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VIREC UPDATES

1. **SAS[®] Proc Contents for VHA ADUSH Enrollment Files: Fiscal Year-End Datasets**

The 2010 VHA Assistant Deputy Undersecretary for Health for Policy and Planning (ADUSH) Enrollment Files: Fiscal Year-End Datasets SAS[®] Proc Contents are available on the VIREC website at <http://www.virec.research.va.gov/DataSourcesName/Enrollment/EnrollmentDocumentation.htm>. These descriptions of SAS datasets include variable type, length, format, and labels.

2. **HSRData-L Listserv: Recent Topics**

The HSRData-L Listserv is a forum for VA researchers and data users to exchange information, ideas, questions, and answers about VA data and informatics. For those who may have missed last month's listserv discussion, subject lines include:

- CPT procedure codes for inpatient procedures,
- VA Facility locator by zip code,
- Missing DAY_SUPPLY information in DSS Pharmacy Dataset, and
- Last date of CMS (Medicare) use in Vital Status Master file.

To view these and other archived discussions, visit the HSRData-L Listserv VA Intranet Web site.

VIREC maintains the HSRData-L Listserv, which is available to researchers and data users with a "va.gov" e-mail address. To subscribe to the listserv, visit the VIREC Intranet website.

DATA AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

3. New Variable Fields in DSS NDEs

The following new fields were added to all NDEs (except ALB and ATTEND) containing patient data in FY11.

- PATCAT – Patient Category, identifies the type of DoD patient in a Federal Health Care Center (FHCC).
- FMP – Family Member Prefix, in data from FHCC facilities, identifies the relationship of the patient to the DoD sponsor (only included in OUT, OUT2, O-IPD, LAB, PHA, and RAD NDEs).
- DOD FLAG – identifies a patient (from any VHA facility) as DoD.
- MPI – Master Patient Index provides an alternate unique identifier field other than the patient's SSN.

When full descriptions of these variable fields are available on VIREC's website, a notice will be posted in the monthly *DIB* and an announcement will be made on VIREC's website.

4. Station 740 Texas Valley Coastal Bend Workload Data Transmission Beginning June 1, 2011

Station 740, Texas Valley Coastal Bend, became active October 1, 2010. Initially the site was transmitting Financial and Payroll data only. On June 1, 2011, Station 740 began to transmit workload, Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF), and Primary Care Management Module (PCMM) data.

EDUCATION

5. VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series

Upcoming Cyber Seminars

Web-Enhanced Guideline Implementation for Post-Myocardial Infarction CBOC Patients

July 19, 12pm Eastern

Thomas Houston, MD

Thomas K. Houston is the Director of the eHealth QUERI, the Director of the biomedical informatics component of the University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences, and a Professor of quantitative health sciences and medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Recently Archived Presentations

Moving Telemedicine from "Research to Just the Way We Do Business"

Researchers may visit VIREC's website to register for a seminar or to access archived presentations at <http://www.virec.research.va.gov/EducationResources/Seminars/Cyberseminars.htm>. E-mail questions to VIREC's Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Coordinator, Joanne Stevens, at Joanne.Stevens@va.gov.

6. VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminars

Upcoming Seminars

Assessing VA Health Care Use: Inpatient

August 1, 1pm Eastern

Denise M. Hynes, RN, MPH, PhD

Denise Hynes is Director of the VA Information Resource Center (VIREC) and a Research Career Scientist at the Center for Management of Complex Chronic Care (CMC3) at the Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital.

Recently Archived Presentations

Overview of VA Data, Information Systems, National Databases and Research Uses

Researchers may visit VIREC's website to register for a seminar or to access archived presentations at <http://www.virec.research.va.gov/EducationResources/Seminars/Cyberseminars.htm>. E-mail questions to VIREC's Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Coordinator, Melissa Brown, at Melissa.Brown3@va.gov.

CONFERENCES & CALLS FOR ABSTRACTS

7. American Medical Informatics Association 2011 Annual Symposium

The 2011 American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) annual symposium will be held October 22–26 in Washington, DC. The AMIA Symposium is an educational forum in clinical informatics, clinical research informatics, public health informatics, and translational bioinformatics programs. Registration opens June 22.

For more information visit AMIA's website at <https://www.amia.org/amia2011>.

Data Issues Brief: a monthly newsletter published by the [VA Information Resource Center \(VIREC\)](#) for the purpose of informing and updating VA researchers on current and pending happenings and changes regarding health data, databases, and medical informatics.

Intended Audience: VA researchers and staff

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Intranet Versions: Call the VIREC Help Desk at 708–202–2413.

Contact Information: For comments, suggestions, or newsworthy topics that have not been addressed, call 708–202–2413 or send a message to virec@va.gov.

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