

- 1) Veterans with appointments.
- 2) Staff accompanying veterans with appointments.
- 3) Family members of veterans with corresponding medical justification.
- 4) Staff going between facilities.

Thank you for your cooperation with the Veteran/Staff Shuttle Service drivers. If you have questions about the Veteran/Staff Shuttle Services contact the Supervisory Motor Vehicle Operator at (501) 257- 4045.

### **Transportation to and from CAVHS for outlying areas**

Transportation to and from the CAVHS: (John L. McClellan Memorial Veterans Hospital in Little Rock and Eugene J. Towbin Healthcare Center in North Little Rock) are offered from outlying areas. This free service is offered by the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) of Arkansas. To utilize this service, call the telephone numbers listed below for availability, pick-up point, and schedule information. It is a good idea to call at least one week before your scheduled appointment if possible to arrange your ride. For further information please contact the DAV Coordinator at (501) 257-6991.

<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Running Days</u></b>	<b><u>Scheduling Numbers</u></b>
Batesville	M W F	(870) 793-8812
Camden/El Dorado	M W	(870) 837-2216
Heber Springs	M T W F	(501) 362-6211
Hope	M W F	(870) 777-4115 or 5460
Hot Springs	M F	(501) 262-0456
Jonesboro	M W F	(870) 932-1052
Mena	M F	(479) 394-8147
Newport	T TH	(501) 344-8410

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Pine Bluff	M F	(870) 541-5495
Russellville	M W F	(479) 968-1665
Fayetteville	M F (stops at Alma)	1-800-691-8387 ext 5041
Mountain Home	M W F (western side) T TH (eastern side)	1-870-425-8155
Monticello (VFW)	T TH	1-870-460-5257

## **Voluntary Research**

CAVHS Research Service serves to provide research studies that are trying to learn more about medical problems that affect veterans. Many veterans volunteer in research studies at VA's across the United States. VA research is an important part of all research in the United States. Some research topics that are being studied at CAVHS include diabetes, heart disease, circulatory diseases, PTSD and aging. All

research involving humans is approved by expert committees. The Medical Center Director oversees the Research Committees and assigns the Research Compliance Office to monitor research studies to assure that research participant (volunteers) rights are being protected and federal regulations are followed.

If you have any general questions about research please call CAVHS Research Administration at (501) 257-4816. If you are considering participating in a research study, or have volunteered for a research study and have questions you should direct them to the Investigator in charge of the study. If you feel that your concerns or questions have not been appropriately addressed, you should contact the Research Compliance Office at (501) 257-5558. You can obtain information about volunteer research on the internet at [www.research.va.gov/programs/PRIDE](http://www.research.va.gov/programs/PRIDE). The following information is provided to assist you in understanding more about research studies and your rights as a volunteer in research.

### **What is a research study?**

A research study is an organized activity to learn more about a problem or answer a question. A research study may be done to:

- Understand health needs, problems or feelings people have about an illness or their general health
- Test if a product, such as a drug or equipment, is safe and effective
- Determine the best way to treat an illness, or how to prevent an illness
- Find out what health care practices work best

One specific type of research study is a clinical trial. A clinical trial is a medical study that tries to determine whether medicines, new therapies or new devices are safe and effective. In a clinical trial, a drug or treatment is often compared to a placebo (an inactive substance given as if it were a therapy, but typically has no value to treat or prevent an illness).

### **Questions to ask before volunteering for a research study**

Here are some questions you might ask before deciding to take part in a research study at CAVHS:

- Who is doing this study and what questions might it answer?
- Who reviewed or approved this study?
- How long will this study last?
- What could happen to me, good or bad, if I take part in this study?
- What tests or procedures will I have during the study?
- Who will be told I am taking part in this study?
- Will this research help in understanding my condition? If so, how?
- Is it possible that I will receive a placebo (inactive substance)?
- What happens to any specimens I give?
- Could my condition get worse during the study? What happens if it does?
- What other options or choices do I have if I decide not to take part?
- Who will be in charge of my care? Can I continue seeing my own doctor?
- Will I be charged anything or paid anything to be in this study?