

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Cooperative Studies Scientific Evaluation Committee

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Veterans Affairs

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Cooperative Studies Scientific Evaluation Committee

3b. GSA

Committee No.

2018

4. Is this New Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

04/19/2022

6. Expected Renewal Date

04/19/2024

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority

38 USC 7303

13. Effective Date

05/09/1995

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Advisory Board

Scientific Technical Program

16a. Total

Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a.

Open

0

17b. Closed

0

17c. Partially Closed

0

Other Activities

0

17d. Total

0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

Current Next
FY FY

18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

In FY 2023, the Committee held one meeting in August to review the scientific merit of submissions for multi-center clinical studies and research activities. The Committee reviewed 3 new studies. The meetings involved discussion and written reviews of the scientific, clinical, methodological, ethical and logistical merits of proposed and active studies. In doing so, the committee helped advance the VA Strategic Goals by reviewing studies: that provide Veterans with greater choices for their care; that help improve the timeliness and integration of their care and support, emphasizing their well-being and independence; and that help modernize the healthcare system and focus resources more

efficiently to be competitive and provide World Class capabilities to Veterans.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The membership includes experts experienced in cooperative clinical trial methodology and conduct and represents major fields of clinical medicine, including: Cardiology, Endocrinology, Gerontology, Internal Medicine, Nephrology, Mental Health, Biostatistics and Epidemiology. A balanced membership is required for the wide variety of cooperative study proposals from VA clinicians in different medical specialty areas and to provide the necessary perspectives on the range of diseases that impact the Veteran population.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Committee tries to meet two to three times a year to review new proposals submitted by VA clinicians as related to new medical problems to patient care in VA. It also reviews the progress of ongoing studies periodically. The Committee helps to safeguard VA patients rights and well being as well as scientific integrity of every study.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

There is no committee in VA which is specifically selected on the basis of its multi-disciplinary makeup directly related to cooperative clinical research among the VA patient population.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

The meetings are partially closed because of the confidential nature involving qualification of

personnel conducting the studies, intellectual property of investigators and collaborators and patient-level information of study subjects. The disclosure of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy and violate standards for scientific investigation at this stage. Additionally, premature disclosure of the Committee's recommendation would likely frustrate implementation of final proposed actions.

21. Remarks

N/A

Designated Federal Officer

David Burnaska Program Manager, Cooperative Studies Program

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Brenner, Lisa	06/01/2022	06/01/2026	Aurora VAMC	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Chappell, Richard	06/01/2020	06/30/2024	Professor, University of Wisconsin	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Dang, Stuti	06/01/2023	06/01/2027	Miami VA Medical Center	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Florez, Hermes	06/01/2021	06/01/2025	Charleston VAMC	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
O'Malley, Patrick	06/01/2020	06/30/2024	AHRQ	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Shlipak, Michael	06/01/2022	06/01/2026	San Francisco VAMC	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Zwischenberger, Brittany	06/01/2023	06/01/2027	Durham VA Medical Center	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 7

Narrative Description

The Committee reviews new proposals submitted by VA clinicians that are aimed at addressing key medical problems and patient care in VA. The Committee also helps to safeguard VA patients rights and well being as well as scientific integrity of every ongoing study.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

While research findings are aimed in part at helping with cost savings, there has not been a direct method for determining the impact of funded studies. Additionally, benefits gained include non-financial factors related to contributions from scientific and medical knowledge.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

173

Number of Recommendations Comments

This is a total of recommendations for FY 2003 through FY 2023. Approximately 6 studies are reviewed each fiscal year and recommendations are made on each one.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

100%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Decisions are made on all study proposals and implemented.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Recommendations are all fully implemented, therefore, none are open for partial implementation.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

Feedback is provided at subsequent meetings.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

N/A

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

VA does not have granting authority.

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

N/A