



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System

1700 N. Wheeling St.
Aurora, CO 80045

Dear Veteran:

VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System is implementing Veterans Health Administration Directive 1085, Smoke-Free Policy for Patients. With the implementation of this directive, we will be changing our smoking policy to further our commitment in providing a safe and healthy environment for patients, visitors, vendors, volunteers, contractors and employees.

The policy defines smoking materials as, but not limited to:

- Cigarettes
- Cigars
- Pipes
- any other combustion of tobacco
- non-Federal Drug Administration (FDA) approved electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), including but not limited to electronic or e-cigarettes, vape pens, or e-cigars.

Effective October 1, 2019, smoking will no longer be permitted on any of our VA campuses for patients, employees, visitors, contractors, volunteers and vendors.

You are strongly encouraged to leave all smoking materials at home to reduce the risk of ignition near oxygen or other flammable gases used in our facilities.

VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System offers smoking cessation treatment services for Veterans. If you would like more information about smoking cessation, please contact your Primary Aligned Care Team either by calling 303.399.8020 option 3 or by sending a secure messaging using My HealthVet.

Other available resources consist of **Quit VET**: 1-855-QUIT-VET (1-855-784-8838) between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday. **SmokefreeVET**: VA's quit tobacco text messaging program. To sign up, text VET to 47848 or visit smokefree.gov/VET. **Stay Quit Coach**: VA's interactive quit tobacco app - visit <https://mobile.va.gov/app/stay-quit-coach> to download. As a Colorado resident, you may also call the Colorado Quit Line at 1.800.QUIT.NOW.

Thank you for serving our country and allowing us to care for you.

Duane Gill
Deputy Director