

Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General

Office of Healthcare Inspections

Report No. 15-00139-451

Review of Community Based Outpatient Clinics and Other Outpatient Clinics of Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center Spokane, Washington

August 4, 2015

To Report Suspected Wrongdoing in VA Programs and Operations

Telephone: 1-800-488-8244 E-Mail: vaoighotline@va.gov

(Hotline Information: www.va.gov/oig/hotline)

Glossary

AUD alcohol use disorder

CBOC community based outpatient clinic

EHR electronic health record

EOC environment of care ER

FΥ fiscal year

HIVhuman immunodeficiency virus

emergency room

lab laboratory МН mental health NA not applicable

NM not met

OIG Office of Inspector General

OOC other outpatient clinic

PACT Patient Aligned Care Teams

PC primary care RN registered nurse

VHA Veterans Health Administration

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	Sology
Objectives, Scope, and Methodology	1
Objectives	1
Scope	1
Methodology	2
Results and Recommendations	3
EOC	3
AUD Care	6
HIV Screening	8
Outpatient Documentation	
Outpatient Lab Results Management	10
Appendixes	
A. Clinic Profiles	11
B. PACT Compass Metrics	12
C. Veterans Integrated Service Network Director Comments	
D. Interim Facility Director Comments	16
E. Office of Inspector General Contact and Staff Acknowledgments	20
F. Report Distribution	21
G Endnotes	22

Executive Summary

Review Purpose: The purpose of the review was to evaluate selected patient care activities to determine whether the Community Based Outpatient Clinics and other outpatient clinics under the oversight of the Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center and Veterans Integrated Service Network 20 provide safe, consistent, and high-quality health care. The review evaluated the clinics' compliance with selected requirements for alcohol use disorder care, human immunodeficiency virus screening, outpatient documentation, and outpatient lab results management. We also randomly selected the Wenatchee, WA, Community Based Outpatient Clinic as a representative site and evaluated the environment of care on June 10, 2015.

Review Results: We conducted five focused reviews and had no findings for the Outpatient Documentation review. However, we made recommendations for improvement in the following four review areas:

<u>Environment of Care</u>: Ensure at the Wenatchee Community Based Outpatient Clinic that:

Panic alarm system and panic buttons are tested and that testing is documented.

Alcohol Use Disorder Care: Ensure that:

- Clinic staff consistently complete diagnostic assessments for patients with a positive alcohol screen.
- Clinic staff consistently document the offer of further treatment to patients diagnosed with alcohol dependence.
- Clinic Registered Nurse Care Managers receive motivational interviewing training within 12 months of appointment to Patient Aligned Care Teams.
- Providers in the outpatient clinics receive health coaching training within 12 months of appointment to Patient Aligned Care Teams.

Human Immunodeficiency Virus Screening: Ensure that a:

• Lead Human Immunodeficiency Virus Clinician is identified to carry out required responsibilities.

Outpatient Lab Results Management: Ensure that clinicians:

 Consistently notify patients of their laboratory results within 14 days as required by VHA.

Comments

The VISN and Facility Directors agreed with the Community Based Outpatient Clinic and other outpatient clinic review findings and recommendations and provided acceptable improvement plans. (See Appendixes C and D, pages 15-19, for the full text of the Directors' comments.) We will follow up on the planned actions for the open recommendations until they are completed.

JOHN D. DAIGH, JR., M.D. Assistant Inspector General for Healthcare Inspections

Objectives, Scope, and Methodology

Objectives

The CBOC and OOC reviews are an element of the OIG's efforts to ensure that our Nation's veterans receive high-quality VA health care services. As such, the CBOC and OOC reviews are recurring evaluations of selected outpatient care activities that focus on patient care quality and the EOC. In general, our objectives are to determine whether:

- The selected CBOC is compliant with EOC requirements.
- The CBOCs/OOCs are compliant with selected VHA requirements for AUD care.
- The CBOCs/OOCs are compliant with selected VHA requirements for HIV Screening.
- Healthcare practitioners at the CBOCs/OOCs comply with the requirements for outpatient documentation.
- The CBOCs/OOCs are compliant with VHA requirements for the patient notification and follow up of selected outpatient lab results.

Scope

To evaluate for compliance with requirements related to patient care quality and the EOC, we conducted an onsite inspection, reviewed clinical and administrative records, and discussed processes and validated findings with managers and employees. The review covered the following five activities:

- EOC
- AUD Care
- HIV Screening
- Outpatient Documentation
- Outpatient Lab Results Management

The scope of this review is limited to the established objectives. Issues and concerns that come to our attention but are outside the scope of this standardized inspection will be reviewed and referred accordingly.

Methodology

The onsite EOC inspection was conducted at a randomly selected outpatient site of care that had not been previously inspected.¹ Details of the targeted study populations for the AUD Care, HIV Screening, Outpatient Documentation, and Outpatient Lab Results Management focused reviews are noted in Table 1.

Table 1. CBOC/OOC Focused Reviews and Study Populations

Review Topic	Study Population
AUD Care	All CBOC and OOC patients screened within the study period of July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, and who had a positive AUDIT-C score; ² and all licensed independent providers, RN Care Managers, and clinical associates assigned to PACT prior to October 1, 2013.
HIV Screening	All outpatients who had a visit in FY 2012 and had at least one visit at the parent facility's CBOCs and/or OOCs within a 12-month period during April 1, 2013, through March 31, 2014.
Outpatient Documentation	All patients new to VHA who had at least three outpatient encounters (face-to-face visits, telephonic/telehealth care, and telephonic communications) during April 1, 2013, through March 31, 2014.
Outpatient Lab Results Management	All patients who had outpatient (excluding emergency department, urgent care, or same day surgery orders) potassium and sodium serum lab test results during January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014.

In this report, we make recommendations for improvement. Recommendations pertain to issues that are significant enough to be monitored by the OIG until corrective actions are implemented.

The review was performed in accordance with OIG standard operating procedures for CBOC and OOC reviews.

¹ Each outpatient site selected for physical inspection was randomized from all PC CBOCs, multi-specialty CBOCs, and heath care centers reporting to the parent facility and was operational and classified as such in VA's Site Tracking Database by October 1, 2014.

² The AUDIT-C is a brief alcohol screen that reliably identifies patients who are hazardous drinkers or have active alcohol use disorders. Scores range from 0–12.

Results and Recommendations

EOC

The purpose of this review was to evaluate whether CBOC managers have established and maintained a safe and clean EOC as required.^a

We reviewed relevant documents and conducted a physical inspection of the Wenatchee, WA, CBOC. The table below shows the areas reviewed for this topic. The area marked as NM did not meet applicable requirements and needed improvement.

Table 2. EOC

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings	Recommendations
	The furnishings are clean and in good repair.		
	The CBOC is clean.		
	The CBOC's inventory of hazardous materials was reviewed for accuracy twice within the prior 12 months.		
	The CBOC's safety data sheets for chemicals are readily available to staff.		
	If safety data sheets are in electronic form, the staff can demonstrate ability to access the electronic version without coaching.		
	Employees received training on the new chemical label elements and safety data sheet format.		
	Clinic managers ensure that safety inspections of CBOC medical equipment are performed in accordance with Joint Commission standards.		
	Hand hygiene is monitored for compliance.		
	Personal protective equipment is readily available.		

Sterile commercial supplies are not expired. The CBOC staff members minimize the risk of infection when storing and disposing of medical (infectious) waste. The CBOC has procedures to disinfect non-critical reusable medical equipment between patients. There is evidence of fire drills occurring at least every 12 months. Means of egress from the building are unobstructed. Access to fire extinguishers is unobstructed.	NM	Areas Reviewed (continued)	Findings	Recommendations
The CBOC staff members minimize the risk of infection when storing and disposing of medical (infectious) waste. The CBOC has procedures to disinfect non-critical reusable medical equipment between patients. There is evidence of fire drills occurring at least every 12 months. Means of egress from the building are unobstructed. Access to fire extinguishers is		Sterile commercial supplies are not		
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unobstructed. Access to fire extinguishers is				
Access to fire extinguishers is		Means of egress from the building are		
l unobstructed				
Fire extinguishers are located in large				
rooms or are obscured from view, and the				
CBOC has signs identifying the locations				
of the fire extinguishers.				
Exit signs are visible from any direction.		· · ·		
Multi-dose medication vials are not				
expired. All medications are secured from				
unauthorized access.				
The staff protects patient-identifiable	-			
information on laboratory specimens		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
during transport.				
Documents containing patient-identifiable				
information are not visible or unsecured.				
Adequate privacy is provided at all times.				
The women veterans' exam room is	-			
equipped with either an electronic or				
manual door lock.				
The information technology network				
room/server closet is locked.				

NM	Areas Reviewed (continued)	Findings	Recommendations
	Access to the information technology network room/server closet is restricted to personnel authorized by Office of Information and Technology.		
	Access to the information technology network room/server closet is documented.		
	All computer screens are locked when not in use.		
	Information is not viewable on monitors in public areas.		
	The CBOC has an automated external defibrillator.		
X	An alarm system and/or panic buttons are installed and tested in high-risk areas (for example, MH clinic), and the testing is documented.	Staff were unaware that several of the MH provider offices had panic buttons and that they were functional. There was no documentation that the panic buttons had been tested.	We recommended that panic buttons are tested and that testing is documented at the Wenatchee Community Based Outpatient Clinic.
	CBOC staff receive regular information/updates on their responsibilities in emergency response operations.		
	The staff participates in scheduled emergency management training and exercises.		

AUD Care

The purpose of this review was to determine whether the facility's CBOCs and OOCs complied with selected alcohol use screening and treatment requirements.^b

We reviewed relevant documents and 39 EHRs. We also validated findings with key managers and staff. The table below shows the areas reviewed for this topic. The areas marked as NM did not meet applicable requirements and needed improvement.

Table 3. AUD Care

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings	Recommendations
X	Diagnostic assessments are completed for patients with a positive alcohol screen.	Staff did not complete diagnostic assessments for 15 of 39 patients (38 percent) who had positive alcohol use screens.	2. We recommended that clinic staff consistently complete diagnostic assessments for patients with a positive alcohol screen.
	Education and counseling about drinking levels and adverse consequences of heavy drinking are provided for patients with positive alcohol screens and drinking levels above National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism guidelines.		
X	Documentation reflects the offer of further treatment for patients diagnosed with alcohol dependence.	We did not find documentation of the offer of further treatment for 6 of 11 patients diagnosed with alcohol dependence.	3. We recommended that clinic staff consistently document the offer of further treatment to patients diagnosed with alcohol dependence.
	For patients with AUD who decline referral to specialty care, clinic staff monitored them and their alcohol use.		
	Counseling, education, and brief treatments for AUD care are provided within 2 weeks of positive screening.		
X	Clinic RN Care Managers have received motivational interviewing training within 12 months of appointment to PACT.	We found that 2 of 12 RN Care Managers did not receive motivational interviewing training within 12 months of appointment to PACT.	4. We recommended that Clinic Registered Nurse Care Managers receive motivational interviewing training within 12 months of appointment to Patient Aligned Care Teams.

NM	Areas Reviewed (continued)	Findings	Recommendations
	Clinic RN Care Managers have received VHA National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention-approved health coaching training (most likely TEACH for Success) within 12 months of appointment to PACT.		
X	Providers in the outpatient clinics have received VHA National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Preventionapproved health coaching training (most likely TEACH for Success) within 12 months of appointment to PACT.	We found that 2 of 16 providers did not receive health coaching training within 12 months of appointment to PACT.	5. We recommended that providers in the outpatient clinics receive health coaching training within 12 months of appointment to Patient Aligned Care Teams.
	Clinical associates in the outpatient clinics have received VHA National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention-approved health coaching training (most likely TEACH for Success) within 12 months of appointment to PACT.		
	The facility complied with any additional elements required by VHA or local policy.		

HIV Screening

The purpose of this review was to determine whether CBOCs/OOCs are compliant with selected VHA requirements for HIV Screening.^c

We reviewed the facility's self-assessment, VHA and local policies, and guidelines to assess administrative controls over the HIV screening process. We also reviewed 36 EHRs and validated findings with key managers and staff. The table below shows the areas reviewed for this topic. The area marked as NM did not meet applicable requirements and needed improvement.

Table 4. HIV Screening

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings	Recommendations
X	The facility has a Lead HIV Clinician to carry out responsibilities as required.	The facility did not have a Lead HIV Clinician.	6. We recommended that the Facility Director identifies a Lead Human Immunodeficiency Virus Clinician to carry out required responsibilities.
	The facility has policies and procedures to facilitate HIV testing.		
	The facility had developed policies and procedures that include requirements for the communication of HIV test results.		
	Written patient educational materials utilized prior to or at the time of consent for HIV testing include all required elements.		
	Clinicians provided HIV testing as part of routine medical care for patients.		
	When HIV testing occurred, clinicians consistently documented informed consent.		
	The facility complied with additional elements as required by local policy.		

Outpatient Documentation

The purpose of this review was to determine whether healthcare practitioners at the CBOCs/OOCs comply with selected requirements for outpatient documentation.^d

We reviewed relevant documents and 42 EHRs. We also validated findings with key managers and staff. The table below shows the areas reviewed for this topic. The facility generally met requirements. We made no recommendations.

Table 5. Outpatient Documentation

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings	Recommendations
	A relevant history of the illness or injury and physical findings are documented when the patient is first admitted for VA medical care on an outpatient level.		
	Randomly selected progress notes contain the required documentation components in the EHR.		

Outpatient Lab Results Management

The purpose of this review was to determine whether CBOCs/OOCs are compliant with VHA requirements for the patient notification and follow up of selected outpatient lab results.^e

We reviewed relevant documents and 48 EHRs. We also validated findings with key managers and staff. The table below shows the areas reviewed for this topic. The areas marked as NM did not meet applicable requirements and needed improvement.

Table 6. Outpatient Lab Results Management

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings	Recommendations
	The facility has a written policy regarding communication of lab results from diagnostic practitioner to ordering practitioner.		
	The facility has a written policy for the communication of lab results that included all required elements.		
X	Clinicians notified patients of their lab results.	Clinicians did not consistently notify 17 of 48 patients (35 percent) of their lab results within 14 days as required by VHA.	7. We recommended that clinicians consistently notify patients of their laboratory results within 14 days as required by VHA.
	Clinicians documented in the EHR all attempts to communicate with the patients regarding their lab results.		
	Clinicians provided interventions for clinically significant abnormal lab results.		

Clinic Profiles

The CBOC/OOC review evaluates the quality of care provided to veterans at all of the outpatient clinics under the parent facility's oversight.³ In addition to PC integrated with women's health, MH, and tele-health services, the CBOCs provide various specialty care and ancillary services. The following table provides information relative to each of the outpatient clinics and lists the additional specialty care and ancillary services provided at each location.

			Out	Outpatient Workload / Encounters ⁴		Servic	es Provided ⁵
Location	Station #	Rurality ⁶	PC	МН	Specialty Clinics ⁷	Specialty Care ⁸	Ancillary Services ⁹
Wenatchee, WA	668GA	Urban	4,292	1,717	129	Dermatology	Audiology
Coeur d 'Alene, ID	668GB	Urban	11,963	3,627	782	Dermatology	MOVE! Program ¹⁰ Pharmacy Social Work

³ Includes all CBOCs in operation before April 1, 2014.

⁴ An encounter is a professional contact between a patient and a practitioner vested with responsibility for diagnosing, evaluating, and treating the patient's condition. Encounters occur in both the outpatient and inpatient setting.

⁵ The denoted Specialty Care and Ancillary Services are limited to Primary Clinic Stops with a count ≥ 100 encounters during the October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2014, timeframe at the specified CBOC.

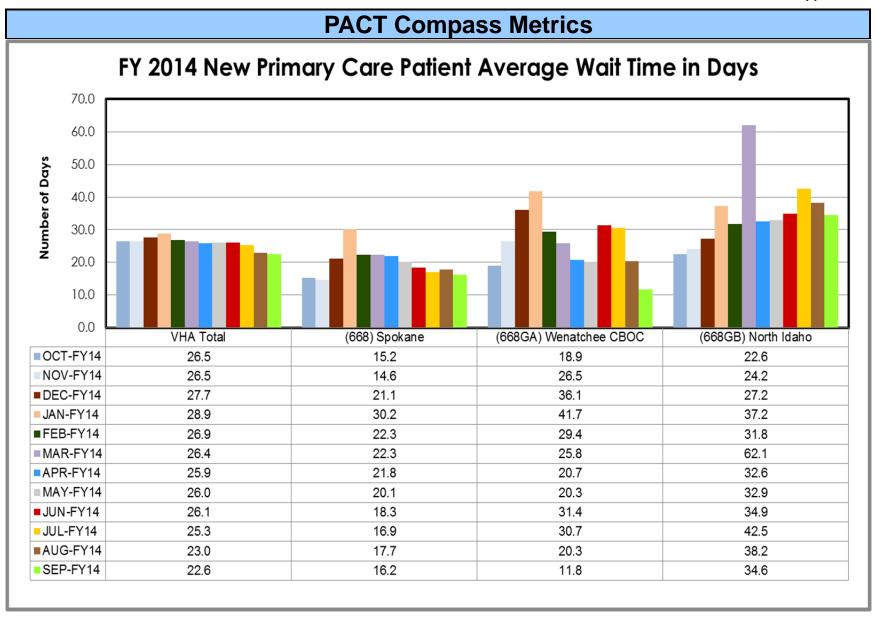
⁶ http://vssc.med.va.gov/

The total number of encounters for the services provided in the "Specialty Care" column.

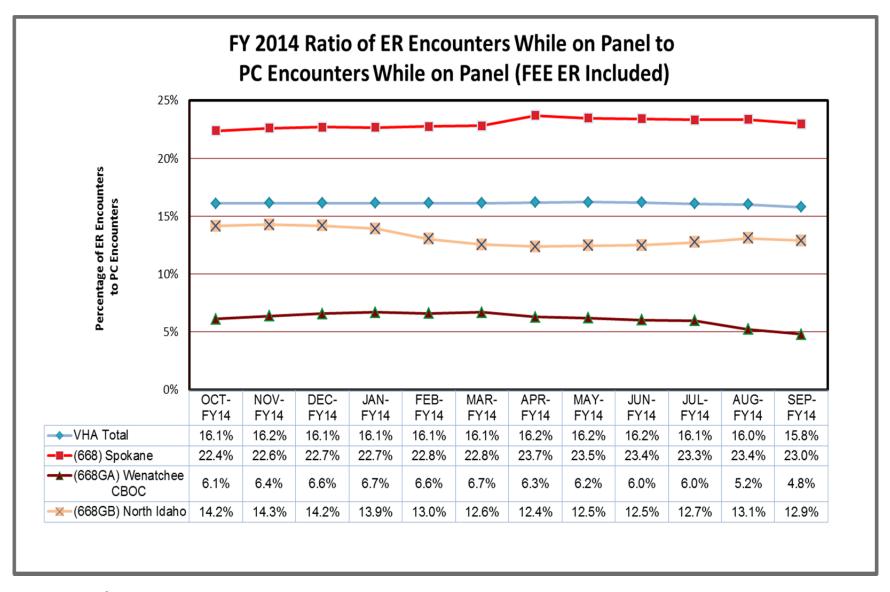
⁸ Specialty Care Services refer to non-PC and non-MH services provided by a physician.

⁹ Ancillary Services refer to non-PC and non-MH services that are not provided by a physician.

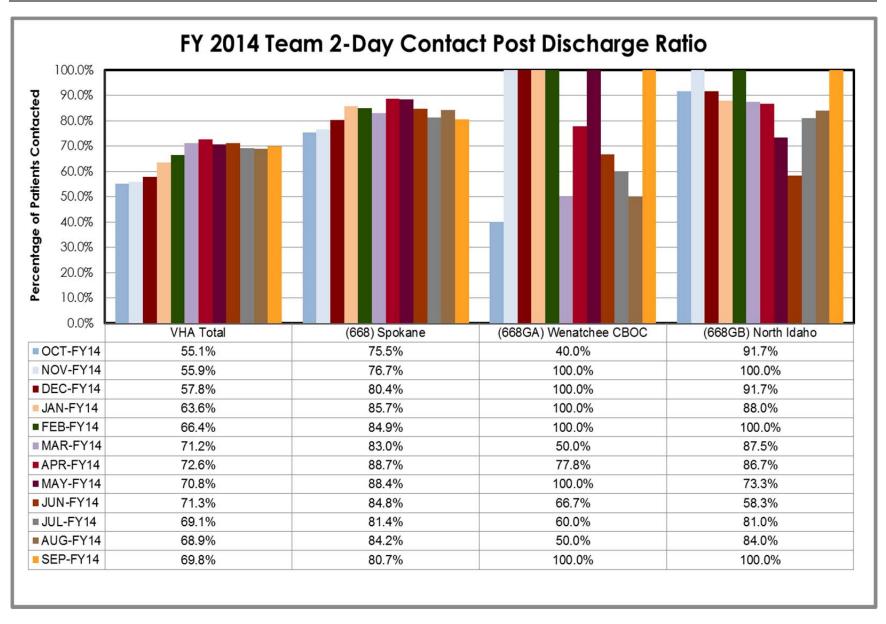
¹⁰ VHA Handbook 1120.01, MOVE! Weight Management Program for Veterans, March 31, 2011.



Data Definition. The average number of calendar days between a new patient's PC appointment (clinic stops 322, 323, and 350), excluding compensation and pension appointments, and the earliest creation date.



Data Definition. This is a measure of where the patient receives his PC and by whom. A low percentage is better. The formula is the total VHA ER/Urgent Care/FEE ER encounters while on panel (including FEE ER visits) divided by the number of PC encounters while on panel with the patient's assigned primary care (or associate) provider plus the total VHA ER/Urgent Care/FEE ER encounters (including FEE ER visits) while on panel plus the number of PC encounters while on panel with a provider other than the patient's PC Provider/Associate Provider.



Data Definition. The percent of discharges (VHA inpatient discharges) for the reporting timeframe for assigned PC patients where the patient was contacted by a member of the PACT the patient is assigned to within 2 business days post discharge. Discharges resulting in death and discharges where a patient is readmitted within 2 days of discharge are excluded from this metric.

Veterans Integrated Service Network Director Comments

Department of Veterans Affairs

Memorandum

Date: July 15, 2015

From: Director, Northwest Network (10N20)

Subject: Review of CBOCs and OOCs of the Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical

Center, Spokane, WA

To: Director, Seattle Office of Healthcare Inspections (54SE)

Director, Management Review Service (VHA 10AR MRS OIG CAP

CBOC)

1. Thank you for the opportunity to provide responses to the findings from the Community Based Outpatient Clinic and Other Outpatient Clinics at the Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center, Spokane, Washington.

- 2. Attached please find the facility concurrence and response to the findings from the review.
- 3. If you have additional questions or need further information, please contact Susan Green, Survey Coordinator, VISN 20 at (360) 567-4678.

Interim Facility Director Comments

Department of Veterans Affairs

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 13, 2015

From: Interim Medical Center Director (668/00)

Subj: Review of CBOC's and Other Outpatient Clinics of the Mann-Grandstaff VAMC, Spokane, WA

To: Director, Northwest Network (10N20)

- 1. Please find attached the Mann-Grandstaff VAMC response to the CBOC and Other Outpatient Clinics Review at the Mann-Grandstaff VAMC, Spokane, WA during the week of June 9 10, 2015.
- 2. The Mann-Grandstaff VAMC staff is committed to continuously improving processes and care provided to our Veterans. We are submitting a plan to implement each recommendation made by the OIG Team.
- 3. If you have additional questions, or need additional information, please contact Betty Braddock at 509-434-7300.

J. Ronald Johnson, FACHE

Comments to OIG's Report

The following Director's comments are submitted in response to the recommendations in the OIG report:

OIG Recommendations

Recommendation 1. We recommended that panic buttons are tested and that testing is documented at the Wenatchee Community Based Outpatient Clinic.

Concur

Target date for completion: November 30, 2015

Facility response: The Wenatchee Community Based Outpatient Clinic Manager will ensure all panic alarms are tested immediately and documented.

All panic alarms will be tested monthly by Community Based Outpatient Clinic staff and entered into a tracking sheet.

The tracking sheet will be sent to Continuous Quality Improvement for monitoring. Monitoring will continue until compliance of 100% is reached for three consecutive months.

Recommendation 2. We recommended that clinic staff consistently complete diagnostic assessments for patients with a positive alcohol screen.

Concur

Target date for completion: November 30, 2015

Facility response: Modify clinical reminder to clearly illustrate that the assessment identified the Veteran as reporting he/she is drinking over the recommended limits. Staff have been reminded to perform diagnostic assessments on all patients with a positive alcohol screen.

We will conduct 30 random chart audits to ensure the diagnostic assessments are completed for patients with a positive alcohol screen. Audits will continue until 90% compliance is achieved for three consecutive months.

Recommendation 3. We recommended that clinic staff consistently document the offer of further treatment to patients diagnosed with alcohol dependence.

Concur

Target date for completion: November 30, 2015

Facility response: We will educate providers regarding the requirement to offer further treatment to patients diagnosed with alcohol dependence. Education will be documented.

We will perform 30 random chart audits monthly to ensure patients with diagnosed alcohol dependence have received offers for further treatment. Audits will continue until 90% compliance is achieved for three consecutive months.

Recommendation 4. We recommended that Clinic Registered Nurse Care Managers receive motivational interviewing training within 12 months of appointment to Patient Aligned Care Teams.

Concur

Target date for completion: November 30, 2015

Facility response: We will remind Community Based Outpatient Clinic and Primary Care Managers that all Registered Nurse Care Managers are required to receive motivational interviewing training within 12 months of appointment to Patient Aligned Care Teams.

We will ensure all current Registered Nurse Care Managers have received motivational interviewing training. All training will be documented. We will review the training records monthly until 100% of the Registered Nurse Care Managers have completed training.

Recommendation 5. We recommended that providers in the outpatient clinics receive health coaching training within 12 months of appointment to Patient Aligned Care Teams.

Concur

Target date for completion: November 30, 2015

Facility response: We reminded Clinical Leaders that all providers in the outpatient clinics are required to receive health coaching training within 12 months of appointment to Patient Aligned Care Teams.

We will ensure all current outpatient providers assigned to Patient Aligned Care Teams have received health coaching training. All training will be documented. We will review the training records monthly until 100% of the outpatient providers have completed training.

Recommendation 6. We recommended that the Facility Director identifies a Lead Human Immunodeficiency Virus Clinician to carry out required responsibilities.

Concur

Target date for completion: January 31, 2016

Facility response: Currently, the Portland and Puget Sound VA Medical Centers provide oversight of all Human Immunodeficiency Virus patients at our facility. Mann-Grandstaff VA is recruiting for an Infectious Disease provider, who will assume the role of Lead Human Immunodeficiency Virus Clinician.

Recommendation 7. We recommended that clinicians consistently notify patients of their laboratory results within 14 days as required by VHA.

Concur

Target date for completion: November 30, 2015

Facility response: We will educate providers to the VHA requirement for lab results to be communicated to patients within 14 days. Education will be documented.

We will perform 30 random audits of patient charts to ensure lab results are communicated to patients within the required 14 days. Audits will continue until 90% compliance is achieved for three consecutive months.

Office of Inspector General Contact and Staff Acknowledgments

Contact	For more information about this report, please contact the OIG at (202) 461-4720.
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U.S. House of Representatives: Raul R. Labrador, Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Mike Simpson, Ryan Zinke

This report is available at www.va.gov/oig.

Endnotes

- International Association of Healthcare Central Services Materiel Management, *Central Service Technical Manual*, 7th ed.
- Joint Commission, Joint Commission Comprehensive Accreditation and Certification Manual, July 1, 2014.
- US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, *The Privacy Rule*, February 16, 2006.
- US Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, *Laws and Regulations*, 1910 General Industry Standards.
- US Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, *Guidelines for Preventing Workplace Violence*, 2004.
- VA Directive 0059, VA Chemicals Management and Pollution Prevention, May 25, 2012.
- VA Handbook 6500, Risk Management Framework for VA Information System, September 20, 2012.
- VHA Center for Engineering, Occupational Safety, and Health, *Online National Fire Protection Association Codes, Standards, Handbooks, and Annotated Editions of Select Codes and Standards*, July 9, 2013.
- VHA Directive 2011-007, Required Hand Hygiene Practices, February 16, 2011.
- VHA Directive 2012-026, Sexual Assaults & Other Defined Public Safety Incidents in VHA Facilities, September 27, 2012.
- VHA Handbook 1006.1, Planning and Activating Community-Based Outpatient Clinics, May 19, 2004.
- VHA Handbook 1330.01, Health Care Services for Women Veterans, May 21, 2010.
- ^b References used for the AUD Care review included:
- VHA Handbook 1101.10, Patient Aligned Care Teams (PACT), February 5, 2014.
- VHA Handbook 1120.02, Health Promotion Disease Prevention (HPDP) Program, July 5, 2012.
- VHA Handbook 1160.01, *Uniform Mental Health Services in VA Medical Centers and Clinics*, September 11, 2008.
- VHA National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (NCP), HealthPOWER Prevention News, *Motivational Interviewing*, Summer 2011. Accessed from:
- http://www.prevention.va.gov/Publications/Newsletters/2011/HealthPOWER_Prevention_News_Summer_2011.

 asp
- VHA National Center for Prevention (NCP). NCP Training Resources. Accessed from: http://vaww.infoshare.va.gov/sites/prevention/NCP_Training_Resources/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx
- ^c References used for the HIV Screening review included:
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Testing in Clinical Settings*, June 25, 2014. http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/testing/clinical/ Accessed July 18, 2014.
- VHA Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Clinical Operations Memorandum, VAIQ #741734 Documentation of Oral Consent for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Testing, January 10, 2014.
- VHA Directive 2008-082, National HIV Program, December 5, 2008.
- VHA Directive 2009-019, Ordering and Reporting Test Results, March 24, 2009.
- VHA Directive 2009-036, Testing for Human Immunodeficiency Virus in Veterans Health Administration Facilities, August 14, 2009.
- VHA Handbook 1004.01, Informed Consent for Clinical Treatments and Procedures, August 14, 2009.
- VHA National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (NCP), *Screening for HIV*, June 23, 2014. http://vaww.prevention.va.gov/Screening for HIV.asp Accessed July 18, 2014.
- VHA Under Secretary for Health Information, *Letter IL 10-2010-006*, *Use of Rapid Tests for Routine Human Immunodeficiency Virus Screening*, February 16, 2010.
- ^d References used for the Outpatient Documentation review included:
- VHA Handbook 1907.01, Health Information Management and Health Records, September 19, 2012.
- VHA Handbook 1907.01, Health Information Management and Health Records, July 22, 2014.
- ^e References used for the Outpatient Lab Results Management review included:
- VHA Handbook 2009-019, Ordering and Reporting Test Results, March 24, 2009.
- VHA, Communication of Test Results Toolkit, April 2012.
- ^f Reference used for PACT Compass data graphs:
- Department of Veterans' Affairs, Patient Aligned Care Teams Compass Data Definitions, June 24, 2014.

^a References used for the EOC review included: