local HIV CCR will need to continue confirming HIV patients into the CCR for their local use. A future patch is in development so that HIV patients selected by the software will be automatically confirmed into the CCR.

3. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

a. As of October 1, 2018, the VHA Support Services Center (VSSC) HIV Clinical Cube became the data source for VERA allocation, replacing the National HIV Clinical Case Registry (CCR), which will be used in the VERA 2021 Model.

b. The HIV Cube may be accessed from VSSC's main page at:
<https://vssc.med.va.gov/VSSCMainApp/> by selecting Clinical Cohorts under Targeted Populations, or by direct link:

<https://biooffice.pa.cdw.va.gov/default.aspx?bookid=1d7ae8a0-42f0-4a40-9b94-df940686b769|ispasFalse|reportbf233819-e7c6-4dad-899b-ab11e9da999f|ws4|wsb0|isDisabledAnalyticsFalse|isDashboardPanelOnTrue>

c. The updated VERA categories for HIV patients are:

(1) Presence in the HIV Clinical Cube without receipt of antiretroviral medication at any time in that fiscal year (FY).

(2) Presence in the HIV Clinical Cube with receipt of antiretroviral medications at any time in that FY.

d. More detailed information about these revised categories is available in the Allocation Resource Center (ARC) VERA Allocation Handbook and related Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document available at: <http://vaww.arc.med.va.gov/>. **NOTE:** *This is an internal VA Web site that is not available to the public.*

e. Given that the National HIV CCR will no longer be the source for VERA funding, the HIV CCR Coordinators designated in VHA Directive 1635 are no longer required to confirm pending HIV patients into the CCR for VERA funding. The CCR software will continue to be supported, therefore any facility wishing to use their local HIV CCR will need to continue confirming HIV patients into the CCR for their local use. A future patch is in development so that HIV patients selected by the software will be automatically confirmed into the CCR.

f. It is important to note that the hepatitis C virus (HCV) CCR continues to be the source of data for VERA funding. Until further notice HCV CCR Coordinators should continue to confirm pending HCV patients into the HCV registry, per VHA Directive 1635(1) Clinical Case Registry Software: Maintenance and Clinical Staff Support, dated November 28, 2017.

4. All inquiries concerning this action should be directed to Population Health Services (10P4V) at 650-849-0365, or the following:

a. HIV Clinical Cube or National HIV Program: Dr. David Ross, Director, HIV, Hepatitis, and Related Conditions Programs (HHRC), VHA, at David.Ross4@va.gov or Dr. Maggie Chartier, Deputy Director, HHRC at Maggie.Chartier@va.gov.

b. HIV or HCV CCR: Dr. Lisa Backus, Director, Population Health Service at Lisa.Backus@va.gov.

c. ARC VERA Allocation Handbook: Ellen Bradley, Director, Information Management & Reporting, at Ellen.Bradley@va.gov.

5. This VHA notice will be archived as of March 31, 2020. However, the amendment information will remain in effect.

CERTIFIED BY

/s/ Lucille B. Beck, PhD
Deputy Under Secretary for Health
for Policy and Services

**BY THE DIRECTION OF THE UNDER
SECRETARY FOR HEALTH**

/s/ Lucille B. Beck, PhD
Deputy Under Secretary for Health
for Policy and Services

DISTRIBUTION: Emailed to the VHA Publications Distribution List on April 3, 2019.