

Atlanta VA Researchers Celebrate 90 Years of Research Excellence

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs celebrated 90 years of research excellence during National VA Research Week, May 18-22, 2015. As part of the nationwide observance, the Atlanta VAMC held Research Day Activities on May 18, 2015.

Research Day activities featured a research poster display and patient recruitment area in the medical center's ground floor atrium. In addition, the Million Veteran Program (MVP) and other opportunities to participate in VA Research took place on the 11th Floor.

“VA research advances medical science to improve care for Veteran patients and the entire nation,” said Michael Hart, MD, the medical center's associate chief of staff for research. “In the past, VA investigators have played important roles in developing devices and techniques that revolutionized health care – including the cardiac pacemaker, the CAT scan, Shingles vaccine, liver and kidney transplants, and much more. And today, VA investigators are making important contributions to research in many fields including infectious diseases, mental health, genomics, heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and spinal cord injury.”

VA conducts biomedical, rehabilitation, clinical, and health services research – as well as large, multi-center clinical trials – at more than 100 medical centers across the country. The Atlanta VAMC conducts a highly active research program which is near the top ten in the nation and is largely conducted by VA physician-scientists many of who are also faculty members at Emory University School of Medicine or Morehouse School of Medicine.

The Atlanta VAMC program is fortunate to include one of the national VA Rehabilitation Research Centers of Excellence, a growing Health Services and Clinical R&D research program, and research programs focused on medical and clinical problems, rehabilitation medicine and engineering, as well as health services and outcomes research. The research program involves over 400 projects conducted by 140 research investigators with support from more than 300 research associates and staff.

