

Dallas VA Medical Center

Dallas VA Medical Center (VAMC), the referral center for VA North Texas Health Care System, has cared for America's military veterans for over half a century. The 84-acre campus employs approximately 3,600 staff, and over 1,100 volunteers serve in many capacities throughout the campus that includes:



- 289-bed acute care Medical Center
- 90-bed Transitional Care Unit
- 40-bed Domiciliary care unit
- 30-bed Spinal Cord Injury Center
- 39-Bed Telemetry Unit
- 56-bed Psychiatric Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program

Dallas VAMC is a teaching hospital, providing a full range of patient care services with state-of-the-art technology as well as education and research. Comprehensive health care is provided through primary care, secondary care, and tertiary care in medicine, surgery, mental health and rehabilitation medicine. Innovative clinical services include cardiac surgery, geriatric care, magnetic resonance imaging, women veteran services, interventional chronic pain procedures, and care for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as well as traumatic brain and spinal cord injuries. The facility has four ICUs, 13 operating rooms, two linear accelerators, two MRIs and a state of the art cardiac catheterization lab.

Innovative clinical services include adult day health care, Agent Orange evaluation, Persian Gulf evaluation, women veteran services, cardiac surgery, geriatric care, magnetic resonance imaging, hemodialysis and rehabilitation medicine.

Through its longstanding partnership with The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Dallas VAMC is a major teaching and medical research center. Staff physicians and service chiefs also serve as faculty members at UT Southwestern.

In 2002, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center relocated its regional Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex School of Pharmacy to Dallas VAMC. The first of its kind in the nation, this affiliation provides a state-of-the-art classroom, group

conference rooms and faculty offices for students in pursuit of a Pharm.D. Postgraduate programs offer specialized training for Pharmacy residents.

The Research and Development program supports approximately 350 active projects in such diverse fields as heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, AIDS, Alzheimer's Disease and PTSD. VANTHCS also participates in VA-sponsored cooperative studies and receives grants from a variety of sources, including VA, National Institutes of Health and other industry sources.

VANTHCS investigators have received recognition for their research endeavors, including one named to the National Academy of Science, and two have received the Middleton Award - VA's highest honor for research.

The Dallas VA Research Corporation was created in 1989 as a private non-profit foundation to support the research mission of VANTHCS.

Regional and National Referral Programs

- VA Center for Health Services Research and Development Open Heart Surgery
- Cardiac Catheterization
- Electrophysiology Cardiac Testing
- Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator Program
- National Clozapine Coordinating Center
- Electron Microscopy
- Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Colon Cancer/Colon Polyp Disease Program
- Therapeutic Biliary Endoscopy
- Preservation-Amputation Care and Treatment
- National Toxicology Screening Program
- Central Dental Lab

Helping the Homeless

It is estimated that one-quarter of America's homeless are veterans. Through its Comprehensive Homeless Center, the first in VA, Dallas VAMC is a leader in assisting mentally and physically ill homeless veterans rejoin the community as productive citizens.

Sharing Agreements and Revenue Generation

Through sharing agreements with other public and private agencies, Dallas VAMC expands its services without introducing substantial capital spending. VANTHCS has eight Community-Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC) and Primary Care Network (PCN) contracts, including agreements with CRAssociates, Inc., Valor, and University of North Texas at Fort Worth, utilizing seven provider sites within its 40-county service area.

With stringent limits on federal spending, Dallas VAMC aggressively pursues opportunities to generate additional revenue to reinvest into patient care for veterans. Examples include providing a broad range of contract services to other agencies, such as the Federal Bureau of Prisons, private industry and other health care providers. Dallas VAMC also generates additional revenue through its participation in TriCare, the managed care program sponsored by Department of Defense. In addition, Central Dental Lab, a centrally-funded special resource center, provides dental laboratory services to VA facilities across the nation.

The One VA Mall offers one-stop shopping with Veterans Canteen Retail Store, Café VA, Blue Bell Ice Cream and Starbucks Coffee. Service centers are available for Veterans Benefits Administration, Texas Veterans Commission, Disabled American Veterans, and Vietnam Veterans of America.

Joint efforts by VANTHCS, City of Dallas and Dallas Area Rapid Transit established the VA Community Center on campus which includes conference facilities, Wellness Center and Child Care Center.

Construction has begun for a Fisher House™ – a two-story, 21-suite ‘home away from home’ for families of hospitalized veterans. The Fisher House is scheduled to open in late Fall 2008. Other construction projects include a Geropsych Unit to meet the unique psychiatric and medical needs of seniors, and a TCU Hospice Unit will provide end of life care with honor and dignity. Both are scheduled for completion in 2009.

For more information

Public Affairs Office
4500 S. Lancaster Rd.
Dallas, TX 75216
214 857-1155