Des Moines, Iowa

Women’s Veterans Care

Is there complete comprehensive primary care and care coordination provided by one

primary care provider at one site?

* Yes we provide comprehensive care to our females including cervical screening within one visit. Care coordination is provided through our RN’s within the PACTS. They are the care coordinators. We have 13 designated WH providers. 7 on site in Des Moines, and one each in our CBOC’s with 2 at our contract CBOC-Fort Dodge.

What does primary care include?

* Primary care includes preventative care and chronic care management, menopausal management and treatment, maternal coordination, birth control, osteoporosis screening and treatment, cancer screening-cervical on site-mammography coordinated off site; wellness and healthy living education and classes, nutrition and weight management through our MOVE program, and both pre-diabetic and diabetic classes, and our stop smoking classes. Additionally we have resources for mental health such as a behavioral health psychologist in primary care, a depression case manager, an MST contact, and both individual and group MST classes. We have a female only group MST class. Also additional mental health resources though our vet center, who added a marriage and family counselor this past year.

Is a separate physical location for the delivery of primary care to Women Veterans provided, one not shared by other services providing care to male veterans?

* No. We have both Model 1 and 2 in place. This means that many women receive their primary care in an integrated primary care setting, however we also have a specific women’s clinic operating 2.5 days per week. This is a separated but co-located space-model 2.

What gender-specific services are provided at this location?

* Cervical screening, birth control, & menopause evaluation and treatment.

Is there a Women Veterans Health Committee (WVHC) in existence?

* Yes.

If so, who chairs the WVHC and who are the members?

* I chair the committee, as the WVPM, however this committee is multi-disciplinary with members from all areas of the hospital.

Which Clinic Model has been chosen to best meet the needs of Women Veterans and to achieve the standards for comprehensive primary care?

* As stated above, we have both Model 1 and Model 2 in place.

\*\*I am sorry I was not able to meet with you personally. We were having a site visit by a firm hired by the women veteran’s health strategic health care group.

Michelle Finley

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