

The spread of **COVID-19** is an international emergency, and a pandemic of this magnitude requires potentially dramatic measures to combat. Fortunately, our Veterans are used to stepping up in times of great national need, and have performed heroically throughout our history when the nation needed them. Today is no different. As our teams take further steps to combat **COVID-19**, our facilities will continue to reduce non-emergency appointments and visitations in order to minimize Veterans' potential exposure. This may be different for each facility and for different Veteran populations, but it ultimately boils down to this: Veterans' VA care will remain excellent, but it may be delivered in a different way, or by a different team for a short period of time. This may mean that an appointment to refill a prescription may be conducted via telemedicine, or the actual medicine may be mailed to the Veteran instead of picked up at the pharmacy. We recognize that this may be a challenge for some Veterans, and that change can be difficult especially when it comes to new technology, but our staff is here to help, and we have every confidence that our Veterans are up to the task. These challenging times may require some sacrifices to be made by some Veterans, but I know that they, like our teams, will carry this burden in the national interest with honor.

Please share the access VA care from home flyer attached and information below to your members.

Latest video from Dr. Stone: <https://bcove.video/2UcAj2F> ****new****

Latest VHA guidance for Community Providers: https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/providers/Latest_news.asp

****new****

Latest VHA FAQs: <https://www.va.gov/coronavirus-veteran-frequently-asked-questions/>

Latest VHA guidance: <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/n-coronavirus/index.asp>

Latest Vantage Point entry: <https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/72757/secretary-va-ready-for-covid-19-pandemic/>

Latest CDC Guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Latest social media entries (if any, from SecVA, USHVHA, or @DeptVetAffairs):

<https://twitter.com/DeptVetAffairs/status/1240707304774717440?s=20> and

<https://twitter.com/USHVHA/status/1240669447247081472?s=20> and

<https://twitter.com/SecWilkie/status/1239635837840752640?s=20>

Please follow VHA on social media channels as well:

<https://www.facebook.com/VeteransHealth> and

<https://twitter.com/VeteransHealth>

Finally, please emphasize to your members that we are asking Veterans to call their **VA medical center** before going to an appointment if they are experiencing any symptoms such as shortness of breath, wheezing, sneezing, coughing, or fever. Calling first helps us protect you, medical staff, and other patients. We are also strictly limiting the number of visitors to one per patient.

Message from Veterans Health Administration

Click [here](#) for [Veteran Resources for COVID-19](#).