

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

Memorandum

Date: October XX, 2014

From: VHA PRA Compliance Liaison (10B4)

Subject: Request for OMB review of 2900-AP24, Expanded Access to Non-VA Care through the Veterans Choice Program
10-10143 Election to Receive Authorized Non-VA Care and Selection of Provider for the Veterans Choice Program
10-10143a Health-Care Plan Information for the Veterans Choice Program
10-10143b Submission of Medical Record Information under the Veterans Choice Program
10-10143c Submission of Information on Credentials and Licenses by Eligible Entities and Providers

To: OMB Desk Officer for Veterans Affairs

Under 38 U.S.C. 501 and as authorized under the Veterans, Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-146), VA is implementing the Veterans Choice Program through an interim final rule (RIN 2900-AP24). The agency is required to implement the requirements of this law by November 5, 2014. VA requests an emergency approval on or before October 30, 2014 to properly submit this IFR to the Federal Register for posting on November 5, 2014. In order to carry out the requirements of this law, VA must collect certain information from Veterans and non-VA health care entities and providers to ensure proper application of the Program. Only one collection is available for review. The remaining three collections will be created in conjunction with a contracted third party administrator. They are unavailable at this time as the contract is not awarded. VA cannot furnish the statutorily-mandated hospital care and medical services until these collections of information are approved. The specific hospital care and medical services that VA must provide are for eligible veterans. Some of these veterans may have life-threatening conditions that require immediate medical attention. Therefore, VA certifies that the collection of information meets each of the listed criteria for the following reasons:

Data collection is needed prior to the expiration of time periods established in this part:

The data being collected is needed prior to the expiration of time periods established under this part due to anticipation that the regulations authorizing the VA Choice Card Program will publish and become effective prior to the expiration of the time periods established under this Part.

Data collection is essential to the mission of the agency:

The collection is essential to the mission of the agency because VA cannot begin to furnish the hospital care and medical services set forth in regulation and required by law without authorization to collect the required information.

The agency cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures under this Part because:

VA cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures because public harm is reasonably likely to result if normal clearance procedures are followed. VA is required to furnish timely hospital care and medical services to eligible Veterans.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,

Howard L. Manuel

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