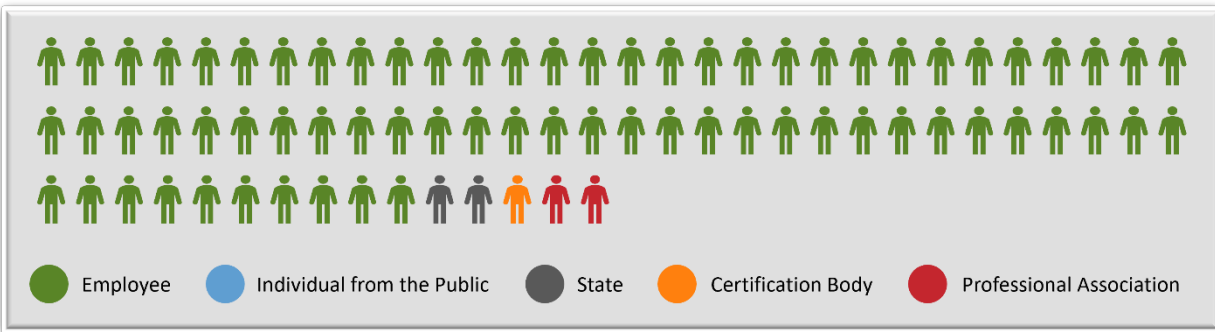


## VA STANDARD OF PRACTICE FOR CYTOTECHNOLOGISTS

### Comment Count Report

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is establishing VA's standard of practice for Cytotechnologists; this will be a standardized set of services that all VA Cytotechnologists can perform if their VA medical facility performs such services, and they have the education, training, and skill to perform the services.

On May 16, 2023, VA posted the proposed VA standard of practice for Cytotechnologists on the Federal Register ([88 FR 31306](#)) for public comment and within VA's intranet for VA employee comment. VA also sent letters to the national certification and standards body (American Society for Clinical Pathology) and State licensing boards for Cytotechnologists with the proposed VA standard of practice and an opportunity for them to comment directly to VA on the proposed standard. VA requested that all comments on the Federal Register, VA's intranet site, from the certification body, and from the States be provided within 60 days. The comment period closed on July 17, 2023, and VA received 75 comments in total.



VA received 70 comments from VA employees, 0 comments from individuals from the public, 1 comment from the American Society for Clinical Pathology, 1 comment from the American Medical Association, and 1 comment from the College of American Pathologists. As of July 17, 2023, VA received comments from 2 out of the 9 State licensing boards for Cytotechnologists; however, VA will continue to actively engage with States.

VA will review all comments received and make appropriate revisions to the VA standard of practice for Cytotechnologists in light of the comments, to include those that help VA meet its mission and goals through evidence-based practice and alternatives.

VA will post a collective response to all comments in a final report on <https://www.va.gov/standardspractice> once the VA standard of practice for Cytotechnologists is published in Veterans Health Administration Directive 1900, which will be available at <https://www.va.gov/vhapublications/publications.cfm?pub=1>.