



# NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### **VA Medical Center to Highlight Medical Advancements in Research during the 2013 National VA Research Week**

**OMAHA, Neb., May 2, 2013** — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will celebrate National VA Research Week May 13 to 17.

As part of the nationwide observance, the VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System will conduct a public Research Day event from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. May 14 in the medical library on the third floor of the medical center at 4101 Woolworth Ave, Omaha, Neb. The program will include a public display of posters and information about current research programs at the VA medical center. Research investigators will be present to describe the research and answer questions.

"VA research is a national asset that benefits Veteran patients and the entire nation by moving medical science forward," said Deb Romberger, M.D., the medical center's associate chief of staff for research. "VA investigators play key roles in developing devices and techniques that revolutionized health care – including the cardiac pacemaker, the CAT scan, Shingles vaccine, liver and kidney transplants, and much more. Today, VA is a leader in many areas of research, such as AIDS, mental health, genomics, heart disease, cancer, diabetes, infectious diseases, and spinal cord injury."

VA conducts biomedical, rehabilitation, clinical, and health services research – as well as large, multi-center clinical trials – at more than 100 medical centers across the country. Among the research at the Omaha VA Medical Center is diabetes management, agents to control bleeding on the battle field and a cooperative study involving patients with rheumatoid arthritis.

The research programs at the Omaha VA Medical Center received more than \$10 million in grants in fiscal year 2012.

For more information, or to schedule an interview with a researcher, call Will Ackerman, public affairs officer, at 402-995-4719 or email [William.ackerman@va.gov](mailto:William.ackerman@va.gov).

#### **About VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System**

The VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System's mission is to honor America's Veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being. VA NWIHCS employees serve more than 161,000 Veterans in Nebraska, western Iowa and portions of Kansas and Missouri. The system includes a tertiary medical center in Omaha and a Community Living Center in Grand Island, Neb. Community-based outpatient clinics are located in Lincoln, Grand Island, North Platte, Norfolk, and Bellevue, Neb., and Shenandoah, Iowa; and a contract outreach clinic in O'Neill, Neb. For more information, visit <http://www.nebraska.va.gov>

For further information, contact:

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