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Estimated Burden: 30 Minutes

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## **Womens Health Research Network Women Veterans Interview Guide**

**The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995:** This information is collected in accordance with section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Accordingly, we may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB number. We anticipate that the time expended by all individuals who complete this survey will average 30 minutes. This includes the time it will take to follow instructions, gather the necessary facts and respond to questions asked. Customer satisfaction is used to gauge customer perceptions of VA services as well as customer expectations and desires. The results of this telephone/mail survey will lead to improvements in the quality of service delivery by helping to achieve improved mental health services. Participation in this survey is voluntary and failure to respond will have no impact on benefits to which you may currently be receiving.

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### Draft Interview Guide: Women Veterans

1. Have you ever participated in a research project? a. If so, can you describe the project for me?
  - Was it a VA research project? How did you learn about it? How were you asked to participate? What did you like/dislike about how you were asked?
    - o Why did you decide to participate in this project?
    - o What did you have to do, how many times, were you compensated?
    - o Did you need to meet with research staff in person?
    - o If you were asked to do something for the research project more than once, did you end up doing the follow-up requested? If not, why not?
    - o Was there anything you liked about being in the study? If so, please explain. Was there anything you disliked? If so, please explain.
    - o Was your private information handled confidentially?
    - o Did you ever hear about the results of this project? If so, how did you get the results? Was this a good way to get the results, or could it have been better? [If not, would you like to have heard about the results?]
    - o Did anyone else you know personally participate in the study too?
  - b. If not, have you been asked to participate in a research project but decided not to participate? [What made you decide not to participate?]
    - How were you asked to participate? [e.g., letter, phone call, etc]
    - Have you noticed postings for studies that are recruiting research participants at the VA? Have you ever considered responding? What made you decide to respond or not to respond?
2. In general, how much time would you be willing and able to spend participating in research? Would you be willing to participate if it required multiple visits? How many times would you be willing to come to the VA in person for a research study? [explain—some studies might require multiple assessments] Would it matter whether you were getting paid? a. What type of practical help might you need to participate in research? [probe: transportation, childcare, excuse note for work, weekend hours, etc]
- b. What do you think is a fair type of compensation for your time participating in research? Would it be more or less depending on the type of research?
3. Would you consider participating in a research project in the future? a. If so, what types of things do you need or want to know in order to decide whether to participate?
  - What are the reasons you would consider participating? Which of these is the most compelling/the biggest reason, and why?
  - What are your biggest concerns about participating in research? Which of these is the biggest concern, and why? b. In reflecting on the questions that we asked in the beginning about whether you might be interested in participating in different types of research, can you say a little more about why you responded that you would

participate in some types but not others? In thinking about your responses to different considerations for participating in research, I'd like to follow up on a couple of things. You said [X] was a reason you definitely

- wouldn't participate. Can you say more about that? How could researchers/VA address that concern?
- c. If you would *not* participate in research in the future, why not?
4. In the past, some research studies have not included very many women Veterans. We're interested in increasing the number of women Veterans who participate in research projects, and in increasing the number of projects about women Veterans. a. Do you have any thoughts on those goals in general?
- b. Many women Veterans don't participate in research. Do you have any thoughts on why that might be the case?
- c. What do you think are some effective ways of letting women Veterans know about research projects that they might be eligible for?
5. What are topic areas that are interesting enough to you that you would be willing to be part of a research study if the research was studying that area?
6. What do you think are some of the most important things we should conduct research on related to women Veterans?
7. Are you involved in any groups or committees that focus on women Veterans? If so, what does this group do? [How often does it meet, does it have a leader, what is the mission, etc.] What made you join this group? What do you get out of being part of this group? a. Do you have friends who are WV? Do you get together your WV friends one-on-one, in a group, both or neither?
8. What are some effective ways of getting women Veterans' input on the research ideas that we have? a. Have you ever had the opportunity to provide input on research? Would you like to? Why or why not?
9. If you were asked to advise researchers about their research on women Veterans, would you want to do this? What would you need to know in order to decide whether to be involved in helping researchers? How involved would you want to be [how much time would you want to devote]? What would you want your involvement to be like? Would you expect to be paid?
10. What if you were asked to help design research about women Veterans, would you want to do this? [In other words, if you were the one deciding what questions to ask...?] What would you need to know in order to decide whether to be involved? How involved would you want to be [how much time would you want to devote]? What would you want your involvement to be like? [leading a small group, being a team member, writing, speaking, etc.]

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND INPUT!