## **Veterans Choice Program**

This new program was enacted to better allow veterans access to primary and urgent care. To be deemed eligible for the program veterans will first have to get approved by the VA. Once approved veterans will receive their choice card and be able to access care in the public sector at select VA approved facilities.

## **Eligibility requirements:**

- Will take longer than 30 days to see a physician.
- Reside 40+ miles away from nearest VA facility.
- The veteran needs to travel by plane or boat to reach a VA facility.
- When geographical challenges cause significant travel hardship.

## **Important Notes:**

- This is a program to help meet the demand for veterans care in the *short-term*.
- If a veteran does not get approval first then they will be responsible for all repayment.
- Only veterans who have been determined to meet the eligibility requirements or were
  previously eligible will receive a card. If a veteran feels that have not received a card and
  they do in fact meet the requirements, they should call the call information center at the
  number below.
- The Choice Card does not replace the Veterans ID card used within the VA facilities. It is important for the Veteran to remain in possession of BOTH cards.
- When a VA utilizes care from a non-VA facility, the provider must submit those records to the VA so that it may be included with the veteran's medical file.

Veterans who have been sent a card based on their preliminary eligibility MUST call <u>866-606-8198</u> to ensure eligibility and get approved for care: