TOPIC 3 – VA HOSPITAL BUILDING SYSTEM

1. PURPOSE: VA policy on the design of new hospital buildings is to provide for their continuing adaptability to changing conditions and programs throughout their structural life.

2. VA HOSPITAL BUILDING SYSTEM (VAHBS): The VAHBS concept described in VA Hospital Building System Research Study Report, Project No. 99-R047 (U.S. Government Printing Office Stock No. 051-000-00 112-5), provides such adaptability. All new and replacement VA hospital buildings should use the VAHBS system to the maximum practicable extent, to optimize construction, flexibility, accessibility, and systems accessibility and maintenance. Also consider using this system for major additions to existing hospitals where future adaptability is an important factor.