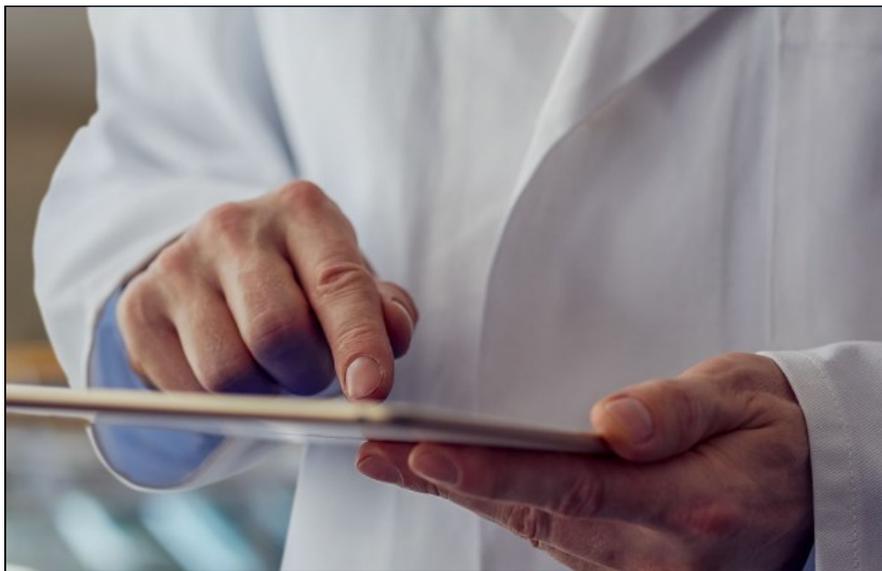


# VETERANS UPDATE

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 9      OCTOBER, 2018

## VA AND DOD JOINT HEALTH RECORD



The U.S. secretaries of Veterans Affairs and Defense signed a joint statement Sept. 26 regarding roll out of a new electronic health record that will improve VA and DOD sharing of patient data.

“The new EHR system will be interoperable with DOD, while also improving VA’s ability to collaborate and share information with community care providers,” VA Secretary Robert Wilkie said. “This

will ease the burden on service members as they transition from military careers ...”

For more information on the new Electronic Health Record, visit to <http://www.ehrm.va.gov>.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Nov. 9, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., OSDRI Winter Coat Giveaway** for homeless and at-risk Veterans, HPACT Clinic, 830 Chalkstone Ave.

**Nov. 10, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., A Forum for Veterans and their Community**, Middletown Town Hall, 350 E. Main Rd., Middletown, R.I. Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-forum-for-veterans-and-their-community-tickets-50424775862>

**Nov. 16, 2 - 3:30 p.m., VBA & VAMC Joint Veteran Town Hall**, 5th floor auditorium, main hospital, 830 Chalkstone Ave.

## VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED FOR PROVIDENCE VAMC

The Providence VA Medical Center needs volunteer drivers to help provide transportation for Veterans to VA facilities for medical appointments.

Currently, the greatest need is drivers for the 6:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. shifts. Prospective drivers will need a physical, and their primary care provider must certify the individual can safely operate a motor vehicle.

Call 401-457-3387 for more information or download a volunteer application at <https://www.providence.va.gov/giving/>.



## CARDIOPULMONARY RESEARCH RENEWED



CardioPulmonary Vascular Biology Center of Biomedical Research Excellence principal investigators Dr. Sharon Rounds, left, and Dr. Elizabeth Harrington meet in Harrington's office at the Providence VA Medical Center June 2, 2018. The center received a five-year, \$10 million renewal grant July 20. (Providence VA Medical Center photo by Martha Mickles)

The National Institute for General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health awarded the CardioPulmonary Vascular Biology Center of Biomedical Research Excellence a renewal grant of \$10 million July 20, through the Ocean State Research Institute, or OSRI.

Known as the CPVB COBRE, the center is located at the Providence VA Medical Center and led by principal investigators, Drs. Sharon Rounds and Elizabeth Harrington, and the program administrator, Susan McNamara.

"We look forward to expanding our team of outstanding investigators and the scope of our research in vascular biology," said Rounds. "This kind of interdisciplinary research is important because the heart and lungs function interdependently, and many Veterans suffer from conditions affecting these organs, as do many others in the general population."

"The CPVB COBRE sparked a remarkable coalescence of cross-disciplinary scholars and researchers in vascular biology," said Dr. Jack Elias, dean of Medicine and Biological Sciences at Brown University's Warren Alpert Medical School. "We look forward to accelerated growth in vascular biology research now that the NIH is funding this important inter-institutional collaboration for another five years."

The phase II award will fund new and continuing initiatives for five years, and supports mentored investigators Dr. Alan Morrison at the Providence VAMC; Dr. Hongwei Yao, Dr. Yang Zhou and Dr. Jessica Plavicki at Brown University; and Dr. Sean Monaghan at Rhode Island Hospital. The grant also supports pilot project grants in the area of vascular biology in addition to two research cores: 1) Administrative, and 2) Cell Isolation and Organ Function.

"The renewal of the COBRE grant by NIH is acknowledgement of the



### Providence VA Medical Center

830 Chalkstone Ave  
Providence, RI 02908  
401-273-7100

Veteran's Crisis Line:  
800-273-8255 press 1

Website:

[www.providence.va.gov](http://www.providence.va.gov)

Facebook:

[facebook.com/  
VAProvidence](https://facebook.com/VAProvidence)

Twitter:

[twitter.com/VAProvidence](https://twitter.com/VAProvidence)

outstanding cardiac, pulmonary and vascular research being conducted here," said Dr. Robert Swift, president of OSRI. "We're very proud of our investigators and research staff based at the Providence VA Medical Center, the Alpert Medical School at Brown University and its affiliated hospitals."

OSRI is a non-profit corporation affiliated with the Providence VA Medical Center. Its mission is to promote and conduct research and education activities to improve the health and lives of Veterans.