



# Do You See a Non-VA Health Care Provider?

VLER Health is a program that shares certain parts of your Veteran health record between the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the Department of Defense (DoD), and selected private health care providers over a secure and confidential network known as the eHealth Exchange. This program is **free** and **voluntary** for Veterans.

**How might VLER Health benefit me?** Many Veterans receive a portion of their care from non-VA health care providers. Sharing certain parts of your Electronic Health Record (EHR) will help reduce the need for patients and families to carry records between health care providers as well as allow your private health care provider to make more informed decisions about your care. In an emergency, immediate access to additional health care information could save your life.

**Who can view my health information?** Your non-VA health care provider, UPMC, and VA doctors will both be able to see certain parts of your health record and use it to create a better picture of your overall health.

**How do I join?** Signing up is fast and easy. You may sign up in person, through the mail, by fax, or online.

**Online:** If you are a Level 2-authenticated (e.g. Premium account holder) eBenefits user, follow the steps below:

- 1) Login to your eBenefits account ([www.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov)) and click "Manage Health"
- 2) Scroll to the Health Records row, and click "VA Health Record Sharing"
- 3) Click "Manage My Authorizations and Preferences" on the "Welcome to VLER Health, Manage My Authorizations and Preferences" page. Please note, IF you have not previously authorized or your authorization has expired, you should see "You have not currently authorized the release of your protected health information to non-VA health care providers"
- 4) Click "Start Authorization" on the "Authorize Access to Your Health Records" page to start the process
- 5) Read the "Agreement to Terms & Conditions." If you accept the terms and conditions, click "Yes."
- 6) On the Request for and Authorization to Release Protected Health Information to eHealth Exchange page, scroll down and click: "Save and Continue."
- 7) In the "To Submit your Authorization," check the box and select sign window, "Check the Box" and click "Sign"
- 8) The DS Logon page will reappear for you. Enter your DS Logon username and password and click "Reauthenticate."  
(This next step may take a couple of minutes to process).

*\*When successful in authorizing for the sharing of your health information, the following message will appear (in a large green box): "VA will share your electronic health information immediately upon request through the eHealth Exchange based on your authorization"\**

**In Person:** Simply visit the Release of Information Office (ROI) at VA Butler Healthcare located at the main campus in Butler, PA; or outpatient clinic locations in Armstrong, Southern Butler (Cranberry Township), Clarion, Lawrence, and Mercer Counties. Fill out the VA Authorization form (VA Form 10-0485) and turn in in at one of the ROI Offices.

**By Mail:** Download and fill out the VA Authorization (VA Form 10-0485) from our internet site at [www.butler.va.gov/patients/Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record.asp](http://www.butler.va.gov/patients/Virtual_Lifetime_Electronic_Record.asp). Mail the Authorization form to VA Butler Healthcare, Release of Information (Mail Stop 34); 325 New Castle Road, Butler, PA 16001-2480.

**By Fax:** Fax the VA Authorization to: VA Butler Healthcare ROI (Fax# 724-285-2298).

**What if I decide not to join?** Participation is entirely voluntary. Deciding not to participate will not affect your VLER Health benefits or your relationship with your doctor and/or Butler VA Healthcare.

**What if I join and later change my mind?** If you change your mind, you can visit your VA Butler website or call the toll-free VLER Health Information line at 1-877-771-VLER (8537) to request the VLER Health Revocation form to stop sharing your health information.

Please visit our internet site at [www.butler.va.gov/patients/Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record.asp](http://www.butler.va.gov/patients/Virtual_Lifetime_Electronic_Record.asp) to download the forms and learn more about VLER Health.

If you would like to see which non-VA health care facilities are participating in this program, please visit the following website:  
<http://clinicalconnecthie.com/>