

*The Durham VA HSR&D COIN works with Veterans and caregivers to improve health through research!
Here are just a few areas:*

- ◆ *Physical activity & diet to help with weight loss*
- ◆ *Counseling to quit smoking*
- ◆ *Improving access to cancer screenings*
- ◆ *Support programs for caregivers*
- ◆ *Peer support for women Veterans at risk for heart disease*
- ◆ *Tools to help prevent serious health issues*
- ◆ *And Many More!*

"Being engaged in research can help keep it relevant for fellow Veterans, and also make research accessible for all Veterans who could benefit from it"

*-U.S. Army Veteran
Operation Iraqi Freedom*

Notes:



Veteran Research Engagement Panel

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This brochure was developed by the VetREP Planning Committee & Veteran Representatives of the Durham VA Health Services Research & Development Center of Innovation.

VA Medical Center
Durham, NC

Veteran Research Engagement Panel

Part of the Durham VA Health Services Research & Development (HSR&D) Center of Innovation (COIN)



**VA
HEALTH
CARE**

Defining
EXCELLENCE
in the 21st Century

About VA Research

The goal of VA research is to improve the health of Veterans and healthcare delivery in the VA.

What is a Veteran Representative?

A Veteran Representative is a Veteran or caregiver of a Veteran who:

- ◆ Brings Veteran patient perspectives to VA Research
- ◆ Gives back to fellow Veterans & their families by helping shape VA research
- ◆ Gains knowledge about Veterans' health and VA health research
- ◆ Helps create solutions to health problems facing Veterans

What are the duties of a Veteran Representative?

- ◆ Attends regular meetings of the group (no more than once a month for 2 hours)
- ◆ Provides input on new and current VA projects
- ◆ Reviews project materials created for Veterans and their families
- ◆ Helps make sure the research speaks to Veterans' concerns
- ◆ Helps find ways to improve the spread and use of health information



What are some qualities of a Veteran Representative?

- ◆ Gives helpful feedback
- ◆ Shows concern for many issues
- ◆ Listens well to others
- ◆ Respects differences of opinions
- ◆ Keeps confidentiality at all times
- ◆ Agrees to keep open and honest communication