**News Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**New York/New Jersey VA Health Care Network Announces New Chief Medical Officer Michael Rader*, M.D., Brings Leadership, Proven Experience to VISN 2***

**Bronx, NY** — The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Michael Rader, M.D. as the new Chief Medical Officer of the New York/New Jersey VA Health Care Network (VISN 2), Bronx, NY. Dr. Rader will oversee delivery of health care to facilities in Albany Stratton, Bath, Canandaigua, Syracuse, VA Western New York Health Care System, New York Harbor Health Care System, New Jersey Health Care System, Hudson Valley Healthcare System, James J. Peters and Northport VA Medical Centers and sixty-six community based outpatient clinics (CBOCs). VISN 2 serves more than 500,000 veterans in 76 counties in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania offering a wide range of comprehensive inpatient and outpatient medical services. Services include primary and specialty care, nursing home care, mental health and rehabilitation services, and domiciliary care. VISN 2 medical centers have many academic affiliations with medical schools and universities in New York and New Jersey.

“We are excited to bring Dr. Rader on board as the new Chief Medical Officer of the New York/New Jersey VA Health Care Network,” said Dr. Joan E. McInerney, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN 2) Director. “His sound leadership qualities and proven experience will be valuable assets for the network, the employees and volunteers, and most importantly, for the Veterans we are honored to serve. He will begin his appointment on October 15, 2017.”

Over the last 35 years, Dr. Rader has served in a range of leadership roles across a spectrum of healthcare establishments. In his most recent position as Chief Medical Officer for Prospect East Orange General, he has operational responsibility for Medical Staff Affairs, Quality Behavioral Health Services, Emergency Department, Perioperative Services and Family Health Services. Some of his accomplishments include establishing a hospitalist and intensivist program and restructuring behavioral health services to enhance compliance and efficiency.

Dr. Rader retains the clinical and leadership competence to be a key member of the interdisciplinary VISN leadership team as Chief Medical Officer. He will work with the VISN Medical Centers to ensure that facility programs reflect the mission and priorities of the VISN and the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). Dr. Rader will actively facilitate the coordination of primary, secondary and tertiary care systems to ensure access to care for all veterans.

Dr. Rader is Board Certified in Internal Medicine, Hematology and Oncology. Additionally, he is an Assistant Clinical Professor at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Dr. Rader received his Doctor of Medicine degree from the State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center; Bachelor of Science in Biology from City College of City University of New York; and a Certificate in Management Development and Management Studies, Cornell School of Industrial and Labor Relations.

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