



**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**  
Veterans Health Administration

McGuire VA Medical Center | 1201 Broad Rock Blvd. | Richmond, Virginia 23249

**Office of Public Affairs**  
David Hodge  
Acting Public Affairs Officer  
VHARICPublicAffairs@va.gov  
(804) 675-5242

## **Press Release**

### **Central Virginia VA to begin screening of patients, March 9**

The Central Virginia VA Health Care System and its community clinics are paying special attention to Veterans' health due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak and escalation. This effort is coordinated throughout all levels of VA to effect operations in facilities nationwide. VA is working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and other federal agencies to address the outbreak. Our staff is taking precautions to safeguard everyone in VA facilities.

Beginning Tuesday, March 9, 2020, at 6:00 a.m., the Central Virginia VA Health Care System will begin screening all visitors and employees at select entrances across the facility and our community clinics.

All patients coming to the facility for an appointment should plan to arrive approximately one hour early, as we expect some delays in entry to the facility. Additionally, the valet service at our main entrance will cease operation to help mitigate any potential coronavirus transmissions among our Veteran population.

Leadership at our medical center and clinics are assuring that staff minimize entry to the least necessary entryways, and staff them for controlled access, based on a screening process of four questions:

1. Do you have a fever?
2. Do you have a worsening cough or flu-like symptoms?
3. Have you traveled to China, Japan, Italy, Iran or South Korea in the last 14 days?
4. Have you been in close contact with someone, including health care workers, confirmed to have the coronavirus disease?

Thank you for your help in spreading the word regarding this change at our facilities in Richmond, Charlottesville, Emporia, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County. Our Veterans' health is a top priority for us.