

VA/DoD Joint Assessment Study

**VA/DoD Health Executive Council
October 16, 2002**

VA/DoD Joint Assessment Study Background

- FY2002 Defense Appropriation Act
 - \$2.5 Million
- Review options to:
 - **Collocate/share facilities and care providers in areas where duplication and excess capacity may exist**
 - **Optimize economies of scale through joint procurement of supplies and services**
 - **Institute cooperative service agreements**

VA/DoD Joint Assessment Study

- Partial/full integration of DOD and VA systems providing
 - **Telehealth services**
 - **Computerized patient records**
 - **Provider credentialing**
 - **Surgical quality assessment**
 - **Rehabilitation services**
 - **Administrative services**
 - **Centers of excellence for specialized health care services**

VA/DoD Joint Assessment Study

- Jointly report By March 1, 2002 estimates:
 - Costs
 - Cost savings
 - Service benefits of each recommendation,
 - Legislative and administrative recommendations to implement results

VA/DoD Joint Assessment Study

- Study Contractor: Mitretek Systems
- Performance Period: 12 Months – Started 1 Oct
- Design: Feasibility phase of Demonstration Plan
- Scope:
 - **Study existing DoD and VA health care systems within three (3) demonstration market areas**
 - **Determine the potential opportunities for further integration**

VA/DoD Joint Assessment Study

- **Will assess:**
 - **Impact of deployments on current operations**
 - **Command and Control infrastructure**
 - **Distribution of facilities and services**
 - **Clinical capabilities by services template**
 - **Current inter-Service/departmental sharing and affiliations**
 - **Current civilian sector affiliations and sharing arrangements**
 - **Current workloads and operating costs**
 - **Performance against relevant utilization benchmarks (access, quality, costs)**
 - **Facility capacity and current utilization**
 - **Other considerations**

VA/DoD Joint Assessment Study

- Market area analysis
 - Beneficiary Geographical distribution
 - Distribution of all DoD/VA facilities and clinics
 - Availability of/or access to specific services for specific beneficiary populations
 - Significant service area overlaps and/or duplication of services and efforts

VA/DoD Joint Assessment Study Analysis (cont.)

- Over/under-utilization of existing functional facility capacity
 - e.g., inpatient beds, emergency services, ORs, exam rooms, major diagnostic and/or treatment equipment, etc.), , ,
- Below-standard benchmark indicators
 - e.g., LOS, schedule backlogs, appointment wait times, total operating costs per beneficiary served , etc

Proposals For HEC Approval

- Use Assessment Study as feasibility phase of Demonstration Plan
- Three geographic markets for study:
 - *Puget Sound*
 - *Gulf Coast*
 - *Tripler*
- Proposed Study Review Group:
 - HEC Joint Facilities Working Group + Ad Hoc Demonstration Plan Work Group