

Department of
Veterans Affairs

Memorandum

Date: DEC 21 2012

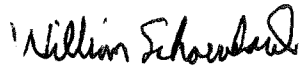
From: Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management (10N)

Subj: VHA National Standardization of Endoscopes – 3rd Year Lease Funding

To: Network Directors and VHA Key Staff Officials

1. The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Procurement and Logistics Office (PLO) established an Integrated Product Team (IPT) in June 2009 to develop requirements for the national standardization of endoscopes throughout VHA. National standardization will create best value, enhance the safety and quality of patient care, and result in reduced variability in the number of different processes required for endoscope setup, use and reprocessing, thus reducing the potential for error.
2. Facilities are expected to standardize endoscope inventories to one vendor through the use of national leasing contracts. In FY 2011 and FY 2012, to defray the initial transition and ongoing sustainment costs, the ISO Consultation Division, or ICD, (formerly the Office of Clinical Consultation and Compliance), working with the PLO, provided funding for endoscope lease costs. As outlined in the IPT report, facilities are expected to plan future lease costs into their equipment budget plans.
3. Recognizing that ongoing transition costs have placed a hardship on facilities, ICD is pleased to announce a program to fund FY 2013 lease costs incurred by endoscope standardization. Funding distributions in FY 2013 will be based on the actual FY 2013 lease costs to each facility, as reported according to the below instructions.
4. Each Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) will appoint a single point of contact for this program and notify Mr. Vince Reed, ICD Program Analyst (vincent.reed@va.gov), or Ms. Christina Hammond, ICD Health Systems Specialist (christina.hammond@va.gov). The VISN POC will collect and report third year lease costs to ICD, with supporting documentation to include a purchase order or invoice, to a restricted access SharePoint site. Mr. Reed will coordinate access to the site for each VISN. In addition, a SharePoint homepage for this program will be available containing a FAQ page and submission documents.
5. The deadline for funding requests to the SharePoint site is 30 days from release of this memorandum. Negative responses are required. The target for transfer of funds to the VISNs is within 30 days of receipt and approval of request. Projected funds transfer timelines will allow for network procurement activities to occur well ahead of proposed procurement cut-off dates.

6. For further information on endoscope standardization requirements you may contact Ms. Doris Richardson, Nurse Executive, Standardization (10NA2) by e-mail at doris.richardson@va.gov. For funding questions contact Mr. Reed by email or phone - (615) 584-7820.



William Schoenhard, FACHE

Attachments

cc:

OSP (10NC6)

CLOs (10N1-23)

CPO SAOs NCMs (10NA2)

OAL (049A, 049A1, 049A5)

Healthcare Technology / Biomedical Engineering (10NA9)

CMOs (10N1-23)

CFOs (10N1-23)