



Data Issues Brief Index

2000-2012

Data Issues Brief Index 2000-2012

Overview

Introduction VIREC's Data Issues Brief Index contains the headlines for the 2000-2012 Data Issues Briefs.

Disclaimer The Data Issues Brief is a monthly publication. The information is current and accurate for the actual month of publication. While previous issues may be of use to researchers, it is important to remember that archived information may not be accurate.

Access For access to *Data Issues Brief* issues, follow the instructions in the table below.

Year	Access Method
2010-2012	Visit the DIB Archive on VIREC's website: http://www.virec.research.va.gov/DIB/Archive.htm .
2000-2009	Contact VIREC's Help Desk to request desired issue: http://www.virec.research.va.gov/Support/HelpDesk.htm .

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2012 Headlines

December

- New VA/CMS Data
 - VA Data Access Form 9957 Now Requires Digital Signature
 - Data Transition to CDW Update
 - Medical SAS Outpatient Data File Variable Names Mapped to CDW Variables
 - VA Medical Center Station/ Suffix Modifier Assignment
 - New Data Quality Program Website
 - Best Practices Guide: Race Data
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - 2013 AcademyHealth ARM Call for Abstracts Closes January 17
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
-

November

- VIREC Study Examines Care for Dually Eligible Veterans
 - FY12 Q4 DCG Data Available at AITC
 - FY13 Person Class Code Updates in SAS Format Library
 - FY13 Q1 Changes to ICD-9-CM and HCPCS (Level II) Codes
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - Health Services Research Call for Papers on HIT
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
 - Requesting Cause of Death Data for VA research
-

October

- VIREC Exhibit Booth at AMIA Annual Symposium
 - DSS Historical Clinic Stop Codes, FY13 Update
 - FY11 Variable Frequencies
 - FY12 Historical Variable Attributes
 - FY12 Medical SAS Datasets Closeout & Availability
 - FY13 Changes to DSS Identifiers
 - SSN Changes to PTF Data May Appear in Medical SAS Datasets
 - Data Transition to CDW Update
 - New Compliance Date for ICD-10 Conversion, October 1, 2014
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - SEER-Medicare Training Now April 25–26, 2013
 - AMIA Annual Symposium, November 3–7
 - 2013 AcademyHealth ARM Call for Abstracts, November 1
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
 - Where Can I Find Information on VA's Transition to ICD-10?
-

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2012 Headlines, Continued

September

- VistA Resource Guide
 - VIREC Tutorial on Using VistAWeb
 - USRDS Data Now Available from VIREC
 - Availability of FY12 DSS NDE SAS Datasets
 - Changes to ICD-9, HCPCS (Level II), and HCPCS Modifier Codes
 - Gender Specific Changes to PTF
 - VAST Transition to the VSSC
 - New Person Class Code in SAS Format Library
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - SEER-Medicare Training, November 15–16
 - American Medical Informatics Association Annual Symposium, November 3–7
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
-

August

- DSS FY2013 Changes
 - Outpatient Data Comparisons: MedSAS vs CDW
 - FY2012 Q3 DCG Data Available at AITC
 - New CDW Domain: Lab Microbiology
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - 2012 Healthcare Data Warehousing Association Annual Conference, Call for Abstracts, July 13
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
 - Tips for Using the Listserv
 - Where do I find date of death data?
-

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2012 Headlines, Continued

July

- New VIREC Website
 - CDW Proc Contents
 - VIREC Exhibit Booth at HSR&D/QUERI National Conference
 - Withdrawal of DSS NDEs from AITC Mainframe
 - New VA/CMS Data Available
 - Facilities Get New Station Number
 - Creation of Monthly BIRLS Death File Resumes
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - Electronic Data Methods Forum Special Supplement Published
 - 2012 Healthcare Data Warehousing Association Annual Conference, Call for Abstracts, July 13
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
 - Where Can I Obtain Veteran Population Statistics?
-

June

- VIREC Exhibit Booth at 2012 AcademyHealth Annual Meeting
 - DSS NDE Data Transition
 - Medical SAS Chronic Conditions Frequencies FY2007- 2011
 - VA Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW) Resource Guide
 - Dental-Specific Person Class Taxonomy Codes Updates
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - 2012 AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting, June 24–26
 - 2012 HSR&D/QUERI National Conference, July 16-19
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
 - What is a Health Factor?
-

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2012 Headlines, Continued

May

- VIREC Exhibit Booth at 2012 AcademyHealth Annual Meeting
 - Historical Variable Attributes: VHA ADUSH Enrollment Files
 - SAS Proc Contents: DSS Clinical NDEs & VHA ADUSH Enrollment Files
 - CMS Variable in Vital Status Master File
 - New HSRData-L Listserv E-mail Address and Password-Protected Archive URL
 - Probable Test Patients in the Corporate Data Warehouse Flagged
 - BIRLS Death File Updates Suspended
 - FY2012 Q2 DCG Data Available at AITC
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - 2012 AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting, June 24–26
 - 2012 HSR&D/QUERI National Conference, July 16-19
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
 - Crosswalk between CPT and ICD-9 Procedure Codes
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April

- VIREC Historical Variable Attributes: VHA Medical SAS Datasets
 - Call for Papers: VA QUERI Sponsored Special Issue in Medical Care on HIT, Open until May 1
 - BCMA Data available in CDW
 - Mid-Year Changes to DSS Identifiers
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - Call for Abstracts: 2012 SMDM Annual Meeting, Open until May 18
 - 2012 AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
 - What Are CDW Flags?
-

March

- Ann Arbor SSN=IEN Crosswalk File Now Available
 - DSO Conversion Guide Index
 - VHA Vital Status File Update
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - HDWA's Data Quality Framework for a Real Time Data Warehouse Presentation Available
 - Call for Abstracts: 2012 SMDM Annual Meeting, Open until May 18
 - 2012 AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
 - New to VA Research? Learn About National Sources for VHA Electronic Data
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2012 Headlines, Continued

February

- Record Level Frequencies: VA/CMS Data
 - FY11 Medical SAS Proc Contents
 - New Person Class Codes in SAS Format Libraries
 - BIRLS Death File Refreshed
 - Mid-FY 2012 DSS NDE Changes
 - User Guidance Notification - Identification of Probable Test Patients in CDW
 - CDW Update
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - 2012 HSR&D/QUERI National Conference Approved: New Proposed Dates
 - MMRR Special Call for Papers: e-Health Theme Issue, Open until March 2
 - Request for Information: Input on Data and Informatics Issues, Open until March 12
 - Call for Proposals: 2012 AMIA Annual Symposium, Open until March 15
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
 - New to VA Research? Learn About National Sources for VHA Electronic Data
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January

- Select Variable Frequencies: DSS National Data Extracts
 - Unique Patient-Level Frequencies: DSS National Data Extracts
 - Facility-Level CMS Data Now Available
 - FY2012 Q1 DCG Data Available at AITC
 - CDW Update
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - 2012 AMIA Annual Symposium: Call for Proposals Open until March 15
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
-

2011 Headlines

December

- Select Variable Frequencies: VHA Medical SAS[®] Datasets
 - New Process for CDW Technical Support
 - CDW Update
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - 2012 AcademyHealth ARM Call for Abstracts, Nov 1 – Jan 12
 - New Proposed Date for 2012 HSR&D/QUERI National Conference
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
-

November

- Historical Variable Attributes for DSS Clinical NDEs Data and Information Systems
 - FY2011 EOY DCG File Available at AITC
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - Now Available: Presentation Slides from HDWA Annual Conference
 - 2012 AcademyHealth ARM Call for Abstracts, Nov 1 – Jan 12
 - HSRData-L Listserv Recent Topics
 - Why is the VHA Documents Website Relevant to Researchers?
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October

- New VA Race Data Quality Technical Report
 - Information on the OEF/OIF/OND Roster
 - New Historical Variable Attributes: VHA Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health (ADUSH) Enrollment Files
 - Fiscal Year 2011 Closeout Medical SAS Inpatient & Outpatient Datasets
 - Facilities Get New Facility Numbers
 - Decision Support System Announces FY2012 Changes Impacting NDEs: DSS Identifiers
 - VIREC Cyber Seminars
 - National Association of Health Data Organizations Annual Conference, Nov 15–16
 - HSRData-L Listserv Topics
 - What is the Difference Between CDW and VINCI?
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2011 Headlines, Continued

September

- Data Investigation: Vital Status File Date of Birth (DOB) and Sex Quality Review
 - Subject Matter Experts Needed for the Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)
 - Corporate Data Warehouse Update (CDW)
 - Launch of VINCI Workspace
 - Corporate Database Monograph, 2011
 - 2010 National Survey of Veterans
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminars
 - HSR&D/ QUERI 2012 National Conference – Abstracts Due Oct 3
 - Recent HSRData-L Listserv Topics
 - Join the Listserv
 - What is the Office of Informatics and Analytics?
-

August

- VIREC Presentations at AMIA Annual Symposium
 - Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW) Update
 - DCG FY2011 QTR3 File is Available at the AITC
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminars
 - VA eHealth University (VeHU) 2012 – Call for Presentations
 - Healthcare Data Warehousing Association 2011 Annual Conference
 - American Medical Informatics Association 2011 Annual Symposium
 - HSR&D/QUERI 2012 National Conference - Call for Abstracts
 - Recent HSRData-L Listserv Topics
 - Join the Listserv
 - What is “Preparatory to Research” Data Use?
-

July

- HSRData-L Listserv: Recent Topics
 - DSS National Data Extract SAS File Rebuilt
 - Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW) Update
 - AcademyHealth Webinar: Advances in the Use of Electronic Clinical Data for Prospective Patient Centered Outcomes Research
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminars
 - Healthcare Data Warehousing Association 2011 Annual Conference
 - American Medical Informatics Association 2011 Annual Symposium
 - PCS Sharepoint Site for Data Requests
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2011 Headlines, Continued

June

- SAS® Proc Contents for VHA ADUSH Enrollment Files: Fiscal Year-End Datasets
 - HSRData-L Listserv: Recent Topics
 - New Variable Fields in DSS NDEs
 - Station 740 Texas Valley Coastal Bend Workload Data Transmission Beginning June 1, 2011
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminars
 - American Medical Informatics Association 2011 Annual Symposium
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May

- New Research User Guide (RUG) to the VHA Medical SAS® Datasets
 - New Tutorial on Transferring Data to and from the Austin Information Technology Center
 - HSRData-L Listserv: Recent Topics
 - Mid-Year Changes to DSS Identifiers
 - New Provider Types Activated
 - The Data Architecture Repository (DAR) Version 1 is Available
 - VeHU Courses Available as Internet-Based Training
 - DCG FY2011 QTR2 File is Available at the AITC
 - Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW) Update
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting 2011
 - Healthcare Data Warehousing Association Annual Conference 2011 Call
 - VHA Data Tutorial: Navigating the VSSC
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2011 Headlines, Continued

April

- New Historic DSS Clinic Stop Code Documentation
 - SAS® Proc Contents for VHA ADUSH Monthly Enrollment File Datasets
 - HSRData-L Listserv: Recent Topics
 - CPT Codes Revised and Updated
 - Mental Health Treatment Specialty Code Update
 - Corporate Data Warehouse Update
 - 2009 VA/CMS MDS and OASIS Data Now Available from VIREC
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - Society for Medical Decision Making 2011 Annual Meeting Call for Abstracts: Feb 6 – May 6
 - What is VAST?
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March

- Updated VHA Vital Status File Web Page
 - HSRData-L Listserv: Recent Topics
 - Updates to NCVAS Statistics Now Available
 - Medical SAS Datasets Closeout Calendar Days Reduced
 - Health Economics Resource Center FAQ on VA and Medicare Cost Comparison
 - Medicare Data Public Use File Available for Download
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyberseminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyberseminar Series
 - AMIA 2011 Annual Symposium: Call for Proposals Open Until March 17th
 - Medicare & Medicaid Research Review (MMRR) General Call for Papers
 - Functional Task Codes for Data Access
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2011 Headlines, Continued

February

- Free CD of VIREC and JRRD Single Topic Issue on Data Quality
 - VIREC Participation at the 2011 VA HSR&D Meeting
 - New Research User Guide to the VHA Medical SAS[®] Datasets
 - HSRData-L Listserv: Recent Topics
 - Immunization Data in the CDW
 - Health Economics Resource Center FAQ on DSS NDEs
 - Health 2.0 Developer Challenge Code-a-thons
 - DCG FY2011 QTR1 File is Available at the AITC
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyberseminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyberseminar Series
 - 2011 VA HSR&D Meeting
 - AMIA 2011 Annual Symposium: Call for Proposals Open until March 17th
 - VA SAS Users Group
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January

- VIREC Data Investigation: VETSNET File
 - HSRData-L Listserv: Recent Topics
 - New Source File for the Vital Status File
 - Integrated VA & DoD Health Care Data in DSS NDEs
 - New Station #740
 - 2011 VA HSR&D Meeting
 - AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting 2011: Call for Abstracts Nov 2nd - Jan 13th
 - What is Health Information Access?
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2010 Headlines

December

- Longitudinal Inpatient & Outpatient Matrix
 - HSRData-L Listserv: Recent Topics
 - SSA Death Master File Update
 - VA Goals and Dashboard Data
 - AHRQ's Registries for Evaluating Patient Outcomes: A User's Guide, 2nd Edition Now Available
 - Comments Requested on Standardized Method for Data Collection: Common Formats Version 1.1
 - Fiscal Year 2010 Diagnostic Code Group Data Are Available at AITC
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Seminar Series
 - AHRQ's New and Improved: Registries for Evaluating Patient Outcomes and HIT Webcast Now Available
 - AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting 2011: Call for Abstracts, Nov 2nd – Jan 13th
 - What is VERA?
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November

- Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development Single Topic Issue on Data Quality
 - New Pharmacy Benefits Management Prescription Counts
 - New VIREC Web Page: National Prosthetics Patient Database
 - HSRData-L Listserv: Recent Topics
 - Fiscal Year 2010 Closeout MedSAS Inpatient & Outpatient Datasets
 - New DSS National Data Extract Technical Guide September 2010
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Seminars
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Seminars
 - Free AcademyHealth Webinar Series: The Affordable Care Act (Part II): Section 4302 and Implications for Data Collection
 - Health Services Research: Special Issue on HSR Data Needs
 - AMIA 2010 Annual Symposium
 - NIH and AHRQ Conference: Methodological Challenges in Comparative Effectiveness Research
 - AcademyHealth 2011 Annual Research Meeting: Call for Abstracts
 - Tips for Completing a Request for Corporate Data Warehouse Data
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2010 Headlines, Continued

October

- New VETSNET Corporate Mini Master File Web page
 - HSRData-L Listserv: Recent Topics
 - National Data Systems Announces a Change in Data Request Procedures for Researchers
 - Now Available in the Corporate Data Warehouse: DSS National Data Extracts
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - Recently Archived VIREC Cyber Seminar Series Presentations
 - Free AcademyHealth Webinar Series on Open Data Activities and Opportunities for the Research Community
 - Now Available: AHRQ Webinar on Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project Databases, Tools, and Resources
 - NAHDO Annual Conference October 13-14
 - AMIA 2010 Annual Symposium November 13-17
 - AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting 2011: Call for Abstracts Nov 2nd - Jan 13th
 - What is CUPS POC and Why is it Relevant to VA Research?
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September

- VIREC's VA/CMS Data for Research-New Information About Data
 - HSRData-L Listserv: Recent Topics
 - Person Class Code Additions
 - Quarter 4: Changes to CPT (Current Procedural Terminology, CPT-4) Codes and CPT Modifiers
 - Quarterly DCG Data Are Available in the AITC
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VeHU 2010 Presentations Now Available
 - Healthcare Data Warehousing Association Annual Conference September 14-15
 - National Association of Health Data Organizations Annual Conference October 13-14
 - AMIA 2010 Annual Symposium November 13-17
 - Do You Know in Which VA Office of Information & Technology (OI&T) Region Your VISN Resides?
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2010 Headlines, Continued

August

- VIREC's VA/CMS Data for Research Request Process-New Request Forms Required
 - HSRData-L Listserv: Recent Topics
 - Patient Centered Medical Home Web site Launched
 - New ICD-9 to CPT Procedure Code Crosswalk File Available
 - Termination of Host on Demand (HOD)
 - Decision Support System Announces FY2011 Changes Impacting NDEs: DSS Identifiers
 - FY2011 DSS LAR Test Results Update
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - Enhancing Clinical Phenotyping Workshop September 28
 - What Data Does VIREC Maintain?
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July

- VIREC Tip of the Month
 - HSRData-L Listserv: June 2010 Topics
 - Access to DoD Health Data in CPRS
 - SAS Label Changes from 'Primary' to 'Principal' for SAS Variables DXLSF and DXLSB
 - Patient Treatment File Treating Specialty Code Changes
 - SAS Procedure Named 'REALSSN' Changes to 'GETSSN'
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - Veterans Health Administration Corporate Databases Monograph, 2010
 - VA Health Services Research & Development Service 2011 National Meeting
 - American Medical Informatics Association 2010 Annual Symposium
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June

- New Decision Support System Frequently Asked Question
 - VIREC Tip of the Month
 - VA Vital Status Master File Updates
 - Health and Human Services Community Health Data Initiative
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - Health Services Research & Development Service Field-Based Meetings
 - VHA eHealth University 2010
 - AcademyHealth 2010 Annual Research Meeting
 - Healthcare Data Warehousing Association 2010 Annual Conference
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2010 Headlines, Continued

May/April

- VIREC Unique Patient-level & Record-level Frequencies from Decision Support System National Data Extracts
 - VSSC Changes Data Source for Reporting Inpatient Workload
 - Decision Support Office New Points of Contact
 - Computerized Patient Records System Wiki on CPRS Functionality
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - Healthcare Cost & Utilization Project Supplemental Files for Revisit Analyses are Now Available
 - Calls for Papers from Translational Behavioral Medicine: Practice, Policy, Research
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March

- Short & Long Diagnostic Related Group Variable Formats: Inpatient Medical SAS Datasets
 - Non-veteran Patient Records Captured in VHA ADUSH Monthly Enrollment File Extracts
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - VHA eHealth University 2010
 - Building the Evidence Base to Improve Health Care & Outcomes for Women Veterans 2010 National Meeting
 - The Society for Medical Decision Making 2010 Annual Meeting
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February/ January

- VIREC Study on Health Information Technology in QUERI Projects
 - Availability of Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Data through VIREC for VA Researchers
 - One-VA Technical Reference Manager Web site
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - Journal of General Internal Medicine Special Supplement on QUERI Lessons Learned
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2009 Headlines

December

- Event Capture System Use by Rehabilitation Services
 - New Station Numbers for VISNs
 - Recording Observation Patients
 - Copayment for Outpatient Medical Care
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - AcademyHealth 2010 Annual Research Meeting: Abstracts Due January 14, 2010
-

November

- New Data Quality Update on Race in VA Data
 - NDS Updates VA Vital Status Dataset with Medicare Race Enrollment, and Mortality Data
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - NIH Announces First National Research Study Recruitment Registry
 - 2010 AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting: Call for Abstracts
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October

- New VHA Corporate Data Warehouse Web Pages
 - The Second Edition of the Decision Support Service Research User Guide
 - Updated Toolkit Web Pages and New User Tutorial
 - Data Quality and Pharmacy Benefits Management Frequently Asked Questions
 - FY10 Changes to DSS Identifiers
 - End of Fiscal Year and New Fiscal Year Build Schedules for MedSAS SAS Files
 - Updates to the Inpatient (PTF) Treating Specialty Code Table
 - HERC Announces Three New Products Based on DSS Data
 - Decision Support System National Data Extract Guide 2009
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - NIDDK Announces Availability of More Current Kidney Disease Data
 - Presentation Slides from Healthcare Data Warehousing Association Annual Conference September 9-10 Now Available on Web Site
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2009 Headlines, Continued

September

- Update to VIREC Medical SAS Frequencies for Select Variables
 - New VIREC DSS NDE Person-Level Frequencies for Select Variables
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series: Date Change for September Presentation Only
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - HERC Web Page Describes How to Calculate Missing Data Fields in FY08 & FY09 DSS Core NDEs
 - New NIH Tool Makes Funding Data, Research Results, and Products Searchable
 - AMIA 2009 Annual Symposium November 14-18
 - Registration Opens October 1 for AcademyHealth's National Health Policy Conference
 - Papers for Special Issue of Journal of Biomedical Informatics due October 31
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August

- Production of Legacy CPMini Dataset has been Discontinued
 - First Issue of New Allocation Resource Center Bulletin
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series: Date Change for September Presentation Only
 - Healthcare Data Warehousing Association Annual Conference September 9-10
 - National Association of Health Data Organizations Annual Conference October 14-16
 - AMIA 2009 Annual Symposium November 14-18
 - Papers for Special Issue of Journal of Biomedical Informatics due October 31
 - HITECH Priority Grants Program Rollout
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July

- Research Access to VA Data Slide Presentation Available on VIREC Web Site
 - VETSNET SASFile is Available on Austin Mainframe
 - Relaxation of Priority Group 8 Enrollment Restrictions
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database & Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - 2009 AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting Presentations
 - HSR&D's FORUM Highlights Comparative Effectiveness Research
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2009 Headlines, Continued

June

- Windows Version of SAS Format Library
 - Updates for DSS Reports
 - DSS Variable Name Changes and LAR Corrections
 - New DSS Surgery NDE
 - New DSS Outpatient Credit Stop NDE
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - 2009 AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting
 - Meeting Agenda and Information
 - Visit the VIREC Exhibit Booth
 - VA Informatics Research Initiative to Enhance Health Care
 - Perfecting Performance Measures that Propel Quality: Insights from Building the VA's Performance Measurement
 - VA Research Breakfast Meeting
 - Implementation Science & Quality Improvement Research: Methods for Translating Research into Practice
 - Veterans & Dual Utilization: Maximizing Access to Care or Poor Continuity?
 - Issues for VA Health Care: Dual Use & Women's Health
-

June Special Addition

2009 AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting

- Meeting Agenda and Information
 - Visit the VIREC Exhibit Booth
 - VA Informatics Research Initiative to Enhance Health Care
 - Perfecting Performance Measures that Propel Quality: Insights from Building the VA's Performance Measurement
 - VA Research Breakfast Meeting
 - Implementation Science & Quality Improvement Research: Methods for Translating Research into Practice
 - Veterans & Dual Utilization: Maximizing Access to Care or Poor Continuity?
- Issues for VA Health Care: Dual Use & Women's Health
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2009 Headlines, Continued

May

- Web Site Resource Describing VHA Patient Care Services Data Transfer Agreement Procedures
 - New Copay Variable in PBM Database
 - Changes to the Medical SAS Datasets
 - CP Mini File not Recommended to Researchers
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - NLM Sponsors Personal Electronic Health Records Conference May 20-21 in Bethesda, MD
 - Registration for AcademyHealth's 2009 Annual Research Meeting Now Open
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April

- VIREC Call for Research Papers on VA Data Quality: Frequently Asked Questions
 - DSS SAS Dataset Naming Convention Change
 - Inaccurate Encounter Identification Numbers in DSS LAR NDEs
 - SAS Data Alert: Duplicate Provider SSN Correction
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - 2009 HSR&D National Meeting Presentations Available on VA Intranet
 - NLM Sponsors Personal Electronic Health Records Conference May 20-21 in Bethesda, MD
 - Registration for AcademyHealth's 2009 Annual Research Meeting Now Open
 - AcademyHealth Health Information Technology Interest Group Meeting
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March

- VIREC Call for Research Papers: Data Quality in VA Databases
 - New Data Access Page on NDS Web Site
 - Patient Care Data Capture
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - VIREC Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - NIH Biomedical Translational Research Information System Hosts Seminar Series
 - The Commonwealth Fund Connection
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2009 Headlines, Continued

February

- VIREC Presentations at 2009 VA HSR&D National Meeting in Data Issues Brief Special Edition
 - VIREC Call for Research Papers: Data Quality in VA Databases
 - Chief Health Informatics Office Announces Funding for Health Information Technology Innovations
 - Should VHA Continue Its DCG License?
 - Vital Status Data Sets Available from National Data Systems
 - SAS Data Alert: Race Data
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - ResDAC to Hold Workshops on the Use of Medicare Data
 - Special VA/DoD Interest Group Session at VA HSR&D 2009 National Meeting
 - AcademyHealth 2009 Annual Research Meeting: Interest Groups Call for Abstracts
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February Special Edition

2009 VA HSR&D National Meeting

- Meeting Agenda and Information
 - Visit the VIREC Exhibit Booth
 - National Meeting Workshop on Research Access to VA Data
 - VIREC Breakfast Session at 2009 VA HSR&D National Meeting
 - National Meeting Session on Improving Patient Race and Ethnicity Information in VA Studies
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2008 Headlines

- December**
- VHA Office of Information Changes Its Name
 - NDS Issues Data Alert for Obtaining Real SSN Data
 - FY08 Diagnostic Cost Group Data Available at AITC
 - National Clinical Reminder Program
 - Means Test and Geographic-Based Means Test Thresholds for Calendar Year 2009
 - VA Collaborates with Department of Defense and Department of Labor in National Resource Directory
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - National Health Policy Conference February 2-3 in DC
 - Call for Abstracts for AcademyHealth 2009 Annual Research Meeting
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- November**
- Copayments for VA Outpatient Medical Care and Extended Care Services Provided to Veterans
 - Palliative Care Consult Teams
 - National PBM Drug Safety Alert Distribution
 - VIREC Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
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- October**
- Race Data Quality Update on VIREC Web Site
 - New VHA Directive on Adverse Drug Event Reporting and Monitoring
 - VHA Consult Policy
 - Health Care Benefits and Co-pay Exemption for Combat Veterans Post-Discharge
 - October Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
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- September**
- VIREC Data Alert Regarding Duplicate Prosthetics Encounters
 - Hospice and Palliative Care Workload Capture
 - Assignment of Station Number Suffix Identifiers for CBOCs
 - September Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - Proposals for NIH Conference on Implementation Due September 26
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2008 Headlines, Continued

August

- FY09 DSS Technical Conversion Guidelines: Information about LOINC Codes for LAR NDE
 - FY09 DSS Technical Conversion Guidelines: 5 NEW Test Results in LAR NDE
 - FY09 DSS Technical Conversion Guidelines: DSS Identifier (Clinic Stop Code) Changes
 - VA/VHA Innovation Program Sets Up Innovation ListServ
 - VSSC Launches a New Help Desk
 - Free Web Conference Series on Clinical Decision Support
 - AHRQ 2008 Annual Conference September 7-10
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July

- VA ORD Implementing a VA/DoD Collaborative Research Listserv
 - OEF/OIF Field Changes in DSS Datasets
 - July Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - VeHU July 15-17 NINR
 - Workshop on Integrating Cost-Effective Analysis into Clinical Research July 17-18
 - Conference on Health Analytics October 1-3
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June

- DSS Plans to Change Extraction Method for All LAR Records in FY09 to Pull by LOINC Code
 - New Religion Codes
 - AITC Implements Changes to Race and Ethnicity Variables in SAS Format Library
 - June Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - VeHU 2008 in Tampa FL July 14-17
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May

- Incomplete DSS Inpatient Pharmacy Data
 - Nursing Home Care Units Change Name to Community Living Centers
 - May Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - VeHU 2008 in Tampa FL July 14-17
 - AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting June 8-10
 - Health Care Costs: Standardized Methods and Estimates for Research and Policy Applications
 - HERC Bulletin Presents Updates
 - National VA Research Week May 11-17
-

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2008 Headlines, Continued

April

- Revised VA Form 9957
 - Updated DSS NDE Technical Guide for FY08
 - VHA Office of Information Works toward Nationalizing Local Informatics Innovations
 - Bidirectional Health Information Exchange Tiger Team
 - April Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - VeHU 2008 Deadline for Poster Abstract Submissions May 9
 - AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting June 8-10
 - New Associate Director for QUERI Named
-

March

- Responsibilities of the Office of Research Oversight
 - VHA Directive Providing Guidelines for Use of Resident Assessment Instrument (RAI) Minimum Data Set (MDS)
 - New Name for Corporate Franchise Data Center in Austin
 - VeHU 2008 Open for Poster Abstract Submissions
 - March Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
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February

- 2008 VA HSR&D National Meeting
 - SAS File Access at Austin CFD Unavailable 2/16-2/17
 - Two New OIF/OEF Fields Added to FY08 DSS Clinical NDEs
 - VeHU 2008 Now Open for Poster Abstract Submissions
 - AcademyHealth Launches New HSR Methods Website
 - March Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
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January

- VA Secure Host Integration Overview
 - Means Test Thresholds for Calendar Year 2008
 - January Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - VIREC Presentations at VA HSR&D National Meeting
 - AcademyHealth 2008 National Health Policy Conference
 - HSR&D Support for "Military and Veteran Health" Abstracts Accepted at 2008 AcademyHealth National Research Meeting
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2007 Headlines

December

- FY07 Year-End Med SAS and DSS CNDE Files Available
 - New Pharmacy Variable Available from PBM
 - Decision Support Office Reports Problem with "Primary CPT Code" Datafield
 - FY07 Diagnostic Cost Group Data Available at CFD
 - 2007 AMIA Invitational Conference on Secondary Use of Health Data
 - January Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - AcademyHealth 2008 National Health Policy Conference
 - Call for Presentations for VHA 2008 VeHU Conference
 - Call for Abstracts AcademyHealth 2008 Annual Research Meeting
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November

- VA Researchers Should Use VIREC INTRANet Web Site
 - DSS Files Sorted and Indexed by SCRSSN
 - DSS Medical Record Book FY2008 Available
 - New SAS OEF/OIF Transition Patient Advocate Files Available at Austin CFD
 - CMS Signals It Will Switch to ICD-10 Codes
 - November Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - Fourth Nationwide Health Information Network Forum December 11-12 in Long Beach CA
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October

- VA Researchers Should Use VIREC INTRANet Web Site
 - New FY06 Inpatient and Outpatient MedSAS Research User Guides
 - Final FY07 MedSAS Files Available at End of October
 - Weekend Access to FY07 Outpatient MedSAS Datasets Terminated During October
 - Vital Status Update (Re-build) Notice to Users
 - Review of Real SSN Access Privileges
 - OEF/OIF Cohort Data Available Online
 - OEF/OIF Roster File Contact Information
 - October Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - American Medical Informatics Association Annual Symposium November 10-14, 2007
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2007 Headlines, Continued

September

- Improved Data Issues Brief Archive
 - Acronyms Database Enhanced
 - ESM Releases Complete Redesign of Web Site
 - VeHU 2007 Presentations Now Available
 - Proposed CMS DRG Changes for FY08
 - September Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - ResDAC to Hold Workshop on the Use of Medicare Data
 - Society for Medical Decision Making Meeting October 21-24, 2007
 - American Medical Informatics Association Annual Symposium November 10-14, 2007
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July

- August DSS NDE File Structure Changes
 - 2007 Corporate Databases Monograph Issued
 - Pre- and Post-Deployment Health Data for Discharged and Non-Discharged Service Members
 - August Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - ResDAC To Hold Workshop on the Use of Medicare Data
 - Society for Medical Decision Making Meeting October 21-24, 2007
 - American Medical Informatics Association Annual Symposium November 10-14, 2007
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June

- VIREC Seeking a Technical Director
 - VIREC Seeking a Data Analyst
 - VA Research Data Security & Privacy
 - Changes at the Enterprise Systems Management Office
 - Change in Identification of Community Nursing Home Stays in MedSAS Inpatient Datasets
 - Under Ascertainment of Medication Use in Pharmacy Datasets
 - July Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - AHRQ Sponsors Theme Issue for Health Services Research
 - NIH Conference on Dissemination and Implementation in September 2007
 - Society for Medical Decision Making Meeting in October 2007
 - VHA eHealth University Held August 21-23 in Orlando
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2007 Headlines, Continued

May

- VA Research Data Security & Privacy
 - VHA Directive for Screening and Evaluation of Possible Traumatic Brain Injury in OEF and OIF Veterans
 - Chemical and Biological Agent Exposure Database – VA
 - Real SSN Processing from Single File for Users with Real SSN Access
 - Change Notes for VHA's MedSAS Files Posted on VIREC Web Site
 - VIREC Web Site Provides Information on VHA IE Files at AAC
 - FY06 Frequencies for Select Variables in VHA MedSAS Datasets Available on VIREC Web Site
 - FY06 Proc Contents for VHA MedSAS Datasets Updated on VIREC Web Site
 - NIH Conference on Dissemination and Implementation in September 2007
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April

- VA Research Data Security & Privacy
 - New Orlando VA Hospital Using Facility Number 675
 - VHA Discontinues Quarterly and Regional Medical SAS Files
 - New HERC Guidebook Released: Preference Measurement in Economic Analysis
 - VA Revises Appendices A, B, and C of Schedule for Rating Disabilities
 - May Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - AcademyHealth 2007 Annual Research Meeting Offers Methods Seminars
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March

- Updates to VA Research Data Security & Privacy Web Site
 - METRIC Instruments Now Archived on VA HSR&D Web Site
 - MyHealthVet Product Web Site
 - April Database and Methods Cyber Seminar
 - April Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - AcademyHealth 2007 Annual Research Meeting Offers Methods Seminars
 - ERIC Summer Session Not Held in 2007
 - American Journal of Public Health Calls for Manuscripts on Health Care for Veterans
 - VHA VeHU Calls for Presentation Abstracts for Summer 2007 Session
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2007 Headlines, Continued

February

- Protecting VA Research Information
 - VA Vital Status Files Now Available
 - CFD (formerly: AAC) Introduces Yearly Versioning in SAS Catalog
 - March 2007 Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - American Journal of Public Health Calls for Manuscripts on Health Care for Veterans
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February Special Edition

February National Meeting Special Edition

- Agenda for 2007 VA HSR&D National Meeting
 - Visit the VIREC Exhibit Booth at the 2007 VA HSR&D National Meeting
 - VIREC Breakfast Session at 2007 VA HSR&D National Meeting
 - National Meeting Sessions Relating to the Use of Medicare Data
 - National Meeting Informatics Session
-

January

- VA Diagnostic Cost Group Files Available at CFD (formerly: AAC)
 - VA Dementia Registry Summary Tables Now Available
 - Means Test Thresholds for Calendar Year 2007
 - Pressure Ulcers to be Reported and Tracked
 - VIREC Presentations at VA HSR&D National Meeting
 - ResDAC To Hold Medicare and Medicaid Data Training in La Jolla CA
 - American Journal of Public Health Calls for Manuscripts on Health Care for Veterans
 - 2007 Database/Methods & Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminars
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2006 Headlines

- December**
- MDS and OASIS Data Now Available from VIREC
 - Final FY06 Runs for Monthly and Quarterly VA DSS NDEs
 - VA DSS Offers New Views of Data Contained in NDE TRT
 - VHA Directives Define Policy for the Primary Care Management Module
 - Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar January 16, 2007
 - VHA eHealth University Call for Presentation Proposals
 - ResDAC To Hold Medicare and Medicaid Data Training in La Jolla CA
-
- November**
- Change in Speaker for November 21 Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar
 - Access to Real SSN Processing at VHA CFD (formerly: AAC) Now Available at 3 Levels
 - Year End Processing of VA Files Frequently Used by HSR&D Researchers
 - New Issue of DSS Newsletter Available
 - Database and Methods Cyber Seminar December 5
 - Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series December 19
-
- October**
- VIREC Medicare Documentation Update Provides Info about Data Usability
 - New VA Vital Status Datasets at CFD (formerly: AAC) Will Improve Mortality Ascertainment Research
 - Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - American Medical Informatics Association Meeting November 11-15
-
- September**
- VIREC's Intranet Website Address Has Changed
 - Report on 2005 Survey of Veterans from the VA Office of the ADUSH for Policy and Planning
 - Reassignment of ADUSH Monthly Enrollment File to New Austin Automation Center Name Space
 - Encounter Data Available at CFD (formerly: AAC) for Inpatients Who Receive Outpatient Services
 - New DSS Reports
 - Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
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2006 Headlines, Continued

August

- VIREC's Internet Website Address Has Changed
 - Use Principal Diagnosis (DXPRIME) When Studying Inpatient Diagnoses
 - VistA Wins Innovations in American Government Award
 - VHA Directive for Using CMS Coding Modifier for VA Care Provided by Physician Residents
 - Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series
 - Database and Methods Cyber Seminar Series
 - ResDAC To Hold Medicare and Medicaid Data Training in Minneapolis
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July

- VIREC's Intranet Website Address Has Changed
 - Scope Changes to Function Task Codes for VA CFD (formerly: AAC) Dataset Access
 - VA Event Capture Data Available in National FY2006 Dataset (DSS NDE)
 - VA NHCU Treating Specialties
 - Paper Published on New VA Race/Ethnicity Data Collection Standards
 - July 18 Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Series Focuses on Health Information Technology and Health Information Exchange
 - ResDAC To Hold Medicare and Medicaid Data Training in Minneapolis
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June

- VIREC's Internet Website Address has Changed
 - Cyber Security and Privacy Training for FY2006 due by June 30
 - June 20 Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Features Evaluation and Clinical Informatics
 - Data Sources Outside the VA
 - New VHA Directive for Surgical Case Coding
 - New HERC Guidebook Released: Researchers' Guide to ALBCC
 - New Issue of DSS Newsletter Available
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2006 Headlines, Continued

May

- May 16 Clinical Informatics Cyber Seminar Features How to Request Changes to VA Information Systems
 - Full Stay and Bed Section Stay Recodes Removed from the VA Medical SAS Inpatient Datasets Effective 7 April 2006
 - VIREC Technical Report 2: VA-NDI Mortality Data Merge Project
 - Social Security Administration “Death” File available at Austin Automation Center
 - New Lab Results Added to VA DSS National Data Extracts in FY 2006
 - Release of New VHA Directive for Patient Care Data Capture
 - New Open-Access Journal on Implementation Science
-

April

- Clinical Informatics Seminars
 - Recorded HSRD 2006 Cyber Seminars on VA Databases and Clinical Informatics Now Available
 - Updated VHA Coding Handbook Available
 - Two New Products Regarding VA Patients Enrolled in Medicaid Available from HCFE
 - HEC Creates Registry File for POWs
 - GAO Issues Report on VA and DOD Health Care Resource Sharing
 - NHCUS Services Categorized into Identifiable Units and Defined by New Codes
 - ProClarity Classes Offered by VSSC
-

March

- HSR&D 2006 Cyber Seminars on VA Databases and Methods Offered by VIREC
 - AMIA 2006 Biomedical and Health Informatics Conference: Abstracts Due March 15
 - New Issue of DSS Newsletter Available
 - HERC Guidebook Update
 - Information about 2001 National Survey of Veterans Available on VIREC Web Site
 - New Veteran Indicator Flag (VETIND) Added to Outpatient Medical SAS Datasets
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2006 Headlines, Continued

February

- VIREC Bids Farewell to Assistant Director
 - FY2006 DSS Identifiers and Changes to Co-payment for Outpatient Services
 - New Information on VIREC Web Site
 - VHA Directive Defines Data Entry Requirements for Administrative Data
 - AHRQ Patient Safety and Health IT Conference
 - Data and Database Methods Presentations at HSR&D National Meeting
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January

- New Treating Specialty Codes for VA Nursing Home Care Unit Admissions
 - Means Test Thresholds for Calendar Year 2006
 - VHA Directive Redefines Policy for Provider Classification
 - National Clinical Reminder for OIF/OEF Screening Revised
 - HERC Issues Technical Report on Fee Basis Data
 - New Issue of DSS Newsletter Available
 - New Issues of Data Warehouse / Data Marts Newsletter Available
 - Micro-Cost Methods for Determining VA Healthcare Costs Updated
 - VIREC Presentations at HSR&D National Meeting
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2005 Headlines

December

- Final FY2005 Medical SAS Datasets Announced
 - Length of Stay Variable in Medical SAS Datasets Changed
 - Last Military Sexual Trauma File Produced
 - December 14 Cyber Seminar on Research Use of Health Data Repository Data (HDR)
 - Abstracts Deadline for AcademyHealth Research Meeting
 - Changes to VHA Medication Co-Payments for Calendar Year 2006
 - HSR&D National Meeting Registration Begins
 - VIREC Presentations at HSR&D National Meeting
 - VIREC Seeking Associate Director
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November

- New Dataset Identifies OEF/OIF Veterans
 - BIRLS Death File Changed
 - Database Provides Historical Crosswalk of Station Numbers
 - New Dataset Identifies Counties Within VISNs
 - Updated VHA Coding Handbook Available
 - Standardized VistA Files Closed To Local Changes
 - FY2006 Technical Manual for the VHA Performance Measurement System
 - VeHU Courses Available as Internet-Based Training
 - VIREC Plans Primary Web Site on VHA Intranet
-

October

- NPCD Changes Affecting Medical SAS Datasets
 - October Cyber Seminars
 - Revised DSS Research User Guide from VIREC
 - VHA Electronic Information Systems to Flag Katrina Victims
 - VIREC Seeking Associate Director
 - Current Estimates of Veteran Population
 - October 11 Application Deadline for VIREC IT Specialist Position
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2005 Headlines, Continued

September

- Cyber Seminar on VA Medicare Data
 - Call for Abstracts for HSR&D National Meeting
 - New on VIREC's Web Site
 - June 2005 Long Term Care Reference Guide and Codes Issued
 - August-September Issue of DSS Matters
 - VHA Requires Entry of Data in Functional Status Outcomes Database
 - VHA To Have Organizational Database
 - VIREC Starts FY2006 With Five-Year Renewal
 - VIREC Plans Primary Web Site on VHA Intranet
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August

- Cyber Seminar on VA Medicare Data for Research Rescheduled
 - VIREC Research User Guide Updated
 - July Issue of Data Warehouse/Data Marts Newsletter
 - VIREC Plans Primary Web Site on VHA Intranet
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July

- DSS National Data Extract Data Issues
 - New NPCD Online Service
 - Determination of Combat Veteran Eligibility
 - New VIREC Efforts Focus on Long Term Care Data
 - DSS Matters Newsletter
 - VeHU Presentations Available Online
 - Fall Training Opportunities for Medicare Data Users
 - HSR&D Cyber Seminars Schedule Available
 - AMIA Symposium Announced
-

June

- VIREC Project on Mortality Data Completed
 - SAS Files of Professional Services/Inpatient Encounters Data Available
 - New HIPAA Privacy Rule Information
 - VIREC and HERC Offer Cyber-Seminars in June
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2005 Headlines, Continued

- May**
- 2003 Medicare Data and 100% Denominator File Now Available for Researchers
 - HDR 2005 Deployment
 - ProClarity New Tool for Researchers
 - ResDAC Workshops in May
 - Top-level Discussion of HealtheVet VistA
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- April**
- VIREC Bids Farewell to Technical Services Director
 - New Medical SAS Dataset at CFD (formerly: AAC)
 - DSS Matters Newsletter
 - VistAWeb Potentially Useful for Researchers
 - My HealtheVet Development News
 - Three HSR&D Cyber Seminars in April
-

- March**
- Medical SAS Outpatient Event FY2005 File Modified
 - Latest Official Counts of VA Facilities Available Online
 - Data Standardization Stakeholders Monthly Calls Started
 - HERC Offers Person-Level Cost Datasets
 - VistA Monograph 2005-2006 Available
 - Registration Opens March 1 for Seattle ERIC Summer Session 2005
 - HSR&D Begins Cyber Seminars
 - Registration Open Now for VHA 2005 e Health University
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- February**
- File Date Changed on FY2004 Medical SAS Outpatient Event Dataset
 - Information Technology Conference 2005 Cancelled
 - Three Workshops Offered on Using Medicare Data
 - VIREC Session on Requesting Medicare Data at HSR&D National Meeting
 - 2005 DSS User Conference To Be Held April 5-8
 - Data Warehouse/Data Marts Newsletter
 - New Information on VIREC Web Site
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- January**
- December 2004-January 2005 DSS Newsletter Available
 - Implementation of RAI/MDS in Specified SCI Units
 - Means Test Thresholds for Calendar Year 2005
 - QUERI Paper in Journal of American Medical Informatics Association
-

2004 Headlines

- December**
- Medical SAS Datasets Final for FY2003
 - New Variable Labels and Formats In SF and SE Files
 - Report Issued on Survey of VHA Intensive Care Units
 - HDR / Data Standardization News
-
- November**
- FY2005 DSS Identifiers and Three-Tier Co-payment Rates for Outpatient Services
 - Directive on “VHA Site Tracking (VAST) System”
 - VHA Issues Operating Procedures for Use of VA Medicare Data
 - Fact Sheets on HealtheVet and MyHealtheVet
 - New Issue of “Data Warehouse/Data Marts Newsletter”
 - New Issue of “DSS Matters” Newsletter
 - AcademyHealth Issues Call for Abstracts
-
- October**
- Closeout of FY2004 Medical SAS Datasets
 - Data Quality Issues Related to Period of Service (POS) Variable
 - VA Medicare Data for Research Available for 2002
 - VHA Office of Information Project Will Improve Data on Date of Death
 - New Email Addresses for VIREC, VIREC Help Desk, and Staff Members
-
- September**
- VIREC Web Site Changed
 - Latest Report From Gulf War Veterans Information System
 - October 6-8, 2004, Workshop on Using Medicare Data for Research
 - New Cyber Seminars from ERIC Summer 2004 Course
 - VIREC Web Site Has Proc Contents for VHA Medical SAS® Datasets
 - August-September Issue of DSS Matters
 - DSS FY05 Technical Conversion Guidelines Handbook Released
 - Analysis of VistA Laboratory Application
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2004 Headlines, Continued

August

- Procedures for Collecting New Data, Including Race and Ethnicity
 - New VHA Data on Combat Veterans
 - VIREC Research User Guide to DSS Clinical National Data Extracts
 - New Navigation Being Tested For VIREC Web Site
 - Self-reported Height and Weight Data for Veterans from CDC
 - AHRQ-Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project 2002 Nationwide Inpatient Sample Data
-

July

- Select Variable Frequencies for FY2003 Medical SAS Data on Web
 - FY2004 DSS National Data Extracts Technical Guidebook Released
 - New Stroke QUERI Web Site
 - New Advisory Board Replaces DSS National Steering Committee
 - New Version of Clinical Reminders Software
 - QUERI Papers in Journal of American Medical Informatics Association
 - VA Organizational Briefing Book Online
-

June

- HIPAA Privacy Issues For Researchers Requesting Date or Confirmation of Death
 - SAS® Proc Contents for VA Data at CFD (formerly: AAC) Now Online
 - VA Health Care Atlas on Internet
 - Two New VHA Handbooks of Interest to Researchers
 - News About VA Information Technology Conference
 - Presentations from VA eHealth University (Formerly Camp CPRS) Online
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May

- New Listing of SAS® Files at Austin Automation Center
 - Policy Issued on Defining and Recording Observation Patients
 - VHA Data Quality Information Online
 - “Registry Research and Medical Privacy”
 - Focus on Outcomes Research
 - Spring Issue of HDR / CPRS-R Newsletter
 - Federal Agencies Focus on Health Information Technology
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2004 Headlines, Continued

- April**
- Estimates & Projections of Veteran Dementia Prevalence and Incidence
 - 2004 Corporate Databases Monograph Issued
 - VIREC Becomes Member of VHA Data Consortium
 - Course on “VA Databases for Research” at Seattle ERIC Summer Session
-
- March**
- FY2003 & FY2004 Medical SAS Datasets Missing Race & Ethnicity Data
 - VIREC Exploring Options For Researchers Needing Data on Race
 - New Office of Research & Development Contact for Real SSN Access
 - Financial and Clinical Data Marts (FCDM) Open For Business
 - VIREC Beta Testing Redesigned Web Site
-
- February**
- DSS Medical Records Technical Documentation Manual
 - DSS SAS National Laboratory Results Data To Be Available for FY2001
 - New HIPAA Privacy Rule Information for Clinical Researchers
 - AMIA Conference on Implementation of Electronic Medical Records
 - VA InfoSec Conference June 21, 2004
 - New Details About VA Information Technology Conference August 9-12, 2004
 - 2003 National QUERI Meeting Presentations Addressing Data and Informatics Issues
-
- January**
- Latest Issue of VA Decision Support System’s Newsletter DSS Matters
 - VHA 2004 eHealth University Annual Conference Scheduled May 24–28, 2004, in Dallas, TX
 - VA Information Technology Conference August 9-12, 2004, Austin, TX
 - ResDAC To Hold Medicare and Medicaid Data Training in Tampa FL
 - DHHS/AHRQ Issues National Reports on Healthcare Quality and Disparity
-

2003 Headlines

- December**
- VIREC Insights Issue on HIPAA Privacy Issues
 - Latest Newsletter for Health Data Repository/Re-engineering CPRS
 - AHRQ RFAs for Health Information Technology Planning and Implementation Grants
 - Panel Discussions at 2003 QUERI National Meeting Coordinated by VIREC
-

- November**
- VA-Medicare Data for Research
 - Medical SAS Datasets Closed Out For Fiscal Year 2003
 - FY2003 Medical SAS Datasets Reflect Change in VHA Means Test Workload Capture
 - VHA Directive Specifies Co-Payment Level by FY2004 DSS Identifier
 - NPCD Web Site Upgrade Offers Report Options
 - New Search Engine for VIREC Web Site
 - Panel Discussions at 2003 QUERI National Meeting Coordinated by VIREC
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- October**
- New VIREC Research Users Guide: VHA Pharmacy Prescription Data
 - VBA BIRLS Death File Updated
 - VHA HDR/CPRS-Reengineering Newsletter
 - VHA Health Information Management Newsletter
 - Release of AHRQ Inpatient Quality Indicators Version 2.1 Revision 2
 - 6. AcademyHealth Cyber Seminars in Health Services Research Methods
 - CMS ResDAC Training October 27-29, 2003
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- September**
- AAC Updates DRG Medical SAS Dataset Permanent Format Descriptions
 - VA Office of Research & Development Issues Call for Abstracts
 - DSS Matters Reports on Research Using DSS
 - AMIA Call for Reviewers
 - Academy Health Announces Cyber Seminars
 - Information Technology Conference Handouts On VA Intranet
-

- August**
- FY2003 Stop Codes for Ambulatory Care
 - New CFD (formerly: AAC) Customer Information Guide
 - Bibliography on Accuracy of ICD-9-CM Coding of Diagnoses
 - VISN 16 To Create Financial and Clinical Data Marts
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2003 Headlines, Continued

July

- DSS National Pharmacy Data In SAS Datasets
 - Decision Support System (DSS) Reports At “One Stop Shop”
 - VA Meta Data Registry (MDR) Now Available
 - Researchers Presenting at ITC 2003
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June

- Latest VIREC Research User Guides for VHA Medical SAS Datasets
 - New Race and Ethnicity Variables Added To VHA Medical SAS Inpatient Main Dataset
 - Results of 2001 National Survey of Veterans On Web
 - New Information for Prospective Users of Immunology Case Registry Data
 - Latest Issue of VIREC Insights Published
 - New Issue of Data Quality Newsletter Published
 - AHRQ Releases SPSS Software for Patient Safety Indicators
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May

- VHA Medical SAS Event Dataset Changes
 - ITC Will Include VIREC Presentations
 - AHRQ July Conference on Translating Research Into Practice
 - No Fall 2003 AcademyHealth Seminars on “Using Federal and State Databases”
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April

- VA Issues Notice of Privacy Practices Effective April 14, 2003
 - VIREC Funded for VA Medicare Data Merge
 - Upcoming Workshops on Medicare and Medicaid Data
 - AHRQ Workshop on HIPAA Privacy Rule
 - New Issue of the DSS Matters Newsletter
-

March

- Submission Deadline March 12, 2003, for AMIA Conference
 - VHA Research & Development HIPAA Privacy Rule Guidance Distributed
 - DSS National Lab Test Extract Datasets Available
 - 2003 VA Information Technology Conference Announced
 - February-March DSS Matters Newsletter Issued
 - Interactive Reports Available From Office of Quality & Performance
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2003 Headlines, Continued

February

- HIPAA Information for Researchers to be Presented at the HSR&D Annual Meeting
 - VHA Directive Re-Defines Priority Groups
 - New Listings of Cost Center & Budget Object Codes Useful for Economic Research
 - New VA Site Listing Data Tool Available from OPP/PSSG Useful for Longitudinal Analyses
 - VA Data Training Opportunity: Camp CPRS 2003
 - Office of Cyber Security Announces Registration for VA InfoSec2003
 - Version 2.1 of the AHRQ Prevention Quality Indicators Software
 - Latest Issue of VIREC Insights Published
-

January

- VIREC Appoints Associate Director
 - SAS Version of VA Site Tracking System Created At CFD (formerly: AAC)
 - Means Test Thresholds for FY2003
 - DSS Matters Newsletter
 - VA Following Plan to Consolidate Information Systems Architecture
 - AMIA Call for Papers
 - HHS Creates New Human Research Protection Advisory Committee
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2002 Headlines

December

- VHA Issues Notice on Sharing Rehabilitation Data
 - Research Representatives Helping Draft HIPAA-Required Notice
 - New HIPAA Guidance Released
 - Issue 2 of HDR Newsletter
 - New Clinical Practice Guidelines Database
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November

- NPCD / PTF Medical SAS Datasets Closed For Fiscal Year 2002
 - HERC Launches New Intranet Web Site
 - New Database Research Opportunity
 - NIH Creates 11 Specialized Centers of Research
 - Latest Issue of VIREC Insights Published
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October

- AMA/AHRQ Forum on Clinical Quality Improvement
 - New Summary Reports of DSS National Extract Data Available
 - New Web Site for DSS Program Office
 - VHA Medical Care Co-payments Summarized
 - VA Represented Among Top Innovators in Health Care IT
 - Study Compared VA Administrative vs. Self-Reported Race/Ethnicity Data
 - Name Change: Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy
 - Comparing Diagnostic Cost Groups and Concurrent Utilization
 - New Adjusted Clinical Group SAS Datasets Now Available at the Austin Automation Center
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September

- CDC Publishes Abstract Statistics as Part of NHDS Extension Notice
 - HHS releases Final Privacy Rules
 - Latest issue of VIREC Insights is released
-

August

- OI HIPAA Workgroups
 - Office of Information Releases HDR / CPRS-R Monthly Newsletter
 - VHA Data on Hospice and Palliative Care
 - New Databases Available for Purchase from AHRQ
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2002 Headlines, Continued

- July**
- AHSRHP HSR Methods Workshop: Using Federal and State Databases
 - Publication Focuses on Federal and State Databases
 - AHRQ Inaugurates Grants On-Line Database (GOLD)
-

- June**
- FY2002 Medical SAS Datasets Reflect New VISN
 - VHA Handbook for Coding Guidelines Updated
 - AAC Customer Information Guide Gives Current Contacts
 - End of Fiscal Year 2001 VA Site Tracking Report
 - OI Race and Ethnicity Project Approved for Implementation
 - Nurse Researchers To Meet As New Affiliate Group at AHSRHP
-

- May**
- VHA CIO Welcomes Researchers' Comments on the Health Data Repository Scope of Work
 - CFD (formerly: AAC) Recreates Medical SAS Outpatient Event Datasets Due To Creation Error
 - Implementation of VHA National Hepatitis C Case Registry
 - New Directive Contains Definitions for VHA Ambulatory Care Data
 - The VA Medical Information Security Service Restructured
-

- April**
- Publication of Proposed Changes to HIPAA Privacy Standards
 - Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Privacy Office Provides Tools in Determining HIPAA Compliance
 - The VA Information Technology Conference (ITC) August 2002 Cancelled
 - The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) Releases New Data Warehouse
 - New Variables added to the VA Medical SAS Outpatient Datasets
 - Upcoming Research Meetings
-

- March**
- VHA Office of Information: Data Standardization
 - VHA Office of Information/VHA Employee Education System: Camp CPRS 2002
 - US Census 2000 Data Available
 - NIH Draft Statement on Sharing Research Data
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2002 Headlines, Continued

February

- Agent Orange Exposure Variables Changed in the Medical SAS Outpatient Datasets
 - AHRQ Releases 1998 Nationwide Inpatient Sample Database
 - American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting & Exposition Abstract deadline
 - Update on the VA Medicare Data Merge Initiative
-

January

- Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy (AHSRHP) Annual Meeting Abstract Deadline January 15
 - New Audit Trail of Changes in NPCD files and Medical SAS Now Available at Austin Automation Center
 - Resource for Computer Security post-September 11, 2001
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2001 Headlines

- December**
- VHA Office of Quality & Performance Issues Data Access Policy
 - VIREC Issues Inpatient and Outpatient Data Resource Guides for FY2000
 - New VIREC Resource Guide Has Select Variable Frequencies
-
- November**
- Fiscal Year 2001 NPCD/PTF Medical SAS Datasets Closed Out
 - NPCD Medical SAS Outpatient Diagnosis (SG) and Procedure (SC) Datasets to be Discontinued
 - Changes Made to NPCD Medical SAS Outpatient Visit (SF) Datasets
 - New Decision Support System (dSs) Reports on KLFMenu
 - 2002 Decision Support System (dSs) Users Conference Planned
-
- October**
- VA HSR&D 2002 Annual Meeting February 13-15, 2002
 - Health Legacy Partnership (HELP) Conference in Washington, D.C. October 30, 2001
-
- September**
- VA ITC '01 Presentations Available
 - ResDAC Workshops for Researchers Using Medicare Data
 - VHA OI Introduces Quarterly Data Quality Highlights
 - Gauss to Head VA Information and Technology Office
 - What's New on the VIREC Website (<http://www.virec.research.med.va.gov>)
-
- August**
- Revised NPCD Outpatient SAS Datasets Available at Austin Automation Center
 - HAIG/QUERI -Diabetes Mellitus Database
 - Health Data Repository: A New IT Direction
 - Seminar on Federal and State Databases Offered
-
- July**
- Capture of Non-VA, VA-Paid LTC Workload Data Mandated
 - Corporate Franchise Data Center (CFD formerly: AAC) Upgrades to SAS Version 8.10
 - NCHS Releases New Trends in Health and Aging Data
 - New Look for VIREC Web Site
 - CSP Cite.Net to Exhibit at ITC '01
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2001 Headlines, Continued

June

- HERC Inpatient Average Cost Databases Available
 - External Peer Review Process (EPRP) Database
 - DSS National Data Extracts Available
 - New HSR&D Service Resource Center Announced
 - “The Odyssey Continues” at the 2001 VA ITC
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May

- VHA Websites Must Comply With Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
 - Comparability Between ICD-9 and ICD-10
 - Opportunities for Projects Using Secondary Data Available at NIAAA
 - VHA Meta Data Registry (MDR) Team Convened
-

April

- Military Retirement File Available at Austin
 - Annual Performance Report for FY 2000 Available
 - National Survey of Veterans: Update on Progress
 - Dr. Garthwaite Lauds QUERI in Statement to Congress
 - VIREC Welcomes New Subscribers
-

March

- VA Military Sexual Trauma Datasets Implemented
 - VA Outpatient Database Record Roll-Up Revised
 - VA Ambulatory Care Data Collective To Meet
 - Source For Census 2000
 - NCHS Releases New Data
-

February

- VHA Meta Data Registry
 - From the OI Top Issues Page. . . . VA SMART CARD
 - Data Consortium Web Page
 - Census Data Release Schedule
-

January

- New CFD (formerly: AAC) User Documentation
 - VHA Enterprise Architecture (EA)
 - VA InfoSec 2001
 - CHIP Produces HIPAA Summary
-

2000 Headlines

- December**
- National Prosthetic Patient Database: New Resource for Researchers
 - HIPAA Final Privacy Rule
 - Special Pay Hikes for Many Government IT Workers
 - Programming Support for Use of the Austin Databases
 - New Standards for Metropolitan Areas to be Released
-

- November**
- GAF File Name Change
 - News From the CFD (formerly: AAC)
 - Upcoming ResDAC Medicare Data Courses
 - AHA to Release Hospital Statistics - 2001
 - AMA Publishes Several New Physician Data Resources
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- October**
- EOY Close-Out on October 13, 2000
 - VA Investigator Access to the Area Resource File (ARF)
 - Clinical Guidelines by Disease Available On-Line
 - SOTA Conference on Informed Consent Scheduled
 - HSR&D Patient Confidentiality and Data Security Committee Formed
 - Security Top Issue for VHA Office of Information
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- September**
- AAC Schedules EOY Closeouts
 - RAI/MDS Update
 - OI Top Issue - Hepatitis C
 - Health Care Security & Privacy -- Complying with HIPAA
 - NAHDO to Hold 15th Anniversary Meeting
 - Long-Distance Learning Available
-

- August**
- Human Subject Protection and Financial Conflicts of Interest
 - Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
 - Rural Health Research Agenda
 - Health, United States, 2000 With Adolescent Health Chartbook Released
 - News From the Office of Information
 - New Veteran Population Figures To Be Released
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2000 Headlines, Continued

July

- National dSs Extracts
 - DHHS State Profiles Available Online
 - AHSR Fall 2000 Seminar: “Using Federal and State Databases”
 - News from the VHA Office of Information
 - Techniques for Handling Bias in Health Services Outcomes Research National Conference
 - HQ Library Reading Room
 - New Version of PubMed Released
-

June

- Unique Patients Database
 - Demographic Reference on Veteran Population
 - Austin Downloads
 - New ZIP Code Tabulation Areas Developed
 - CFD (formerly: AAC) Hosts the 12th Information Technology Conference (ITC)
 - New Clinical Trials Web Site
-

May

- PTF Observation SAS Datasets
 - ERIC Internet Course
 - Health Economics Seminar Series
 - AHSR Research Methods Seminars
 - Exchange look-up
 - Statistical Web Site
-

April

- Austin charges by fiscal year (1999, 2000)
 - Effective Saturday, April 1, a portion of the new VA “stronger password policy” went into effect for the Austin Automation Center’s OS/390 Enterprise Server
 - The VIREC Web site now has outpatient documentation on the four outpatient SAS datasets
 - The list of VHA Office of Information (OI) top issues for March 2000 includes projects approved by the Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC)
 - HCFA’s Research Data Assistance Center (ResDAC) at the University of Minnesota is offering a 3-day course on Medicare data
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2000 Headlines, Continued

April
(continued)

- National Data Systems has just released the first version of the VHA Corporate Databases Monograph
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March

- The Austin Automation Center has SAS datasets available
 - The members of the Data Quality Workgroup
 - Since January 2000, the Austin Automation Center has been documenting all changes to the Inpatient and Outpatient SAS files
 - The Information Office plans to create a Data Registry
 - Two items from the Information Office Top Issues page
 - VIREC is sponsoring a workshop at the HSR&D Annual Meeting
 - The dSs Access Policy is in final revision
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February

- National dSs extracts will be created and housed at Austin
 - A CHAMPVA file will be produced in SAS format
 - At the present time, only valid means test records are transmitted to Austin.
 - Austin is considering putting the SE file (outpatient encounter file) onto disk
 - The VA Station Tracking System (VAST)
 - FY 1993/2001 Rate Chart on Austin for Processing Services, Enterprise Services and Administrative Services
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