

VA National Pharmacogenomics (PGx) Program

What is PGx testing?

PGx testing is a form of genetic (or DNA) testing that helps predict how Veterans process and may respond to different medications. There are specific genes linked to specific medications. Your VA doctors and pharmacists can now order these genetic tests to prevent side effects and to improve medication responses when prescribing medications.

PGx tests are most useful for the one out of every two Veterans starting new medications for treatment of:

- Depression
- Pain
- Blocked blood vessels of the heart
- Certain cancers
- Infections
- Selected conditions caused by inflammation and other conditions

What is VA's National Pharmacogenomics (PGx) Program?

VA's PGx program is the largest genetic testing for medicines program in the country. PGx testing is typically offered to Veterans by providers and a results letter is mailed to the patient and stored in their medical record for future use.

“When it comes to prescribing medicine, one size does not fit all. Through VA's PGx program, Veterans benefit from fewer adverse drug reactions and more precise treatment options.”

— Dr. Deepak Voora
Director, VA National Pharmacogenomics Program

How do I request PGx testing?

VA encourages Veterans to reach out to their VA healthcare team about PGx testing. Rest assured: Genetic test results cannot be used to deny or reduce a Veteran's service-connected benefits.

Impact as of April 2024:



64,098
unique PGx test orders
placed since 2019



Learn more by
scanning the
QR Code.

