

NASA News

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NOTE TO EDITORS: News media are invited to attend a series of one-day workshops for Department of Veterans Affairs patient safety officials on Jan. 8-10 and Jan. 15-17, 2002. The workshops will be held at NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, Calif., in the Bldg. 3 ballroom, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. PST each day. To reach Ames, take Highway 101 to the Moffett Field exit. Proceed to the main gate. Stop at Visitor Badging, to the right of the main gate, and receive a visitor badge and a map with directions to Bldg. 3.

NASA HOSTS PATIENT SAFETY WORKSHOP

The new Patient Safety Reporting System (PSRS), a NASA and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) collaboration, will be showcased at six one-day workshops for VA patient safety officials. The workshops will be held Jan. 8-10 and Jan. 15-17, 2002 at NASA Ames Research Center in California's Silicon Valley.

The workshops will provide an opportunity for VA patient safety officials to learn about the PSRS and how this system will assist them in their job of maintaining quality health care. This new reporting system, which was established in May 2000, was designed to improve patient safety and to document health-care errors and 'close calls' in VA health-care facilities. The PSRS is modeled on NASA's highly successful Aviation Safety Reporting System (ASRS), which is managed and operated for the Federal Aviation Administration by NASA Ames.

"The experience gained in operating the ASRS for 25 years will be invaluable in establishing the collection of voluntary, confidential data reported by healthcare providers on the front line of patient care in VA facilities," said Linda Connell, NASA ASRS director and PSRS project manager.

Patient safety officers, quality management officers and union representatives from approximately 163 VA medical centers across the country will attend. The workshops are being hosted in collaboration with the VA National Center for Patient Safety (NCPS), Ann Arbor, Mich. The director for NCPS is Dr. James Bagian and the program manager for NCPS is Rodney Williams.

More information about the PSRS can be found at: <http://psrs.arc.nasa.gov> For more information about the workshop, contact Linda Connell at (650) 960-6059.

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