



*(January 11, 2016)*

In order to further improve the lines of communication and to respond to the concerns between the National VA Council and you our members, I have established a National VA Council Briefing. This NVAC Briefing will bring you the latest news and developments within DVA and provide you with the current status of issues this Council is currently addressing. I believe that this NVAC Briefing will greatly enhance the way in which we communicate and the way in which we share new information, keeping you better informed.

**Alma L. Lee**  
National VA Council, President

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**In This Briefing: U.S. MEDICINE NEWS UPDATE**  
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### **VA Revises Veterans Choice Program to Improve Access**

WASHINGTON - Rules for veterans receiving non-VA care through the Veterans Choice Program (VCP) were relaxed recently, and, while some members of Congress applauded the changes, others argued VA still had not done enough to repair the troubled program. Under new eligibility rules, veterans can qualify to use the program if they meet one of a range of criteria, such as living more than 40 miles driving distance from the closest VA medical facility with a full-time primary care physician. [More](#)

<http://www.usmedicine.com/agencies/department-of-veterans-affairs/va-revises-veterans-choice-program-to-improve-access/>