

Inpatient Services

Increasing demand for medicine in both AL & SC markets, surgery in AL and psychiatry in the SC market will be met by contract hospital sites, conversion of vacant space, new construction, renovation, and leasing as required by each site of care.

Extended Care

Proposed capital investments for Nursing Home Care Units (NHCU) to remedy space deficiencies include the renovation of 67,247 existing sq.ft. in the South Carolina market (Charleston & Columbia).

Vacant Space

VISN 7 will have a total of 284,005 sq.ft. of vacant space in 2022. This represents a reduction of 57.2% from 2001 total vacant space (664,146 sq.ft.).

Enhanced Use

Columbia has an enhanced use project utilizing 26 acres.

Collaborations

VBA—The VBA will co-locate on Columbia VAMC property as part of the enhanced use project.

DoD—Following are the new DOD/VA opportunities VISN 7 is planning or exploring: (1) Atlanta is exploring the possibility of locating their new South Fulton County CBOC at Joel Army Medical Clinic (Ft. McPherson), (2) Charleston plans to construct a new Savannah CBOC at Hunter Army Airfield when the current Savannah CBOC lease expires in 2005, (3) New Hinesville, GA CBOC will either be on the Ft. Stewart Army Base or in the Hinesville community, (4) Plan to contract for hospital care in the Savannah community may be met by purchasing DoD care from nearby Ft. Stewart, (5) Montgomery realignment will examine opportunities to purchase inpatient care from Maxwell AFB as part of studying the realignment of inpatient services, and (6) Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System is pursuing options with Ft. Rucker (Enterprise AL area) and Ft. Benning (Columbus, GA). VISN 7/DoD has a Tiger Team in place to evaluate additional sharing opportunities including possible application for demonstration site for the VA/DoD Health Care Resources Sharing Project (NDAA).

Special Populations

Increase the number of SCI beds at the Augusta VAMC by adding 11 beds now and increase to the projected need by 2012.

Facility Condition

Inpatient wards—The inpatient ward conditions at the Atlanta, Columbia and Charleston VAMC's were identified as a VISN Planning Initiative.

Lease Expirations

The Greenville CBOC will be relocated to larger leased space and the Savannah CBOC will be relocated to new construction at Hunter AFB.

VISN 8 Executive Summary*Access*

VISN 8 has a primary care access gap in the North market and an acute hospital gap

in Central, Gulf, and North markets. Primary care access in the North market will be met by adding 4 new points of primary care.

Acute hospital access in Central market will be increased by adding a new VA owned and operated site for hospital care in Orlando (Gulf market), by adding new contract sites for hospital care in the Gulf South market area (Ft Meyers) and for North market, by adding 2 new points of acute medical care at Jacksonville Shands (contract) and Jacksonville DoD (Joint Venture)

Campus Realignment/Consolidation of Services

Lake City—Transfer of current inpatient surgery services now to Gainesville. Inpatient medicine service transfer to Gainesville will be reevaluated when Gainesville has expanded inpatient capacity (due to construction of a proposed new bed tower). Nursing home care and outpatient services will remain at Lake City.

Outpatient Services

Increasing demand for primary care and specialty care in all 5 markets and mental health in 2 markets will be met by addition of 4 new CBOC's (North market only), expansion of existing CBOC's via contract, lease and new construction. Demand will also be met by reconfiguring of space at the VAMCs via renovation, conversion of vacant, and new construction.

Inpatient Services

Tampa (West Central Florida sub-market) will build a new inpatient bed tower above the new Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Center to meet medical, surgical, and psychiatry inpatient workload. Decreasing medicine demand for Gulf market, and medicine and surgery for Puerto Rico markets is addressed through the downsizing of beds at Bay Pines between FY2012 and 2022 and San Juan between 2006 and 2022. San Juan space will be realigned through an approved and funded major project in 2006. Increasing psychiatry demand in the North market will be met through new construction at Gainesville.

Vacant Space

VISN 8 will have a total of 250,390 sq.ft. of vacant space in 2022. This represents an increase of 405.6% over 2001 total vacant space (49,525 sq.ft.). This will require further analysis to determine how this can be avoided through improved space planning.

Enhanced Use

Potential enhanced use projects are being explored for Bay Pines. None have been developed for inclusion in this cycle of CARES. University of Miami enhanced use lease project proposal is in development. University of Miami will pay for construction cost of adding three additional floors to existing research building at estimated cost of \$8 million. Miami will address interior needs at est. cost of \$10 million. Project identified for design in 2005 and construction in 2006–2007.

Collaborations

DoD—Outpatient joint ventures in the Puerto Rico market with Fort Buchanan and

in the Gulf market with McDill AFB, Inpatient joint venture in the North market with Jacksonville Navy Hospital.

NCA—NCA is interested in acreage for a cemetery along with any proposed construction in the Sarasota or Fort Myers area.

VBA—VBA and Jacksonville OPC are exploring mini VARO sites. New site for Jacksonville clinic has space planned for small VBA office. A mini-VARO in West Palm Beach is also being explored. An expanded VBA presence is being explored as part of the plan to establish inpatient services at Orlando in the Central market.

Special Populations

Increase the number of Long Term SCI beds at Tampa by adding a 30-bed wing to the current SCI building.

VISN 9 Executive Summary*Access*

Primary Care—The draft National CARES Plan attempts to balance meeting national access guidelines with ensuring the current and future viability of its acute care infrastructure. Because of this, while new access points in this VISN are included in the National Plan, they are not in the high implementation priority category at this time.

Campus Realignment/Consolidation of Services

Lexington—Current services of outpatient care and nursing home care will be transferred to Cooper Drive. Due to possible space limitations at Cooper Drive it may be necessary to relocate some outpatient primary care and outpatient mental health psychiatric services to alternative locations other than Cooper Drive. 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. Enhanced use opportunities for the majority of the Leestown campus with the state of Kentucky appears to exist with Eastern State Hospital. Any revenues or in kind services will remain in the VISN to invest in services for veterans. Plans also include the pursuit of collaborative opportunities between the Louisville and Lexington VAMCs.

Nashville and Murfreesboro—Maintain both facilities and develop complimentary missions through the consolidation of services. Nashville will provide inpatient acute medicine and surgery programs while retaining a minimum number of medicine beds at Murfreesboro to support demand generated from the long-term programs. Murfreesboro will provide acute and long-term inpatient psychiatry and nursing home care services.

Outpatient Services

Primary Care and Mental Health—Outpatient demand is increasing in three of the four markets for primary care and in two of the four markets for mental health care. Increased capacity for these services is being addressed through a combination of in-house expansion (renovations and leases) and expansion of existing contracts (CBOCs). In addition, outpatient mental health is being integrated with primary care at all sites.