



**Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Inspector General**

Office of Healthcare Inspections

Report No. 15-05149-88

**Review of Community Based
Outpatient Clinics and Other
Outpatient Clinics
of
VA Texas Valley Coastal Bend
Health Care System
Harlingen, Texas**

January 28, 2016

Washington, DC 20420

To Report Suspected Wrongdoing in VA Programs and Operations

Telephone: 1-800-488-8244

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(Hotline Information: www.va.gov/oig/hotline)

Glossary

BBP	bloodborne pathogen
CBOC	community based outpatient clinic
EHR	electronic health record
EOC	environment of care
FY	fiscal year
HT	home telehealth
lab	laboratory
NA	not applicable
NM	not met
OIG	Office of Inspector General
OOC	other outpatient clinic
PC	primacy care
PACT	patient aligned care team
PTSD	post-traumatic stress disorder
VHA	Veterans Health Administration

Table of Contents

	Page
Executive Summary	i
Objectives, Scope, and Methodology	1
Objectives	1
Scope.....	1
Methodology	2
Results and Recommendations	3
EOC	3
HT Enrollment.....	8
Outpatient Lab Results Management.....	9
PTSD Care	10
Appendixes	
A. Clinic Profiles.....	11
B. Patient Aligned Care Team Compass Metrics	13
C. Veterans Integrated Service Network Director Comments	17
D. Interim Facility Director Comments	18
E. Office of Inspector General Contact and Staff Acknowledgments	20
F. Report Distribution	21
G. Endnotes	22

Executive Summary

Review Purpose: The purpose of the review was to evaluate selected patient care activities to determine whether the Community Based Outpatient Clinics and other outpatient clinics under the oversight of the VA Texas Valley Coastal Bend Health Care System, Harlingen, TX, and Veterans Integrated Service Network 17 provide safe, consistent, and high-quality health care. The review evaluated the clinics' compliance with selected requirements for home telehealth enrollment, outpatient lab results management, and post-traumatic stress disorder. We also randomly selected the Old Brownsville VA Clinic, Corpus Christi, TX, as a representative site and evaluated the environment of care on November 4, 2015.

Review Results: We conducted four focused reviews and had no findings for the Environment of Care and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Care reviews. However, we made recommendations for improvement in the following two review areas:

Home Telehealth Enrollment. Ensure that:

- Providers sign home telehealth assessments and treatment plans.

Outpatient Lab Results Management. Ensure that:

- Clinicians consistently notify patients of their laboratory results within 14 days as required by VHA.

Comments

The Veterans Integrated Service Network and Interim Facility Directors agreed with the Community Based Outpatient Clinic and other outpatient clinic review findings and recommendations and provided acceptable improvement plans. (See Appendixes C and D, pages 17–19, for the full text of the Directors' comments.) We will follow up on the planned actions for the open recommendations until they are completed.



JOHN D. DAIGH, JR., M.D.
Assistant Inspector General for
Healthcare Inspections

Objectives, Scope, and Methodology

Objectives

The CBOC and OOC reviews are an element of the OIG's efforts to ensure that our Nation's veterans receive high-quality VA health care services. As such, the CBOC and OOC reviews are recurring evaluations of selected outpatient care activities that focus on patient care quality and the EOC. In general, our objectives are to determine whether:

- The selected CBOC is compliant with EOC requirements.
- The CBOCs/OOCs are compliant with selected VHA documentation requirements for the enrollment, assessment, and monitoring of HT patients.
- The CBOCs/OOCs are compliant with VHA requirements for the patient notification and follow up of selected outpatient lab results.
- The CBOCs/OOCs are compliant with selected VHA requirements related to PTSD screening, diagnostic evaluation, and treatment.

Scope

To evaluate for compliance with requirements related to patient care quality and the EOC, we conducted an onsite inspection, reviewed clinical and administrative records, and discussed processes and validated findings with managers and employees. The review covered the following four activities:

- EOC
- HT Enrollment
- Outpatient Lab Results Management
- PTSD Care

The scope of this review is limited to the established objectives. Issues and concerns that come to our attention but are outside the scope of this standardized inspection will be reviewed and referred accordingly.

Methodology

The onsite EOC inspection was conducted at a randomly selected outpatient site of care that had not been previously inspected.¹ Details of the targeted study populations for the HT Enrollment, Outpatient Lab Results Management, and PTSD Care focused reviews are noted in Table 1.

Table 1. CBOC/OOC Focused Reviews and Study Populations

Review Topic	Study Population
HT Enrollment	All CBOC and OOC patients screened within the study period of July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015, who have had at least one “683” Monthly Monitoring Note and did not have Monthly Monitoring Notes documented before July 1, 2014.
Outpatient Lab Results Management	All patients who had outpatient (excluding emergency department, urgent care, or same day surgery orders) potassium and sodium serum lab test results during January 1 through December 31, 2014.
PTSD Care	All patients who had a positive PTSD screen at the parent facility’s outpatient clinics during July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015.

In this report, we make recommendations for improvement. Recommendations pertain to issues that are significant enough to be monitored by the OIG until corrective actions are implemented.

The review was performed in accordance with OIG standard operating procedures for CBOC and OOC reviews.

¹ Each outpatient site selected for physical inspection was randomized from all PC CBOCs, multi-specialty CBOCs, and health care centers reporting to the parent facility and was operational and classified as such in VA’s Site Tracking Database by August 15, 2015.

Results and Recommendations

EOC

The purpose of this review was to assess whether CBOC managers have established and maintained a safe and clean EOC as required.^a

We reviewed relevant documents and conducted a physical inspection of the Old Brownsville VA Clinic. The table below shows the areas reviewed for this topic. Any items that did not apply to this CBOC are marked NA. The facility generally met requirements. We made no recommendations.

Table 2. EOC

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings	Recommendations
Document and Training Review			
	Managers monitored hand hygiene compliance.		
	Managers had an Exposure Control Plan for BBP.		
	Managers reviewed the Exposure Control Plan annually.		
	Managers included an exposure determination for all job classifications in the Exposure Control Plan for BBPs.		
	Managers included the Hepatitis B vaccine in the Exposure Control Plan for BBP.		
	In the Exposure Control Plan for BBPs, managers provide the Hepatitis B vaccine to employees upon exposure to a BBP.		
	In the Exposure Control Plan for BBPs, managers provide the Hepatitis B vaccine to employees within 10 days of job assignment.		
	In the Exposure Control Plan for BBPs, managers document employees' declination statements for the Hepatitis B vaccine.		

NM	Areas Reviewed (continued)	Findings	Recommendations
	In the Exposure Control Plan for BBPs, managers provide post exposure prophylaxis within 72 hours.		
	Managers documented their consideration and implementation of safety needle devices.		
	Managers documented their consideration and implementation of safety needle devices annually.		
	Training for CBOC employees on the Exposure Control Plan for BBP has been provided within the past 12 months for those newly hired and annually for others.		
	Managers have a policy/procedure for CBOC life safety elements.		
	Managers have a policy for the management of clinical emergencies.		
	CBOC managers have a policy for the management of mental health emergencies.		
	Managers have a documented Hazard Vulnerability Assessment to identify potential CBOC emergencies.		
	Managers reviewed the Hazard Vulnerability Assessment annually.		
	Managers have a policy that requires CBOC staff to receive regular information on their responsibilities in emergency response operations.		
	CBOC staff participate in regular emergency management training and exercises.		
	Managers conducted fire drills at the CBOC at least once every 12 months for the past 24 months and documented critiques of the fire drills.		

NM	Areas Reviewed (continued)	Findings	Recommendations
	Managers have a policy/procedure for the identification of individuals entering the CBOC.		
	Managers had a Workplace Behavioral Risk Assessment in place.		
	Managers tested the alarm system or panic buttons in high-risk areas during the past 12 months.		
	Managers had written procedures to follow in the event of a security incident.		
	CBOC employees received training on the new chemical label elements and safety data sheet format.		
NA	Managers have a policy/procedure for the cleaning and disinfection of telehealth equipment.		
Physical Inspection			
	The CBOC is clean.		
	The furnishings and equipment are safe and in good repair.		
	Hand hygiene facilities and product dispensers are working and readily accessible to employees.		
	Personal protective equipment is available.		
	Sharps containers are closable, easily accessible, and not overfilled.		
	Clinic staff do not store food and drinks in refrigerators or freezers or on countertops or other areas where there is blood or other potentially infectious materials.		
	Managers ensured that sterile commercial supplies are not expired.		
	Managers minimize the risk of infection when storing and disposing of medical (infectious) waste.		

NM	Areas Reviewed (continued)	Findings	Recommendations
	Managers ensured unobstructed access to fire alarms/pull stations.		
	Access to fire extinguishers is unobstructed.		
	For fire extinguishers located in large rooms or are obscured from view, managers identified the locations of the fire extinguishers with signs.		
	Exit signs are visible from any direction.		
	Exit routes from the building are unobstructed.		
	Staff wear VA-issued identification badges.		
	Managers control access to and from areas identified as security sensitive.		
	Managers installed an alarm system or panic buttons in high-risk areas.		
	Managers reviewed the CBOC's inventory of hazardous materials for accuracy twice within the prior 12 months.		
	Managers had the CBOC's safety data sheets for chemicals readily available for the staff.		
	Managers provided visual and auditory privacy for veterans at check-in.		
	Managers provided visual and auditory privacy for patients in the interview areas.		
	Managers equipped examination room doors with either an electronic or manual lock.		
NA	Managers ensured the availability and use of a privacy sign to indicate that a telehealth visit is in progress.		
	Documents containing patient-identifiable information are not visible or unsecured.		
	All computer screens are locked when not in use.		

NM	Areas Reviewed (continued)	Findings	Recommendations
	Information is not viewable on monitors in public areas.		
NA	Window coverings, if present, provide privacy.		
	Patient-identifiable information is protected on laboratory specimens during transport so that patient privacy is maintained.		
	The examination room(s) for women veterans are located in a space where they do not open into a public waiting room or a high-traffic public corridor.		
	Adequate privacy for women veterans is provided in the examination rooms.		
	Feminine hygiene products are available in examination rooms where pelvic examinations are performed or in bathrooms within close proximity.		
NA	Women's public restrooms have feminine hygiene products and disposal bins available for use.		
	Multi-dose medication vials are not expired.		
	All medications are secured from unauthorized access.		
	The information technology network room/server closet is secured/locked.		
	Access to the information technology network room/server closet is restricted to personnel authorized by Office of Information and Technology, as evidenced by a list of authorized individuals.		
	Access to the information technology network room/server closet is documented, as evidenced by the presence of a sign-in/sign-out log.		

HT Enrollment

The purpose of this review was to determine whether the facility’s CBOCs and OOCs are compliant with selected VHA documentation requirements for the enrollment, assessment, and monitoring of HT patients.^b

We reviewed relevant documents and 49 EHRs. We also validated findings with key managers and staff. The table below shows the areas reviewed for this topic. The area marked as NM did not meet applicable requirements and needed improvement.

Table 3. HT Enrollment

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings	Recommendations
	Clinicians entered a consult for HT services.		
	Clinicians completed the HT enrollment requests or “consults.”		
	Clinicians documented contact with the patient to evaluate suitability for HT services.		
	Clinicians documented the patient or caregiver’s verbal informed consent for HT services.		
	Clinicians documented assessments and treatment plans for HT patients.		
X	Providers signed HT assessments and treatment plans.	Providers did not sign 8 of 49 patients’ (16 percent) HT assessments and treatment plans.	1. We recommended that providers sign home telehealth assessments and treatment plans.
	Monthly monitoring notes were documented for each month of HT program participation.		
	Documentation of HT enrollment (consult, screening, and/or initial assessment notes) was completed prior to the entry of monthly monitoring notes.		

Outpatient Lab Results Management

The purpose of this review was to determine whether CBOCs/OOCs are compliant with VHA requirements for the patient notification and follow up of selected outpatient lab results.^c

We reviewed relevant documents and 50 EHRs. We also validated findings with key managers and staff. The table below shows the areas reviewed for this topic. The area marked as NM did not meet applicable requirements and needed improvement.

Table 4. Outpatient Lab Results Management

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings	Recommendations
	The facility has a written policy regarding communication of lab results from diagnostic practitioner to ordering practitioner.		
	The facility has a written policy for the communication of lab results that included all required elements.		
X	Clinicians notified patients of their lab results.	Clinicians did not consistently notify 16 of 50 patients (32 percent) of their lab results within 14 days as required by VHA.	2. We recommended that clinicians consistently notify patients of their laboratory results within 14 days as required by VHA.
	Clinicians documented in the EHR all attempts to communicate with the patients regarding their lab results.		
	Clinicians provided interventions for clinically significant abnormal lab results.		

PTSD Care

The purpose of this review was to assess whether CBOCs/OOCs are compliant with selected VHA requirements for PTSD follow up in the outpatient setting.^d

We reviewed relevant documents and 47 EHRs. We also validated findings with key managers and staff. The table below shows the areas reviewed for this topic. The facility generally met requirements. We made no recommendations.

Table 5. PTSD Care

NM	Areas Reviewed	Findings	Recommendations
	Each patient with a positive PTSD screen received a suicide risk assessment.		
	Suicide risk assessments for patients with positive PTSD screens are completed by acceptable providers.		
	Acceptable providers established plans of care and disposition for patients with positive PTSD screens.		
	Acceptable providers offered further diagnostic evaluations to patients with positive PTSD screens.		
	Providers completed diagnostic evaluations for patients with positive PTSD screens.		
	Patients, when applicable, received mental health treatment.		

Clinic Profiles

The CBOC/OOC review evaluates the quality of care provided to veterans at all of the outpatient clinics under the parent facility's oversight.² In addition to PC integrated with women's health, mental health, and tele-health services, the CBOCs provide various specialty care and ancillary services. The following table provides information relative to each of the outpatient clinics and lists the additional specialty care and ancillary services provided at each location.

Location	Station #	Rurality ⁵	Outpatient Classification ⁶	Outpatient Workload / Encounters ³			Services Provided ⁴		
				PC	MH	Specialty Clinics ⁷	Specialty Care ⁸	Ancillary Services ⁹	
Harlingen, TX	740GA	Urban	Health Care Center	24,794	12,176	1,959	Dental Dermatology	Audiology Diabetes Care Diabetic Retinal Screening EKG Imaging Services	MOVE! Program ¹⁰ Nutrition Pharmacy Rehabilitation Services Social Work
McAllen, TX	740GB	Urban	Multi-Specialty CBOC	31,473	18,126	464	Dermatology	Anti-Coagulation Clinic Diabetes Care Diabetic Retinal Screening EKG HBPC Imaging Services	Laboratory MOVE! Program Nutrition Pharmacy Rehabilitation Services Sleep Medicine Social work

² Includes all CBOCs in operation before August 15, 2015. We have omitted 740GH (Corpus Christi), 740GI (Corpus Christi), and 740GJ (McAllen), as no workload/encounters or services were reported.

³ An encounter is a professional contact between a patient and a practitioner vested with responsibility for diagnosing, evaluating, and treating the patient's condition. Encounters occur in both the outpatient and inpatient setting.

⁴ The denoted Specialty Care and Ancillary Services are limited to Primary Clinic Stops with a count ≥ 100 encounters during the October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015, timeframe at the specified CBOC.

⁵ <http://vssc.med.va.gov/>

⁶ VHA Handbook 1006.02, *VHA Site Classifications and Definitions*, December 30, 2013.

⁷ The total number of encounters for the services provided in the "Specialty Care" column.

⁸ Specialty Care Services refer to non-Primary Care and non-Mental Health services provided by a physician.

⁹ Ancillary Services refer to non-Primary Care and non-Mental Health services that are not provided by a physician.

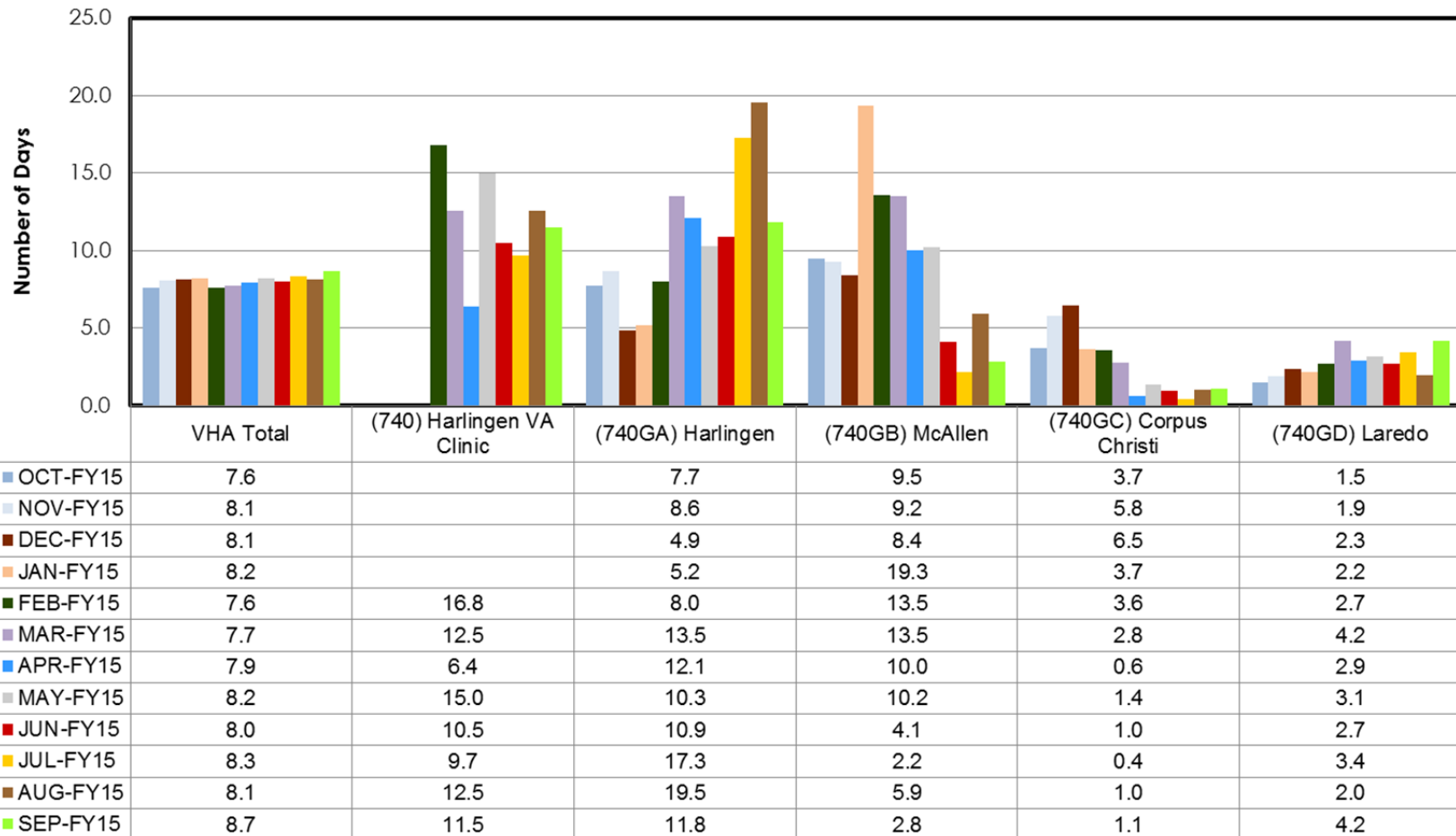
¹⁰ VHA Handbook 1120.01, *MOVE! Weight Management Program for Veterans*, March 31, 2011.

Location	Station #	Locality	Outpatient Classification	Outpatient Workload / Encounters (cont.)			Services Provided (cont.)		
				PC	MH	Specialty Clinics	Specialty Care	Ancillary Services	
Corpus Christi, TX	740GC	Urban	Multi-Specialty CBOC	26,378	20,071	6,836	Cardiology Dental Dermatology General Surgery Nephrology Neurology Optometry Podiatry Pulmonology	Audiology Diabetic Retinal Screening Imaging Services Laboratory	Nutrition Pharmacy Prosthetics/Orthotics Rehabilitation Services Sleep Medicine Social Work
Laredo, TX	740GD	Urban	Multi-Specialty CBOC	10,231	4,924	1,858	Podiatry	Diabetic Retinal Screening Imaging Services	Laboratory Nutrition Social Work

EKG = Electrocardiography; HBPC = Home Based Primary Care

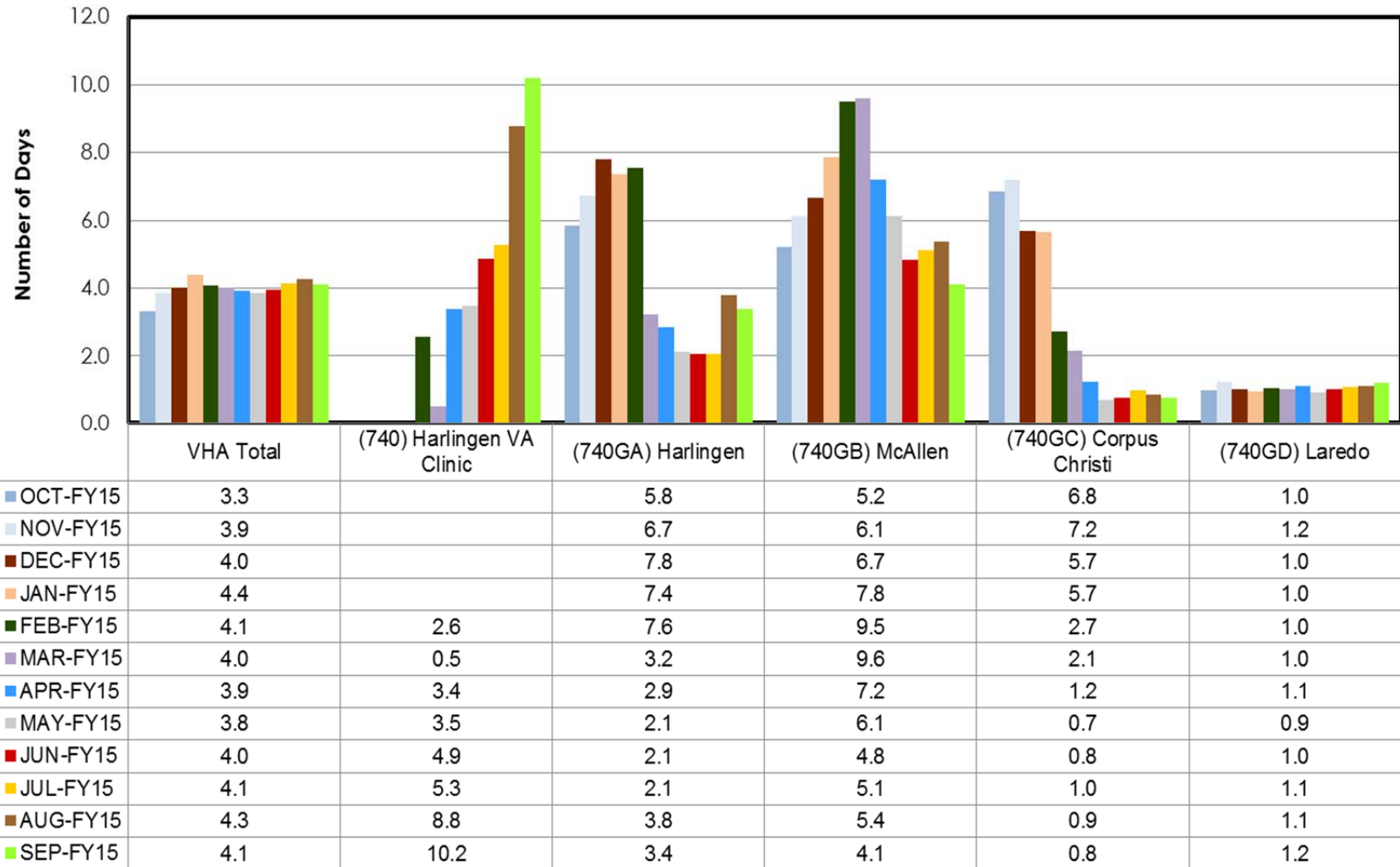
Patient Aligned Care Team Compass Metrics

FY 2015 New PC Patient Average Wait Time in Days



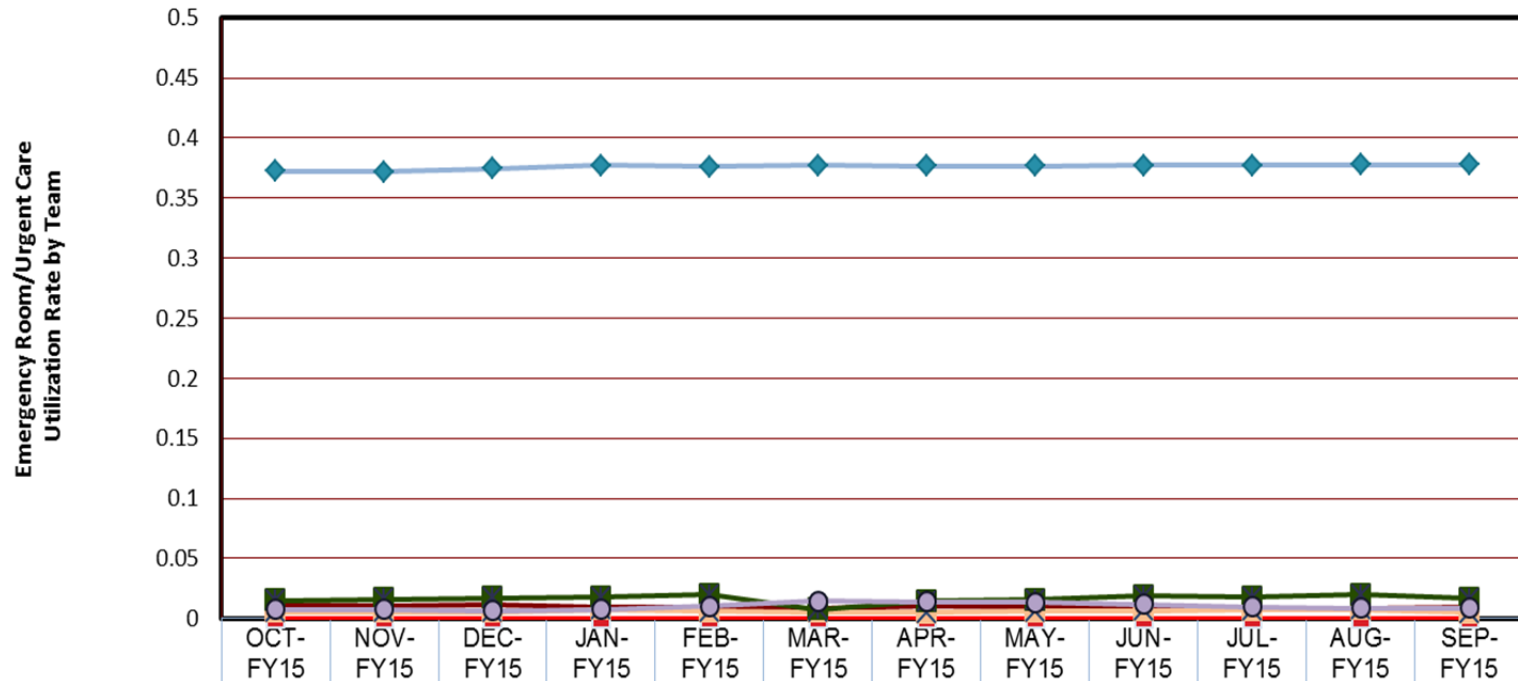
Data Definition.^e The average number of calendar days between a New Patient’s PC completed appointment (clinic stops 322, 323, and 350, excluding Compensation and Pension appointments) and the earliest of three possible preferred (desired) dates (Electronic Wait List (EWL), Cancelled by Clinic Appointment, Completed Appointment) from the completed appointment date. *Note that prior to FY15, this metric was calculated using the earliest possible create date.* Blank cells indicate the absence of reported data.

FY 2015 Established PC Patient Average Wait Time in Days



Data Definition.^e The average number of calendar days between an Established Patient’s PC completed appointment (clinic stops 322, 323, and 350, excluding Compensation and Pension appointments) and the earliest of three possible preferred (desired) dates (Electronic Wait List (EWL), Cancelled by Clinic Appointment, Completed Appointment) from the completed appointment date. Blank cells indicate the absence of reported data.

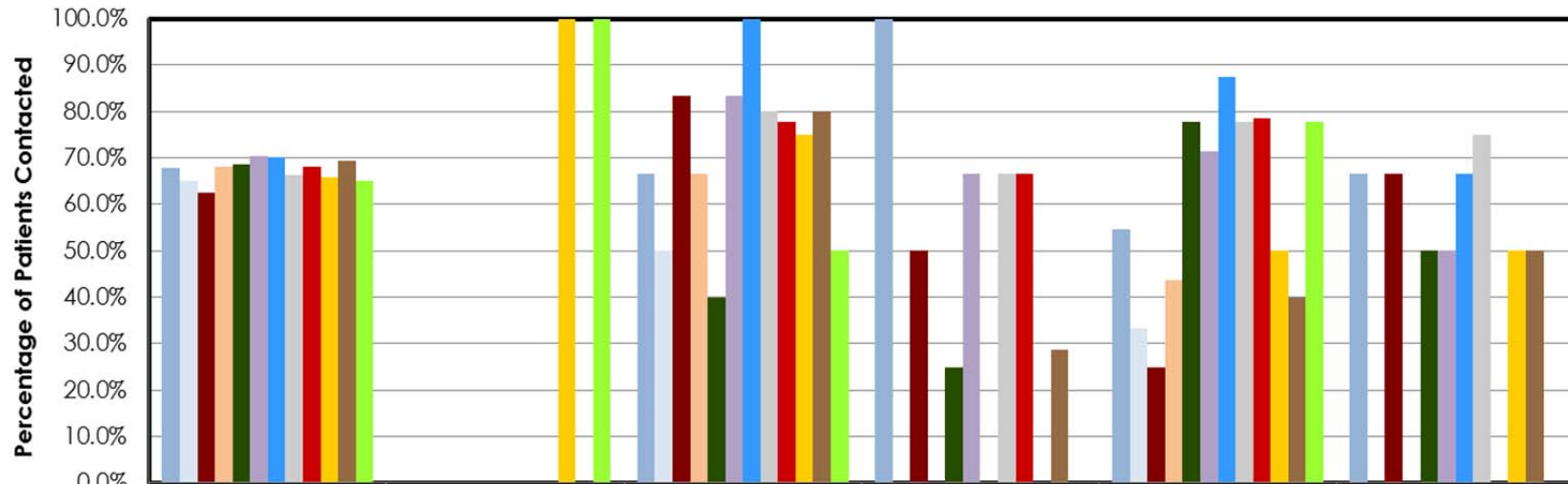
FY 2015 Emergency Room/Urgent Care Utilization Rate for Assigned PC Patients



Team	OCT-FY15	NOV-FY15	DEC-FY15	JAN-FY15	FEB-FY15	MAR-FY15	APR-FY15	MAY-FY15	JUN-FY15	JUL-FY15	AUG-FY15	SEP-FY15
VHA Total	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38
(740) Harlingen VA Clinic	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(740GA) Harlingen	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
(740GB) McAllen	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
(740GC) Corpus Christi	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
(740GD) Laredo	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01

Data Definition.^e The total Emergency Room/Urgent Care encounters for assigned PC patients in the last 12 months divided by the Team Assignments. VHA Emergency Room/Urgent Care encounters are defined as encounters with a Primary Stop Code of 130 or 131 in either the primary or secondary position, excluding encounters with a Secondary Stop Code of 107, 115, 152, 311, 333, 334, 999, 474, 103, 430, 328, 321, 329, or 435 and the encounter was with a licensed independent practitioner (MD, DO, RNP, PA).

FY 2015 Team 2-Day Post Discharge Contact Ratio



	VHA Total	(740) Harlingen VA Clinic	(740GA) Harlingen	(740GB) McAllen	(740GC) Corpus Christi	(740GD) Laredo
OCT-FY15	67.9%		66.7%	100.0%	54.5%	66.7%
NOV-FY15	64.9%		50.0%	0.0%	33.3%	0.0%
DEC-FY15	62.6%		83.3%	50.0%	25.0%	66.7%
JAN-FY15	68.0%		66.7%	0.0%	43.8%	0.0%
FEB-FY15	68.6%		40.0%	25.0%	77.8%	50.0%
MAR-FY15	70.4%		83.3%	66.7%	71.4%	50.0%
APR-FY15	70.1%		100.0%	0.0%	87.5%	66.7%
MAY-FY15	66.3%		80.0%	66.7%	77.8%	75.0%
JUN-FY15	68.2%		77.8%	66.7%	78.6%	
JUL-FY15	65.9%	100.0%	75.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%
AUG-FY15	69.4%		80.0%	28.6%	40.0%	50.0%
SEP-FY15	65.1%	100.0%	50.0%	0.0%	77.8%	

Data Definition.^e The percent of assigned PC patients discharged from any VA facility who have been contacted by a PC team member within 2 business days during the reporting period. Patients are excluded if they are discharged from an observation specialty and/or readmitted within 2 business days to any VA facility. Team members must have been assigned to the patient’s team at the time of the patient’s discharge. Blank cells indicate the absence of reported data.

Veterans Integrated Service Network Director Comments

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

Memorandum

Date: December 21, 2015

From: Director, VA Heart of Texas Health Care Network (10N17)

Subject: **Review of CBOCs and OOCs of VA Texas Valley Coastal Bend Health Care System, Harlingen, TX**

To: Director, Dallas Office of Healthcare Inspections (54DA)

Director, Management Review Service (VHA 10AR MRS OIG CAP CBOC)

1. Thank you for allowing me to respond to the CBOC Review of the VA Texas Valley Coastal Bend Health Care System, Harlingen, TX.
2. I concur with the recommendations and have ensured that action plans with target dates for completion were developed.
3. If you have further questions regarding this CBOC review, please contact Denise B. Elliot, VISN 17 Quality Management Officer at (817) 385-3734.


Joseph M. Dalpiaz
VISN 17 Network Director (ND)

Interim Facility Director Comments

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

Memorandum

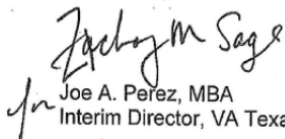
Date: December 21, 2015

From: Director, VA Texas Valley Coastal Bend Health Care System
(740/00)

Subject: **Review of CBOCs and OOCs of VA Texas Valley Coastal Bend Health Care System, Harlingen, TX**

To: Director, VA Heart of Texas Health Care Network (10N17)

1. I concur with the findings noted in this report. Action plans have been developed and monitoring will be conducted on a regular basis.
2. Should you require additional information, please contact Catherine Mezmar, Chief Quality Management, (956) 430-9343.


Joe A. Perez, MBA
Interim Director, VA Texas Valley Coastal Bend Health Care System (740/00)

Zachary M. Sage- Associate Director

Comments to OIG's Report

The following Director's comments are submitted in response to the recommendations in the OIG report:

OIG Recommendations

Recommendation 1. We recommended that providers sign home telehealth assessments and treatment plans.

Concur

Target date for completion: May 31, 2016

Facility response: The Chief of Geriatrics and Extended Care will ensure that HT (Home Telehealth) new Veteran enrollment assessments and treatment plans are signed by providers. The HT Coordinator will send a weekly report of delinquent provider signatures for home telehealth assessments and treatment plans to the Chief Geriatrics and Extended Care. The Chief of Geriatrics and Extended Care will communicate delinquent provider signature requests to providers, the Chief Medical Officers, Chief of Staff, and the Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) RN's to notify them of pending treatment plans and enrollment assessments that need to reviewed and signed.

One hundred percent of each month's new enrollments will be reviewed for signature compliance. Monitoring will occur until the target of 90% has been sustained for three consecutive months. The monthly data will be submitted to the Geriatrics and Extended Care Chief, the Home and Community Care Based Nurse Manager, and the Quality Executive Board.

Recommendation 2. We recommended that clinicians consistently notify patients of their laboratory results within 14 days as required by VHA.

Concur

Target date for completion: May 31, 2016

Facility response: Chief of Staff will ensure clinicians document communication of laboratory results within 14 days in a CPRS progress note. Repeated attempts to contact the patient will also be documented in CPRS. Compliance will be monitored by Quality Management review of a list of 30 patients who have had lab work completed within the previous 30 days. Monitoring will occur until the target of 90% has been sustained for three consecutive months. Results will be reported to Quality Executive Board.

Office of Inspector General Contact and Staff Acknowledgments

Contact	For more information about this report, please contact the OIG at (202) 461-4720.
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Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
National Veterans Service Organizations
Government Accountability Office
Office of Management and Budget
U.S. Senate: John Cornyn, Ted Cruz
U.S. House of Representatives: Henry Cuellar, Blake Farenthold, Rubén Hinojosa, Filemon Vela

This report is available at www.va.gov/oig.

Endnotes

^a References used for the EOC review included:

- International Association of Healthcare Central Services Materiel Management, *Central Service Technical Manual*, 7th ed.
- Joint Commission, *Joint Commission Comprehensive Accreditation and Certification Manual*, July 1, 2015.
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), *NFPA 10: Installation of Portable Fire Extinguishers*, 2013.
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), *NFPA 101: Life Safety Code*, 2015.
- US Department of Health and Human Services, *Health Information Privacy: The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Enforcement Rule*, February 16, 2006.
- US Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), *Fact Sheet: Hazard Communication Standard Final Rule*, n.d.
- US Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), *Regulations (Standards – 29 CFR), 1910 General Industry Standards, 120 Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response*, February 8, 2013.
- US Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), *Regulations (Standards – 29 CFR), 1910 General Industry Standards, 1030 Bloodborne Pathogens*, April 3, 2012.
- VA Directive 0059, *VA Chemicals Management and Pollution Prevention*, May 25, 2012.
- VA Handbook 6500, *Risk Management Framework for VA Information Systems – Tier 3: VA Information Security Program*, March 10, 2015.
- VHA Center for Engineering, Occupational Safety, and Health (CEOSH), *Emergency Management Program Guidebook*, March 2011.
- VHA Directive 2011-007, *Required Hand Hygiene Practices*, February 16, 2011.
- VHA Directive 2012-026, *Sexual Assaults & Other Defined Public Safety Incidents in VHA Facilities*, September 27, 2012.
- VHA Handbook 1006.1, *Planning and Activating Community-Based Outpatient Clinics*, May 19, 2004.
- VHA Handbook 1101.10, *Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) Handbook*, February 5, 2014.
- VHA Handbook 1160.01, *Uniform Mental Health Services in VA Medical Centers and Clinics*, September 11, 2008.
- VHA Handbook 1330.01, *Health Care Services for Women Veterans*, May 21, 2010.
- VHA Handbook 1605.1, *Privacy and Release of Information*, May 17, 2006.
- VHA Handbook 1907.01, *Health Information Management*, July 22, 2014.
- VHA Telehealth Services, *Clinic Based Telehealth Operations Manual*, July 2014.

^b References used for the HT Enrollment review included:

- VHA Office of VHA Telehealth Services Home Telehealth Operations Manual, April 13, 2015.
Accessed from: <http://vaww.telehealth.va.gov/pgm/ht/index.asp>

^c References used for the Outpatient Lab Results Management review included:

- VHA, *Communication of Test Results Toolkit*, April 2012.
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