

**Department of  
Veterans Affairs**

# Memorandum

Date: January 12, 2021

From: Executive-in-Charge, Veterans Health Administration

Subj: Providing Testing and Vaccination to Family Caregivers in the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers

To: Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) Directors

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance on providing COVID-19 testing and vaccination to Family Caregivers in the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC).
2. Facilities may provide COVID-19 testing and vaccines to Primary and Secondary Family Caregivers to support the health and safety of Veterans in the care of a PCAFC caregiver, in balance with site-specific resources, needs, vaccine availability, hesitancy to accept the vaccine, and status of the pandemic locally. Facilities may schedule Family Caregivers to receive testing and vaccines in a coordinated manner with the Veterans for whom they provide care.
3. VA's authority to provide these services is 38 U.S.C. § 1720G(a)(3)(A)(i)(I). This provision of law allows VA to provide Family Caregivers with, among other things, "preparation... appropriate for the Family Caregiver to provide personal care services to the eligible veteran." VA will update the PCAFC regulations to include this authority.
4. For questions regarding PCAFC, please contact Ms. Jill DeBord, Acting National Director, Caregiver Support Program at [Jill.Debord@va.gov](mailto:Jill.Debord@va.gov).



Richard A. Stone, MD