IntegratedEthics® Directive:
Frequently Asked Questions

What’s new?
The updated version of VHA Directive 1004.06, IntegratedEthics® (the IE Directive) has been published and is effective as of October 24, 2018.

Where can I get a copy of the IE Directive?
The IE Directive and supporting materials are located on the National Center for Ethics in Health Care website:
- Health Care Ethics Policy (VA intranet)
- Health Care Ethics Policy (internet)
The directive is also available on the VHA Forms and Publications website here.

Why was the IE Directive updated?
The IE Directive was revised to meet formatting requirements of VHA Directive 6330, Controlled National Policy/Directives Management System, dated June 24, 2016, to update it from a handbook to a directive.

What changed in the IE Directive?
No substantive changes were made; there are minor updates to nomenclature, and outdated references were deleted. NCEHC is continuing a strategic planning process to refresh the IE program. Following those programmatic decisions, we will revise VHA Directive 1004.06. This new IE Directive does NOT include any substantive changes to the IE program, nor does it reflect changes that will be made after the IE strategic planning process. The IE Directive continues to summarize the framework for IE, its goals, core functions, and organizational structures at the national, VISN, and local level. The IE Directive also delineates the responsibilities of the IE program officer, ethics consultation coordinator, preventive ethics coordinator, ethical leadership coordinator, and facility director.

Should any changes be made to local IE policy?
It is recommended that facilities NOT update their local IE policy to align it with the new VHA Directive 1004.06, since the update represents simply an administrative action to convert from a handbook to a directive.

Whom can I contact about the IntegratedEthics® Directive?
You can send questions to Basil.Rowland@va.gov.