

## A Eureka Moment

May 28, 2014

The White House 202-456-1414 switchboard liaison office –  
ENGAGE AND CONNECT

1. Comment on written statement of Dr. Robert Petzel, Undersecretary for Health ADMINISTRATION (VHA), Department of Veterans' Affairs, before the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee in the U.S. Senate, April 30, 2014, to Chairman Sanders.

ABOUT: Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) pain management programs

Re'd document on U.S. Senator Patty Murray.

I want to dispute the entire document as it applies at the Eureka VA Clinic in Northern California and pain medications – opioids, methadone, oxycodone and substance abuse disorders.

The policy in Eureka VA, for PTSD, TBI and PTSO is based solely on giving drugs. There are no other programs to date.

The actual process was to truncate both methadone and oxycodone prescriptions for the long term user. The Eureka VA only followed the pain care mission by having veterans sign a pain management agreement and then do a urinalysis. If you tested positive for, say, marijuana, you were instantly labeled a substance abuser and they cut off the meds and put you on a national drug list as such.

### Four Examples of Vietnam Veterans

1. One veteran was told he had cancer and was sent home. The VA stopped his pain meds. The man was dead in 30 days and went through a traumatic death from opioid withdrawal and terminal cancer. The VA forgot to tell him he had only 30 days left.

2. A second ageing Vietnam vet was terminated from his long-term pain

meds. He went in and made a scene. He went to bed that night and was dead by morning.

3. Another Vietnam vet was taken off both methadone and oxycodone when he complained that they gave him hydrocodone – a water-based opioid (Vicodin). It burned the lining of his stomach out and he had food and food out with no digestion of acid. He has died 4 times under VA care and wrong meds, records missing, and an incompetent, vindictive doctor.

4. Then me. I was on methadone and oxycodone for over a dozen years. My nurse practitioner said she could not prescribe it any more and it was gone. She said it came from the higher ups. I was on lorazepam for the same amount of time. She had prescribed it for months. The last bottle said see your provider for refills. I made an appointment and she said she couldn't prescribe it anymore and I had to see mental health. A person would call and then set a video conference with San Francisco. She did write a script for vicodin for a tooth extraction coming up.

I ran out of lorazepam and went into a full-blown withdrawal before the mental health guy called. He asked if I was sleeping and I said what was that? He never called back. February and March were going through the underworld – cold sweat, pain beyond description, vomiting, etc. I lost 14 pounds. Six weeks of hell, then caught the flu and coughed my lungs out.

END

The VA isn't broken; it was reconstructed by the radical Republicans in both houses in 1930, so they could use the VA as another carpet bag funneling money for veterans to their own cronies.

#### Republican Operatives

They staffed the new system with their own people in control of all levels of power within the VA. These Republican operatives would retire only when the House of Representatives or the uHORS were in power.

It is a closed loop system of control and based on graft, greed and corruption.

It was no mistake that the first USA map of the current VA scandal in states on wait times was the backbone of the Republican party. The Deep South and the Keystone pipeline states.

#### Appeal

1. I have a 39-year-old pension/compensation appeal with the VA that is based on 38CFR regulations on obvious error over retroactive benefits. I have iron-clad documents of my appeal that show that the VA misused regulations, changed diagnosis for service-connected to one that is not. Destroying case files and removing paper documents from files. Uses the 38CFR regulations to cut benefits and then quotes from them to justify illegal actions. From fall of 1977 under President Carter and Max Cleland to the present.

#### Fee Basis

1. Medicated with wrong drugs.
2. Billing me for doctor appointments I never had. Senator Barbara Boxer investigated in 1996.
3. Cutting my fee basis card without warning.
4. Failure to pay for emergency room treatment.
5. Taken to collection agency by Stanford Pain Clinic. Two hospitals in Humboldt County and doctors often preapprove treatments by fee basis.
6. Removing final billing figures from request for fee basis file and or incomplete records.
7. Fee basis dental program. 4 major infections in 3 implants – drove approximately 3,000 miles per implant. Lost 5 teeth due to lack of treatment under W. I was waiting for authorization for dental. About three years later I get a call from fee basis dental telling me they found my file on top of a cabinet when they moved and did I need treatment?

#### Pharmacy

Double billing of postal mailings by two departments of a Michigan VA of medications.

1. First return receipt was by the U.S.P.S. and would have cost \$8.26 to deliver package. Tracking code on packet was invalid.

2. Then, they would put the U.S.P.S. return receipt packet inside a Fedex envelope and send it.
3. The U.S.P.S. packet would have cost \$100 a year. It would not be unreasonable to see a million or more prescriptions written for vets a year.
4. \$100 million dollar fraud.

#### Double billing of mailing costs

When President George W. Bush came into office the VA pharmacy in San Francisco was the place this prescription had been filled. It changed to a VA facility in Michigan and I started getting a Fedex return receipt package with meds in it. I would open it and find a U.S.P.S. return receipt packet like I had always received.

It took several years to have the thought that this was wrong. I started saving the Fedex-U.S.P.S. in late 2004. I have evidence for 2005 and 2006 as well. I wrote W. in 2006 about the scam. All that happened was the practice stopped.

$\$100,000,000 \times 6 \text{ years} = 6 \text{ hundred million dollars}$  being gifted away from Iraq and Afghanistan and all war vets by the VA. Same as the practice that is going on in both war zones.

The money amount could have reached one billion dollars by the time Bush got out of office over an 8-year period.

#### Current

I got a new prescription for oxycodone in the beginning of May. My wife called my doctor and finally told her I was suicidal and the wheels clicked. I saw my doc on May 2, 2014. I had high blood pressure so she started me on a blood thinner called Lisinopril-5 mg, ½ tab for one week, then one a day. She ordered the oxycodone refilled. I got that in less than 2 days, the fastest ever in 40 years. I went back in two weeks for a blood pressure checkup. My BP was 98 over 60. I was passing into and out of consciousness with eyes rolling back in my head. She cancelled the prescription for Lisinopril on May 15, 2014. On May 19, 2014 the VA pharmacy refilled this prescription and sent it to me. I called my local pharmacy and this 30-day script cost \$11.30. This low blood pressure incident was caused by reformulated oxycodone 5 with acetophenime by the VA pharmacy San Francisco. My nurse practitioner, Yvette Faust,

prescribed Lisinopril to lower blood pressure. She ordered the oxycodone. These were sent to the VA pharmacy in San Francisco. They erred by sending reformulated oxycodone with aspirin in it, a known blood thinner.

Prostate Cancer – service-related from Vietnam

I allege that the VA gave me testosterone patches that you put on the back side of the scrotum (about as close to the prostate as possible) in or around 2006 and after writing the President. The VA clinic at that time was privately operated. The current Eureka VA Clinic is under the VA umbrella as of 2013. I had PSA levels checked yearly as part of physicals done every year. I had prostate cancer as documented by the VA in 2013 when I saw the chart on the screen and it showed a curve upward for PSA levels. The VA gave me prostate cancer. There is ample evidence between connecting testosterone and prostate cancer growth rates.

1. Prostate biopsy. The staff person took 20 samples of lesions and I feel that he may have been trying to infect more cells, if he did them one after another. My radiation doctor in Eureka said that 20 samples was “excessive” and wondered why...

2. I had a video interview with a circulation doctor – toes on both feet were turning blue. At the end, he told me “Good luck with your prostate issues.”

3. One receptionist at the VA desk always looks through all your medical files on the computer. I saw her eyes widen like in an “a-ha” moment or eating a peppermint patty, then look my way and back.

Viagra

My radiation doctor at St. Joseph Hospital in Eureka prescribed 8 Viagra pills a month during photon poerm radiation. The script said break in half and take every other day. This would keep blood flowing strong. He gave me a 5-month refill. BUT the VA only lets vets have 4 pills a month. The St. Joseph doctor called in script for 4 Viagra pills a month x 5 to \_\_\_\_\_ . I got it filled and 4 pills cost me \$151.07 to pick up. Expensive wood.