

vacant space conversion (114,000 sq. ft.) and some utilization of community contracts.

Inpatient Services

Medicine—Decreasing demand identified in the Metro New York market will be absorbed at the Brooklyn and New York campuses with some contracting in the community. Increasing demand projected for the New Jersey market will be accommodated in-house through new construction (50,000 sq. ft.) and conversion of vacant space (77,200 sq. ft.).

Psychiatry—Decreasing demand identified in the Metro New York market will be absorbed at the Brooklyn and New York campuses. Increasing demand projected for the New Jersey market will be met through the expansion of in-house services with new construction (107,000 sq. ft.) and the conversion of vacant space (129,000 sq. ft.).

Extended Care

Proposed capital investments for nursing home care to remedy space deficiencies include renovation of 19,533 existing sq. ft. in the VA New Jersey market (VA New Jersey HCS) and new construction of 150,000 sq. ft. in the VA Metro New York market (St. Albans & VA Hudson Valley HCS).

Vacant Space

VISN 3 will have a total of 469,844 sq. ft. of vacant space in 2022. This represents a reduction of 53.1% from 2001 total vacant space (1,001,997 sq. ft.).

Enhanced Use

The VISN proposes development of long-term leases of existing golf courses and associated buildings and pursuing public/private development of VA buildings and/or land for uses including senior housing, assisted living, and other similar life care. Any revenues will remain in the VISN to invest in services for veterans.

Collaboration

VBA—Collocate the Newark Regional Office into currently available VHA space at the Lyons Campus of the VA New Jersey Health Care System.

NCA—A feasibility study must be completed to evaluate any potential land impediments at the Castle Point and Montrose campuses of the VA Hudson Valley HCS for use by NCA. Both campuses have excess land that can be made available to NCA.

DoD—Opportunities currently under review include collocation of the Ainsworth Clinic with Brooklyn, establishment of a new CBOC at Ft. Monmouth, and development of shared services between West Point and Montrose.

Special Populations

The LTC Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) unit will be consolidated from Castle Point to the Bronx. SCI Unit at the East Orange Campus will remain. Outpatient SCI services will be maintained at Castle Point.

VISN 4 Executive Summary

Campus Realignment/Consolidation of Services

Highland Drive—Current services at Highland Drive will be transferred to University Drive and Aspinwall campuses, with new facilities for psychiatry, mental health, and related research and administrative services. VA will no longer operate health care services at this campus. The campus will be evaluated for alternative uses to benefit veterans such as enhanced use leasing for an assisted living facility. Any revenues or in kind services will remain in the VISN to invest in services for veterans. A major construction project to accommodate services at the University Drive and Aspinwall campuses is required.

Small Facility

Butler will maintain nursing home and outpatient services and close its hospital acute care services. Altoona will maintain outpatient services and close its hospital acute care services by 2012 as the need for acute care beds declines. Erie will maintain its current services except it will close its inpatient surgical services and retain outpatient surgery and observation beds. The inpatient demand from these programs will be referred to Pittsburgh or contracted out to the community.

Outpatient Services

Specialty care is increasing in demand for both markets and primary care in the eastern market. In-house expansion, contracting out, and enhanced use arrangements will handle the specialty care workload. Space for additional in-house specialty clinics will be achieved through increased use of CBOCs for primary care to free up specialty care space at VAMCs. These CBOCs are proposed but are not in the national high priority category.

Inpatient Services

Inpatient medicine demand is increasing in the Eastern market while inpatient surgery demand is decreasing in the Western market. The Eastern market increase will be managed by in-house expansion, contracting out, and enhanced use at all five hospital sites. The Pittsburgh HCS in the Western market will convert the decreasing surgery beds to medicine beds to absorb part of workload from Butler, Altoona and Erie.

Extended Care

Proposed capital investments for nursing home care to remedy space deficiencies are included for Altoona, Butler, Coatesville, Lebanon and Clarksburg.

Vacant Space

VISN 4 will have a total of 446,001 sq. ft. of vacant space in 2022. This represents an increase of 15% over 2001 total vacant space (387,373 sq. ft.). Further analysis is required in order to determine how this can be avoided through improved space planning.

Enhanced Use

Butler is exploring a number of potential enhanced use proposals. The proposals include: adult residential living program, 16-bed intermediate psychiatry facility,

administrative space for DOD, and community diagnostic services center. In addition, the local community hospital (Butler Memorial) and Butler have explored enhanced use opportunities on the VA campus to expand specialty care. This innovative proposal would enhance services to veterans in the Butler area and could result in replacing older buildings with more state-of-the-art, energy efficient space.

Collaborations

Collaborative opportunities are being explored with the VBA in Pittsburgh and Wilkes-Barre.

VISN 5 Executive Summary

Consolidation of Services

Washington and Baltimore have consolidated a significant number of services and will continue to investigate clinical and administrative program efficiencies, e.g. radiation therapy, brachytherapy, warehouse functions.

Outpatient Services

Primary Care and Mental Health—Increasing primary care and mental health demand is being met in all three markets through a combination of in-house expansion, expansion of existing Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) and the establishment of DoD joint ventures. Outpatient mental health is being integrated with primary care at all sites.

Specialty Care—Increasing specialty care demand at Martinsburg, Baltimore and Washington is being met using a combination of in-house expansion (new construction and leases), offering selected high volume specialty care services at larger CBOCs, and community contracts. Perry Point will use primarily community contracts for specialty care expansion.

Inpatient Services

Psychiatry—Decreasing inpatient psychiatry demand in the Baltimore market has been met through the downsizing of beds at Baltimore in FY2002. Increasing inpatient psychiatry demand in the Washington market is being met through a shift of beds from Perry Point to Washington with in-house space expansion.

Extended Care

Proposed capital investments for nursing home care units to remedy space deficiencies include the renovation of 18,000 existing sq. ft. in the Martinsburg market (Martinsburg), the renovation of 22,208 existing sq. ft. in the Washington market (Washington) and new construction of 67,000 sq. ft. in the Baltimore market (Perry Point).

Mental Health—Some domiciliary beds are being shifted from Martinsburg to Washington to establish a domiciliary presence in DC area and to obviate the need for replacement of poor quality space at Martinsburg.

Vacant Space

VISN 5 will have a total of 127,310 sq. ft. of vacant space in 2022. This represents a reduction of 66.3% from 2001 total vacant space (377,381 sq. ft.).