Department of Veterans Affairs

Memorandum

Date: OCT 31 2008

From: Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management (10N)

Subj: Mandatory Suicide Risk and Intervention Training Extension

To: Network Director (10N 1-23)

1. LMS users have reported course performance issues for the "Suicide Risk Management Training for Clinicians" course exam. While recent system improvements are expected to significantly enhance course performance, we anticipate that large numbers of users will continue to access this and other courses throughout the remainder of the calendar year. Therefore, the completion date for Veterans Health Administration health care providers to complete "Suicide Risk Management Training for Clinicians" has been extended to January 31, 2009.

2. VHA Directive 2008-051, Mandatory Suicide Risk and Intervention Training for VHA Health Care Providers, requires health care providers to complete this training. Health care providers are defined as physicians, psychologists, registered nurses, social workers, physician assistants, pharmacists and dentists, as well as any employee serving in the capacity of Case Manager or Vet Center Team Leader and Counselor. Although not specifically stated in the Directive, this requirement also applies to contractors who meet the definition of a health care provider.

Approved/Disapproved

William F. Feeley

William F. Feeley, MSW, FACHE