
Veterans Health Administration Corporate Databases Monograph

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2011

June 2011



**Office of Informatics and Analytics
Health Information Governance
National Data Systems**

Introduction

The delivery of quality health care services to eligible Veterans is one of the primary missions of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Within the Department, Veterans Health Administration (VHA) operates the largest centrally directed health care system in the United States. VHA health care facilities provide a broad spectrum of medical, surgical and rehabilitative care.

While providing high quality health care to the nation's Veterans, VHA also conducts an array of research on some of the most difficult challenges facing medical science today. VHA has become a world leader in research areas of aging, women's health, AIDS, post-traumatic stress disorder and other mental health issues. VHA research has improved medical care for Veterans and the nation.

Background

This Monograph serves as a resource for VHA when performing analysis for policy and managerial decision-making. In addition, it is a catalog for VHA researchers detailing national databases and a brief summary of the business functions the database supports.

Each entry in the 2011 Corporate Databases Monograph contains an overview of a national database, lists a few salient features, and provides a table containing significant attributes about the database.

The VHA Office of Informatics and Analytics (10P2) is responsible for composing this Monograph for use within VA. The Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Informatics and Analytics has delegated this responsibility to Health Information Governance, National Data Systems (NDS).

Data Collection Process

NDS communicated with key points of contact for each database and requested updated information for the 2011 Corporate Databases Monograph. The text in this document reflects a combination of the information submitted by the key points of contact for each database as well as editorial changes made by NDS staff. The original intent from each key point of contact was preserved. This document is available in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format on the NDS website:

[REDACTED]

The key points of contact submitted information directly to the Data Architecture Repository (DAR) via their website. The DAR's primary content is to store metadata about VA's data assets and to provide consistent and reliable access to this metadata. As a result, the DAR website houses the most up to date Monograph information and is located at:

[REDACTED]

Monograph Criteria for System Inclusion

- A repository of VHA enterprise-level data stored electronically that is obtained either from VHA data collection activities or derived from such data, maintained by VA or VHA offices and shared between VA facilities and business partners.
- The database must be either in the design or development phases, or be implemented and actively used.

Descriptions

This monograph collection serves as an introduction to VHA databases that comprise the national consolidation of information from VHA's integrated hospital information systems. The active databases are listed in alphabetical order and can be accessed by clicking on the desired database listed in the table of contents. The inactive databases are listed alphabetically at the end of the active databases.

Each database in the monograph contains an Overview, Features and Important Database Characteristics. The following descriptions elaborate on the items in the Database Characteristics Table:

- Program Office: High level VHA organization responsible for the oversight of the database.
- Responsible Office: Organization within Program Office responsible for maintenance of the database.
- Status - Current status of the database, active, inactive, or discontinued.
- Size – Disk storage of the database (ex. 1000KB, 10MB, 1.2GB, 1TB).
- Data Registry - Specified if the database is a recognized VHA registry.
- Business Area - Name of the primary business subject area.
- Time Frame – If known when the database began production or was inactivated.
- Hardware - Name of the computer hardware on which the database runs. Frequently this is the type of processor.
- O/S - Name of the operating system under which the database is running.
- Storage Method - Name of the database management system or file structure in use.
- Source of Data - Description of where the database obtains its information.
- Physical Location - Geographic location where the database resides.

Requesting Corporate Data

All internal VA requests for data stored in the VHA databases publicized in this Monograph are assessed by the responsible program office and reviewed by the data steward for the database, and possibly the VHA Privacy Officer, on a case-by-case basis.

All requests from sources external to the VA for data stored in the VHA databases publicized in this Monograph are subject to the regulations of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). These

requests should be addressed to:

VHA FOIA Officer (10P2C1)
810 Vermont Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20420

Under FOIA, certain records may be withheld in whole or in part from the requestor if they fall within one of nine FOIA exemptions. Four of these exemptions form the basis for the withholding of software by VHA:

- Certain records related solely to VHA's internal rules and practices.
- Information that is prohibited from disclosure by other laws.
- Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information.
- Certain interagency and intra-agency communications.

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Databases



Addiction Severity Index (ASI)

Overview:

The Addiction Severity Index (ASI) records and stores information about Veterans with substance abuse problems. Substance abuse patients are administered a standard questionnaire of approximately 200 questions. Answers are recorded by a clinician in the ASI database running at the local Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC). Questions deal directly with substance abuse and include the following: 1) The identification of substances that are or have been used 2) The impact of substance abuse on a patient's life and on his/her family 3) Determining whether a patient has had legal problems 4) Recording if the patient has had problems with employment because of substance abuse. Information is transmitted weekly from the local VAMC to the ASI. The ASI is co-located with the Mental Health Field Based Program Office at the Pittsburgh VAMC. The information stored in ASI is considered highly sensitive. One large consumer of the data collected in the ASI is the Performance Evaluation Resource Center (PERC) located in Palo Alto, California. The PERC uses the information to evaluate the performance of individual programs in the field. Since 1997, patient data collected about substance abuse has been stored in ASI. Prior to 1997, substance abuse information was co-located with the information about posttraumatic stress disorder in the National Mental Health Database System.

Features:

Provides centralized record keeping on substance abuse patients using VA medical facilities.
 Provides statistical information by medical center (e.g., treatment outcome measurements).
 Provides reports to PERC for evaluation of substance abuse patient care performance at each of the VAMCs.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		Office of Mental Health Services	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1996 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Alphaserver	Oracle		Linux
Data Registry	Size		Status
Yes	2 GB		Active

Administrative Data Repository (ADR)

Overview:

The Administrative Data Repository (ADR) was established to provide support for the administrative data elements relative to multiple categories of a person entity such as demographic and eligibility information. Although initially focused on the computing needs of the Veterans Health Administration, the ADR is positioned to provide identity management and demographics support for all IT systems within the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Features:

Information in the system of records is used to update, verify and validate Veteran eligibility, conduct income testing and verification activities; to validate social security numbers of Veterans and spouses of those Veterans receiving VA health care benefits; to ensure accuracy of Veterans' eligibility information for medical care benefits; to operate an annual enrollment system; to update Veteran eligibility; provide enrollment materials to educate Veterans on enrollment; respond to Veteran and non-Veteran inquiries on enrollment and eligibility; and to compile management reports.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Health Products Division		Health Eligibility Center	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
HEC Staff/VAMC		2009 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
HP	Oracle	Linux	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes	11 TB	Active	

Agent Orange Registry (AOR) - The Environmental Hazards Strategic Healthcare Group (EHSHG) Registry System of Records

Overview:

The Environmental Hazards Strategic Healthcare Group (EHSHG) Registry System of Records is the information system encompassing the Ionizing Radiation Registry (IRR), the Agent Orange Registry (AOR), and the Gulf War Registry (GWR) which also includes related Depleted Uranium (DU) exams. The AOR area of the EHSHG database contains VA entered information about U.S. Veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam between 1962 and 1975, who served in Korea during 1968 or 1969, or who may have been exposed to dioxin or other toxic substance in an herbicide or defoliant, during the conduct of, or as a result of, the testing, transporting, or spraying of herbicides for military purposes and have had a registry examination.

Features:

This registry program was established to address the concerns of Vietnam Veterans regarding the possible long-term health consequences of exposure to herbicides and specifically Agent Orange. Agent Orange was an herbicide, or defoliant, which was used in Vietnam to kill unwanted plant life and to remove leaves from trees that provided cover for the enemy. Agent Orange was a mixture of chemicals containing equal amounts of two active ingredients, 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T. The name, Agent Orange, came from the orange stripe on the 55-gallon drums in which it was stored. Other herbicides, including Agent White and Agent Blue, were also used in Vietnam but to a much lesser extent than Agent Orange.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Public Health and Environmental Hazards		Environmental Hazards Strategic Healthcare Group (EHSHG)	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
Web-based entry at VAMCs		2002 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
IBM	Oracle	Linux	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	5 GB encompasses the AOR as well as the GWR & IRR registries	Active	

All Employee Census Survey (AES)

Overview:

The Office of Personnel Management requires government agencies, at a minimum, to query employees on job satisfaction, organizational assessment and organizational culture. VHA maintains response data for all census surveys such as the Voice of VA as well as the VA Entrance and Exit surveys.

Features:

Data collection repository for all employee census surveys administration, responses and organizational profiles such as work group, organization, national function and demographics.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office for the Under Secretary for Health		Workforce Management and Consulting Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Human Resources		OI VISN 16 Little Rock, AR	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VHA facilities, personnel, & Canteen; VHACO; VACO; VISNS; VBA; NCA; 3rd party contract		1997 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	MS SQL	Windows 2008	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes	5 GB	Active	

Annual Report of Residency Training Programs (ARRTP)

Overview:

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Resident Supervision Handbook (VHA Handbook 1400.1) requires facility directors to report annually the status of their residency training programs to their Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) Director. VISN Directors review and then forward those reports to the VHA Chief Academic Affiliations Officer. This database enables electronic, paperless reporting of this information from VA Medical Centers to the VISN and from the VISN to the Office of Academic Affiliations.

Features:

Collects, tracks and reports the status of all VHA residency programs:

- 1) Web-based
- 2) Online data entry and reporting capabilities for Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC), VISN and Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA)
- 3) Data extracts.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Academic Affiliations		Office of Academic Affiliations	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		OAA Support Center	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VHA Medical Centers		2002 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	MS SQL		Windows 2003
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	5 GB		Active

Associated Health Allocation

Overview:

The Associated Health Allocation Database is used to determine the allocation of positions and funds for VA Associated Health programs offered by Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMC).

Features:

Allows the Office of Academic Affiliations to collect Associated Health position requests and then allocate appropriate positions and funding for those positions throughout the VAMC system. Provides on-line data entry, reporting and tracking of positions requests. Provides Office of Academic Affiliations with statistics for funding projections and trend analysis. Allows capture of Associated Health program information.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Academic Affiliations		Office of Academic Affiliations	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Human Resources			
Data Source		Operation Period	
VA Medical Centers		1998 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	MS SQL	Windows 2003	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	1 GB	Active	

Automated Safety Incident Surveillance and Tracking System (ASISTS)

Overview:

The Automated Safety Incident Surveillance and Tracking System (ASISTS) is a repository of Veterans Health Administration (VHA) employee accident data. Many types of accidents are captured, but the primary focus of the ASISTS database is to track and to report on employee exposures to blood borne pathogens through needlesticks, sharps and body fluids. Accident data is captured locally at medical centers using the Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) ASISTS package. Federal Employee Compensation claims are transmitted electronically in order to provide efficient and timely submission to the Department of Labor, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs; and to ensure that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses is maintained. On a daily basis the Federal Employee Compensation claims are transmitted by Electronic Data Interchange extraction. A weekly download of the accident reports are sent to the national database using MailMan messages. On a monthly basis, extracts are sent to the ASISTS central repository located at the Austin Information Technology Center. The VHA Support Service Center (VSSC) provides multiple customized reports on the VSSC Web portal available on the VA Intranet. The primary users of ASISTS include OSHA, VA Headquarters, the VISN Directors, and occupational safety and health professionals located at each VA medical facility.

Features:

This database fulfills the reporting requirement mandated by OSHA. Aids in the identification of trends and proactive strategies for injury prevention and, particularly blood borne pathogen exposures. Web-based reporting is available for report creation which depicts accident data on a national, VISN, and facility level. Benchmarking capability is available because data can be compared between VISNs and similar facilities.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office for the Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management; Office Safety and Technical Services; along with the Office of the Public Health and Environmental Hazards; Occupational Health, Safety and Prevention Strategic Health Group and Chief Network Officer		VHA Support Service Center	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Human Resources		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs, WCOSH/MIS		1999 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Mainframe	VA FileMan	z/OS	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No		Active	

Bidirectional Health Information Exchange (BHIE)

Overview:

The Bidirectional Health Information Exchange (BHIE) is the primary means for Health Information Exchange (HIE) between VA and the Department of Defense DoD (DoD). BHIE provides a secure, bidirectional, real time exchange of clinical records such as those concerning pharmacy, allergy, laboratory results, radiology reports, discharge medical summaries and demographic data on shared patients from VA's Veterans Health Information System and Technology Architecture (VistA) and DoD's Composite Health Care System (CHCS) through reuse and enhancement of Federal Health Information Exchange (FHIE) assets. FHIE is a part of BHIE.

Features:

BHIE provides both the Veteran's Health Administration (VHA), the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), and Department of Defense (DoD) physicians' access to clinical data for a patient regardless of the location of the data. BHIE helps contribute to the seamless transition of the men and women of the U.S Armed Forces to civilian life as Veterans and markedly enhances the continuity of health care for an extensive shared patient population. Clinicians and benefits adjudicators use BHIE. BHIE provides HIE for 31 clinical domains from 15 data sources (which themselves aggregate data from multiple other sources). Health and benefits clients use BHIE to access health data.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Patient Care Services		Federal Health Information Exchange (FHIE) Program Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
DOD & Military Treatment Facilities and VAMCs		2003 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Compaq	Oracle		Windows 2000
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	1 TB		Active

Capacity Management Database (CMD)

Overview:

The Capacity Management Database (CMD) is designed to track computer resource usage of the computer hardware running Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA). Information derived from CMD is used to assess the impact of planned new software products, identify the ramifications of archiving and purging of existing data, recognize emerging problems through database analysis, and validate sizing model expectations. Data for CMD is captured from all VistA systems in real time. Accumulated data is processed at each site and the results are transmitted to CMD using MailMan messages. Data can be added to CMD daily, along with the monthly updates. On a monthly basis, reports are sent to the Chief Information Officers (CIOs) of the Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs) and Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) CIOs to allow review of the system's performance and identify future problems (e.g., lack of available disk space). IT personnel can access the database through the VA's intranet ([REDACTED]) for comparison of their system with other sites. The users of CMD include the VA Office of Information & Technology, VISN CIOs, and facility CIO staff.

Features:

Alerts VistA system managers to potential performance problems. Provides impact assessment of new VistA products on the system. Provides the ability to model future resource needs. Allows viewing of capacity information on local, regional, and national levels. Provides fully automated data capture and transmission.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Information & Technology		Enterprise Infrastructure and Engineering	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		OI Field Office	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1992 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
HP Alpha	VA FileMan		VMS
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes	18 GB	Active	

Capital Asset Inventory (CAI (prior Space and Functional Database))

Overview:

The Capital Asset Inventory (CAI) database (formerly Space and Functional (S&F)) originated in 1998 in Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Office of Facilities Management Asset and Enterprise Development Office as CARP (Capital Asset Resource Planning) and CABA (Capital Asset Baseline Assessment) and included location and planning information on owned buildings and land in the VHA capital inventory. Because of a desire to collect more detailed building, land and lease information for VHA facilities, a database in a Microsoft Access framework was developed and it incorporated the information formerly included in CARP and CABA. The detailed data being collected on owned buildings and land, as well as leases has been expanded, in cooperation with the VA National Cemetery Administration (NCA), the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), and VA Staff Offices, in order to provide an electronic tracking and reporting vehicle for the yearly Real Property Inventory required by U.S. General Services Administration. Working with the VA Office of Asset Enterprise Management (OAEM), the CAI Database has been expanded to include detailed information not only on owned buildings and land, and leases, but also Agreements, such as Enhanced-Use Leases, Enhanced Sharing Agreements, Outleases, Donations, Permits, Licenses, Inter-and Intra-Agency Agreements. (ESPC - Energy Saving Performance Contracts were taken over by OAEM in 2005). This data is extracted on a regular basis to "feed" the CAMS (Capital Asset Management System) which also draws capital asset data from many other VA sources and systems as a roll-up for VA management and reporting. Internally to VHA's Office of Facilities Management, the CAI database has also been expanded to incorporate information on Seismic engineering data at all VA facilities, historic buildings and resources at all VA facilities, Facility Condition Assessment (engineering evaluations of conditions of existing VA infrastructure), Electrical System Studies, and more. Data tables have been linked in the past to additional data systems being used to collect information for VA's Policy, Planning and Preparedness office relative to Physical Security Surveys for protection of VA capital assets.

Features:

The CAI database currently includes detailed data on all VA capital assets:

- * Owned Buildings
- * Owned Land
- * Leases for buildings and land
- * Seismic data
- * Historic site and building data
- * Site Plan Map Images (VHA facilities only)
- * Capital Agreements
- * Enhanced Use Leases
- * Enhanced Sharing Agreements
- * Licenses
- * Permits
- * Donations
- * Inter-and Intra-Agreements

- * Energy Saving Performance Contracts (ESPC)
- * Facility Condition Assessment Data
- * Handicap Accessibility
- * Architectural and Structural issues
- * Plumbing issues
- * Heating, Venting & Air Conditioning issues
- * Electrical issues
- * Hazardous Materials issues
- * Boilers and Steam Generation
- * Transport Systems (Elevators, Pneumatic tubes, etc.).

In addition, the CAI database includes many pre-loaded reports with "filtering" features as well as nationwide query and update access via the VA Intranet. Query access is available through the following URL: [REDACTED]

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of Facilities Management		Resource Management Office
Business Area		Physical Location
Operations & Logistics		VHA Central Office
Data Source		Operation Period
VA Capital Asset Managers (VHA, NCA, VBA, and Staff Offices)		2002 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Intel	SQL Server 2005	Windows 2003
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	4.8 gb	Active

Cardiac Assessment Tracking and Reporting System for Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories (CART-CL)

Overview:

The mission of the VA Clinical Assessment Reporting and Tracking (CART) Program for cardiac catheterization laboratories (CART-CL) is to support a national VA reporting system, data repository, and quality improvement program for procedures performed in VA cardiac catheterization laboratories. CART-CL is intended to improve clinical care/communication, support local and national quality improvement, monitor patient safety, capture workload of cardiac catheterization lab procedures, and inform VA system evaluation to maximize operational efficiency and patient outcomes. CART-CL is a collaborative effort between the VA Patient Care Services, Office of Information and Analytics, Ischemic Heart Disease Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (IHD-QUERI), and Office of Information and Technology (OI&T).

Features:

Key features of CART-CL include:

- 1) Standardized data capture for procedures done in VA cardiac catheterization laboratories;
- 2) Tight integration with the Computerized Patient Record System (CPRS) to support providers in report generation and helping to avoid duplication of work;
- 3) Automatic creation of pre-procedure and procedure reports (including diagnostic cardiac catheterization and percutaneous coronary intervention) for CPRS;
- 4) A single national data repository for tracking and documenting cardiac procedures performed in VA catheterization labs;
- 5) Core data elements that conform to the definitions and standards of the American College of Cardiology (ACC);
- 6) A centralized platform to support quality improvement, both local quality improvement (via the CART-CL website on the VA intranet) and national VA participation in the ACC-National Cardiovascular Data Registry.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of Health Information and Patient Care Services		Patient Care Services
Business Area		Physical Location
Patient		Denver VA Medical Center, 1055 Clermont Street
Data Source		Operation Period
Cardiac Catheterization Labs in VA Medical Centers		2005 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Intel	MS SQL	Windows 2003
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	160 GB	Active

Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA)

Overview:

Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) is a health care benefit program designed for the dependents of certain Veterans. Administered by the Health Administration Center (HAC), Denver, Colorado, CHAMPVA shares the cost of necessary health care services and supplies with eligible beneficiaries. The CHAMPVA Eligibility & Payment Functions (CVA) database is used by HAC for the administration of the CHAMPVA program.

Features:

- * Provides online access to eligibility and medical payment information for medical claims submitted to CHAMPVA.
- * Provides online reporting for verification of congressional mandates.
- * Provides justification and accountability for funds expended.
- * Provides performance measurements.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
VHA Chief Business Office		Health Administration Center	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial and Health Care		Health Administration Center	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs, FMS, DEERS, VBA, non-VHA facilities utilized by eligible dependents, Provider		1987 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
HP Alpha	Multiple		VMS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	400 GB		Active

Clinical Case Registries (CCR)

Overview:

The Clinical Case Registries (CCR) replaced the former Immunology Case Registry and the Hepatitis C Case Registry with local and national databases. The CCR:HIV and CCR:HCV are administrative and clinical databases designed to provide population-based data on VA patients infected with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and/or Hepatitis C virus (HCV). Each Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) system contains a local CCR where patients who are potentially HIV or HCV infected are identified based on International Classification of Diseases (ICD-9) codes and/or positive antibody test results. The local HIV or HCV coordinator must review these cases to determine which patients are truly infected and should be added to the local registry. The local CCR provides extensive reporting capabilities to the local HIV and HCV clinicians to monitor their patient population. The local CCR software also extracts data elements from multiple VistA packages and transmits Health Level Seven (HL7) messages to the national database at VA Austin Information Technology Center. The national database is used for monitoring clinical outcomes, assessing resource utilization and quality assurance.

Features:

The CCR provides local population-based reporting to monitor clinical outcomes and resource utilization for use by local clinicians who have access to the CCR. The national database component of the CCR provides national population-based reporting to monitor clinical outcomes, resource utilization and quality of care. The CCR provides information for funding allocation based on disease severity and resource utilization and assures privacy by not sending patient identification information from the local registries to the national registry.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Public Health & Environmental Hazards		Office of Public Health & Environmental Hazards	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
ALL VAMCs		1992 onward	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Sun	Oracle	Unix	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes	450 GB	Active	

Clinical Information Support System (CISS)

Overview:

Clinical Information Support System (CISS) is a web-based portal application that provides a framework of services for the VA enterprise and supplies an integration point for its partner systems. The initial CISS partner system is the Occupational Health Record-keeping System (OHRS), a web-based application that enables employee occupational health staff to create, maintain, and monitor medical records for VA employees and generate national, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN), and site-specific reports.

The CISS portal is development in the delivery of information and applications to the clinical user community. It provides a single point of access for the clinical user's application and information needs, facilitating faster and more efficient patient care.

The CISS framework further establishes a foundation for publishing any type of application, including clinical, non-clinical, HealthVet, and legacy applications. These plug-in applications, called "partner systems", can be developed independently and published to the users through the CISS portal. The CISS Program development team uses repeatable Agile development, management and support processes to rapidly develop quality software in 6-month release cycles, improving efficiency and customer satisfaction.

Features:

The CISS Portal hosts one of its premier partner systems, Occupational Health Record-keeping System (OHRS), and has been available for use by VHA field clinicians and clinical support staff involved with employee health and safety since Sep 2009. Other candidate legacy applications that are planned for modernization to further leverage the CISS portal are Automated Safety Incident Surveillance and Tracking System (ASISTS) and Workers Compensation/ Occupational Safety and Health Management Information System (WC/OSH MIS (WC/OSH-MIS) in FY 2012.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Occupational Health & Safety Program Executive Office		Office of Enterprise Development (OED)	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial and Health Care			
Data Source		Operation Period	
LDAP		Sep 9, 2009 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
HP	SQL Server 2005		Linux
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes		Active	

Community Nursing Home (CNH)

Overview:

The Community Nursing Home (CNH) database contains a list of all Community Nursing Home facilities under local contract to Veterans Health Administration (VHA). CNH facilities are not managed by VA. Instead, CNH facilities are private or public facilities licensed by the state where they provide the patient services. Each day all Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) that have a contract with a CNH enter information about the CNH into the Fee Basis module of Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture. This information is sent via MailMan to the VA Austin Information Technology Center where it is collected in a queue. A quarterly batch process is run on the queue. VAMCs that have sent invalid data or VAMCs that have contracts and did not send data are notified. Valid data is processed and used to update the database. Quarterly reports are sent to the CNHs, VAMCs, Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs), Geriatrics & Extended Care Strategic Health Care Group, and VA Central Office (VACO).

Features:

Provides address listing of all CNHs under local contract. Allows for the collection of CNH information on:

- * Per Diem rate
- * Number of beds and Veteran population
- * Date of CNH's last assessment
- * Whether CNH is Medicare/Medicaid certified
- * Accreditation and inspection status.

Report provides the following:

- * Workload estimates
- * Price ranges for the cost of different levels of care
- * Error checking

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		Geriatrics & Extended Care Strategic Healthcare Group	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Organizations Management		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
		1978 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	200 KB		Active

Community Residential Care Report

Overview:

The Community Residential Care Report is a listing of all facilities approved for residential care by the VA. These facilities are privately run operations not affiliated with the VA. They provide room, board, supervision, and other non-medical care to Veteran patients who cannot care for themselves but do not require the services of a Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC). Information about these facilities is entered into the Fee Basis module of the Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) by every VAMC that has an agreement with a facility. This information is sent via MailMan to the VA Austin Information Technology Center where it is collected in a queue and processed quarterly. VAMCs that have sent invalid data or VAMCs that are aligned with residential care facilities and did not send data are notified. Valid data is processed and used to update the database. Quarterly reports are sent to VAMCs, Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs), Geriatrics & Extended Care Strategic Health Care Group, VA Central Office (VACO), and researchers interested in residential care information.

Features:

Provides addresses of residential care facilities approved for care by the VA. Allows for collection of residential facilities information on:

- * Date of last assessment
- * State licensing
- * Veteran population

Report information provides:

- * Cost
- * Workload / Number of days of care per Veteran
- * Error checking of incoming data.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		Geriatrics & Extended Care Strategic Healthcare Group	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Organizations Management		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
		1982 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	50 KB		Active

Compensation and Pension Mini-Master File (CNP)

Overview:

The Compensation and Pension Mini-Master File (CNP) is a Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) dataset that is produced on the VA Austin Information Technology Center (AITC) mainframe and consists of selected fields from the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Compensation & Pension (C&P) Master File maintained at the VA Hines Information Technology Center (HITC). The C&P Master File contains data related to distribution of benefits and is sourced from the legacy VBA Benefits Delivery Network (BDN) Compensation and Pension system. Note that the VBA is in the process of replacing the legacy BDN Compensation and Pension system with the corporate VETSNET database utilizing phased migration of data from the legacy BDN system to the corporate VETSNET system. Once data migration has been completed, the CNP SAS dataset on the VA AITC mainframe will no longer be available. The projected time frame for migration completion is Fall 2012. The data is created at the VA HITC and is transmitted to the VA AITC bi-monthly. A copy of the transmitted file is made and formatted into the SAS CNP dataset. The files are maintained by VBA personnel and updated twice a month. The CNP SAS dataset contains 300 characters of data extracted from the C&P Master File and is widely used by Hines for recurring and onetime extracts. There are two kinds of master records in the C&P Master File and in the CNP SAS dataset: Type A Veteran's Master Record and Type B Death Payee.

Features:

The Compensation and Pension Mini-Master File (aka CNP SAS dataset) provides a data source that can be used to generate customized files and reports. However, with each phased migration of data from the legacy Compensation & Benefits system (BDN) to the new corporate system (VETSNET), the number of records in this file will steadily decrease. Final migration and the resulting discontinuance of the CNP SAS dataset are projected to occur in the Fall of 2012.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Finance		Health Information Governance	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VBA		1979 to present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	1 GB		Active

Consolidated Copayment Processing Center (CCPC)

Overview:

The Consolidated Copayment Processing Center (CCPC) database contains Veteran patient contact and billing information in order to support the printing and mailing of patient billing statements. The CCPC system is designed to handle first-party medical debt billing information. First-party billing is defined as a patient debt for which the patient is responsible for payment (normally co-payment) for health care treatment. This differs from third-party billing where a third party (e.g., insurance company, Health Maintenance Organization (HMO)) is primarily responsible for repaying the VA. CCPC does not handle third-party billing information. The Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture Accounts Receivable (AR) module collects information for CCPC at every Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC). A daily batch process is used to collect and transmit the information to the VA Austin Information Technology Center. All collected patient and billing information is kept active on CCPC for a period of one month. A master list containing six months activity is archived for reference should historical information be needed. The users of this database include the VAMCs, Veterans Health Administration Chief Business Office, and the patients who receive billing statements.

Features:

Provides information for generating billing statements. Provides trend analysis for billing information. Allows the generation of billing statements.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Chief Business Office		Health Resource Center (HRC)	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
		1997 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	VSAM		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	6 GB		Active

Construction Financial Management Information System (CFMIS)

Overview:

The Construction Financial Management Information System (CFMIS) is a replacement program for the Construction Management Information System (CMIS). CFMIS is a management tool to track the progress of active VA major, lease, enhanced-use, and parking projects. It is used to measure performance and provide information for internal and external use.

Features:

Provides performance measures for the VA Facilities Management program. Tracks construction projects including financial information. Stores detailed information on each project including:

- *Project Scope
- *Funding information
- *Project Highlights
- *Key personnel
- *Contact information
- *Contractors
- *Project Scheduling

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of Construction and Facilities Management		Resource Management Office
Business Area		Physical Location
Operations & Logistics		
Data Source		Operation Period
VACO, VAMCs, FMS		2009 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Dell	SQL Server 2005	Windows 2003
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	300 MB	Active

Contract Administration Management System (CAMS)

Overview:

The Contract Administration and Management System (CAMS) is a data management system designed specifically for the Veterans Health Administration Office of Facilities Management (FM) for the management of contract and funding data. It provides a means of sorting and tracking data related to major Architect-Engineer and construction contracts such as contract type, project locations, project status, and contract funding.

Features:

Provides an accounting system for the control and recording of contract funds. Provides standardized reporting of projects and/or contracts. Allows ad hoc reporting for specific projects or contracts.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Facilities Management		Resource Management Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics			
Data Source		Operation Period	
VACO		1992 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Sun	Oracle	Unix	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	50 MB	Active	

Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)

Overview:

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is increasingly dependent upon data. Most of its 240,000 employees generate and use vast amounts of data on a daily basis. Presently, however, VHA's approach to data management is fragmented and inefficient. To improve our capacity to leverage data and analysis to provide the most efficient and the highest quality health care to our Veteran patients, VHA is pursuing an enterprise-wide approach that views certain key data as a strategic assets. Central to this strategy is consolidating data from disparate sources into a coherent single logical data model. The Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW) is the physical implementation of this logical data model at the enterprise level for VHA. Although the CDW initially began to store data as early as 2006, a renewed effort began in 2010 to accelerate CDW's content by including more subject areas from Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) and content from other existing national data systems. CDW supports fully developed subject areas in its production environment as well as supporting rapid prototyping by extracting data directly from source systems with very minor data transformations. The Regional Data Warehouses and the Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) Data Warehouses share content from CDW and allow for greater reporting flexibility at the local level throughout the VHA organization.

Features:

Built on Microsoft SQL Server 2008 and SQL Server Integration Services (SSIS).

Program Office		Responsible Office	
VHA Office of Information & Technology, Business Intelligence		Health Informatics and Data	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Multi-Purpose		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VHA Operational Information Systems		2006 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
HP	SQL Server 2008		Windows 2003
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	22 TB		Active

Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Lookback Dataset (CJDLD)

Overview:

The tracking system is for patients identified in the Creutzfeldt Jakob Disease (CJD) lookback notification initiative established in January 1995 as part of the lookback notification of all Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) patients who may have received certain lot numbers of blood derivatives or blood components produced from donors with CJD. Even though the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention characterized the risk of transmission of CJD from blood derivative products as "small and immeasurable" and "theoretical", VA believed it had an ethical obligation to inform patients of the exposure to potentially contaminated blood components or plasma derivative products while under VA's care. The patients were notified. The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) established a tracking system for individuals who received these products to determine if there was an increase in VA CJD cases. Every two years (odd years), the Infectious Diseases Program Office requests from field facilities through the appropriate Network Office an update on the status of patients who had previously been identified through the VA CJD lookback notification initiative. The Infectious Diseases Program Office receives the information and provides summary reports to the VHA Chief Patient Care Services Officer. Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Lookback Dataset (CJDLD) is a retrospective collection of data and requests for individual reports are not accepted.

Features:

The CJDLD is dependent upon data input from individual VHA medical facilities that is used by the Infectious Diseases Program Office to update the CJDLD. The tracking system is an epidemiological tool to determine if patients in the dataset have an impact on VA CJD cases nationwide.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Patient Care Services		Infectious Diseases	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Cincinnati VAMC, VACO Infectious Diseases Program	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VA Medical Centers		1995 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	MS Excel		Windows XP
Data Registry	Size		Status
No			Active

Data Architecture Repository (DAR)

Overview:

The VA Data Architecture Repository (DAR) is a repository system that stores artifacts related to VA Data Architecture (DA). It is the central environment that VA data architecture stakeholders will use to store DA information, find DA artifacts, conduct DA analyses, and support DA management activities. DAR will be developed in several iterations. DAR will allow users to utilize the repository in many ways, such as registering Data Architecture artifacts, establishing relationships among the artifacts, querying artifacts, conducting analyses on data architecture, reporting status/statistics and creating visual expression about data architecture, building workflows and governance procedures to guide DA activities, and managing user accounts and activities.

The primary content of DAR will be the metadata about VA's data asset. The purpose of DAR is to provide a consistent and reliable means of access to metadata. The metadata is drawn from separate sources. Metadata may also include information about how to access specific data, or more detail about it, among a myriad of possibilities. DAR is strategic in facilitating the cataloging/registration of data which has been "woefully inadequate" throughout VA. The goal of DAR is to facilitate not only information harvesting but also keep it consistent, systematic, and reliable. DAR is a repository that will alleviate the impediment of information interoperability. DAR is an attempt to give the VA Data Architecture groups the ability to get metadata information when and where it is needed.

Note: As of May 2011, the production environment at the Austin Information Technology Center (AITC) has been decommissioned. Only a development environment exists at AITC today.

Features:

The DAR is a repository that is composed of many types of objects and can be located at the following website:



Program Office		Responsible Office	
Architecture, Strategy and Design (ASD)		Office of Enterprise Development (OED)	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
		2007 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Dell	Oracle		Windows 2003
Data Registry	Size		Status
No			Active

Database Administration (DBA) - FORUM Menu

Overview:

Database Administration (DBA) is a menu of database tables stored on the VA national electronic mail system FORUM. It is used primarily by VA Office of Information & Technology personnel involved in maintaining and operating Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA). Among the tables on the menu are:

- * Formal VistA assignments of development domains
- * Formal exemptions for Class I packages to Veterans Health Administration programming standards and conventions
- * Formal VistA Intranet domain definitions
- * Formal VistA Integration Agreements (Application Program Interface, Remote Procedure Calls, templates, options, table & column references, etc)
- * Miscellaneous Operating Policies and Procedures Used Provisionally
- * Formal VistA Graphical User Interface standard guidelines
- * Formal VistA List Manager standards

Features:

Permits authorized VA personnel to store, update and retrieve a variety of reference documents, guidelines and standards pertaining to the maintenance and operation of VistA.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Information & Technology		Office of Enterprise Development (OED)	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		OI Field Office	
Data Source		Operation Period	
Product Development Configuration Mgmt Division		1984 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Dec Alpha	VA FileMan	VMS	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No		Active	

Decision Support System (DSS)

Overview:

The Decision Support System (DSS) is the designated Managerial Cost Accounting (MCA) System of the Department of Veterans Affairs. This system is the Department's only means of complying with Public Laws (e.g., PL 101-576 - the Chief Financial Officers Act of 1990) that mandate the use of a MCA system that can assign costs to the product level. DSS cost data is used at all levels of the VA for important functions, such as cost recovery (billing), budgeting and resource allocation. Additionally, the system contains a rich repository of clinical information which is used to promote a more proactive approach to the care of high risk (i.e., diabetes and acute coronary patients) and high cost patients. The data in DSS is also used to calculate and measure the productivity of physicians and other care providers.

Features:

DSS reports are used at all levels of the VA to analyze costs of providing services from various perspectives. Decision makers use DSS information to perform comparative analysis, forecast resource demands, develop budget requests, and to understand the types of services that are being provided.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Finance		Decision Support Office (DSO)	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VistA, NPCD, PTF, FEE, FMS, PAID, others		1999 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Mainframe	M204	z/OS	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	7 TB	Active	

Defense and Veterans Eye Injury Registry (DVEIR)

Overview:

The Defense and Veterans Eye Injury Registry (DVEIR) is the initiative to meet the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, Section 1623 directive to the DoD. Another requirement mandated by this Act is to create a Vision Center of Excellence (VCE) in Prevention, Diagnosis, Mitigation, Treatment, and Rehabilitation of Military Eye Injuries with the objective to improve preventative measures and treatment of Service Members/Vets.

DVEIR will be an outcome of a joint effort of the DoD and the VA that will provide a central repository for the collected data and for that data to be shared with other agencies. VCE managers and researchers will be able to use the data collected to evaluate and report on statistics and optimum care strategies for Service Members/Vets with eye/vision injuries.

Features:

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Medical Care PEO		Health Data (HD) PMO	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Multi-Purpose			
Data Source		Operation Period	
CDW, SAS Medical Datasets, VAMC's			
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Dell	SQL Server 2008	Windows 2008	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes		Active	

Dental Encounter System (DES)

Overview:

Dental Encounter System (DES) is an automated health care application designed to capture critical data about the operations of VA dental services. Information on completed procedures is gathered for each patient encounter through the Dental Record Manager software, which is a VA Computerized Patient Record System adjunct application. This DES information is linked and includes encounter date, patient, provider, procedures, diagnosis codes, and additional associated qualifiers. DES productivity is measured using weighted work units known as relative value units (RVUs). RVU values are determined cooperatively by the Dental Coding Committee and Decision Support System (DSS) staff. One RVU represents one minute of the average provider's time (presuming the provider is supported with one dental assistant and one treatment room) and is reported as a value with each procedure reported to DES. DES transactions are sent to the Austin Information Technology Center (AITC) database using standard Health Level Seven (HL7) messaging and the VA Vitria Interface Engine. These batched HL7 messages are parsed at the AITC and placed in a flat database file.

Features:

DES provides a detailed combined inpatient and outpatient dental treatment database for all completed treatment provided at VA clinical sites. The AITC DES database serves as the feed for the VA DSS and the SQL-based Dental Reporting and Analytics System (DRAS). The local DES Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) files will also provide the dental data feed for the VA Health Data Repository (HDR). Local static DES reports are available through DRM. Local and national analytics are available using the data from the AITC DES database through the DRAS that is analyzed with ProClarity software and Microsoft SQL Server Reporting Services.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Clinical Operations 10NC		Office of Dentistry	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Organizations Management		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		2002 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	SAS		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
Yes			Active

Disaster Emergency Medical Personnel System (DEMPS)

Overview:

The Disaster Emergency Medical Personnel System (DEMPS) is the Veterans Health Administrations main deployment program for clinical and non-clinical staff to an emergency or disaster. The DEMPS Program may be used for an internal VA mission, as well as supporting a mission after a Presidential Disaster Declaration under the National Response Frameworks Emergency Support Function #8 (Public Health and Medical Services).

Interested, qualified VHA staff can apply online by submitting a DEMPS Application. DEMPS Coordinators and Administrators can manage volunteer data by accessing DEMPS Administration.

The DEMPS Program is made up of the following entities:

The DEMPS Volunteers (Full-time VHA employee, or Retiree Emergency Reserve Corps Volunteer (ERC))
VAMC DEMPS Coordinator
DEMPS VAMC Facility Support Staff (Fiscal, Payroll, and Travel)
DEMPS VISN Points of Contact
DEMPS National Program Manager
VHA Office of Emergency Management staff (Area Emergency Managers, and Regional Emergency Managers)
Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management, and
The DEMPS database.

In order for DEMPS to work successfully, all 8 entities above must work together to deploy the DEMPS Volunteer to an emergency or disaster site.

The DEMPS database was developed to collect specific information on full-time VHA medical personnel (clinical and non-clinical) and Retiree Emergency Reserve Corps (ERC) Volunteers who have volunteered and been approved by their Medical Center Director to be deployed (full-time staff or ERC Volunteers) in the event of a disaster, or to back fill a medical center (ERC Volunteers).

When disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, etc., occur and the state and local resources to handle the response/recovery process are overwhelmed, the state in which the disaster occurs may request federal assistance. In this case, a Presidential Disaster Declaration is issued and the National Response Framework (NRF) is activated. Once the damage to the area and needs have been assessed, and it is determined that medical resources are required, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) may task VA to provide these resources. Generally, these requests are for medical personnel (nurses, physicians, pharmacists, etc.), pharmaceutical (or other medical) supplies, and medical equipment. However, depending on the mission, VHA may deploy non-clinical staff to support the infrastructure of the deployment.

Features:

Provides on-line data entry for potential volunteers and DEMPS Coordinators into the DEMPS database and an administrative tool for supervisors and administrative personnel. Provides the ability to export data and create reports.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
VHA Office of Emergency Management		Operations Division	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		OI Field Office	
Data Source		Operation Period	
Entered by staff		Not Available	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	MS SQL		Windows NT
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	10 MB		Active

Drug Accountability

Overview:

The Drug Accountability database collects information on medication dispensed to both inpatient and outpatient Veterans who receive health care from the VA. Information for the Drug Accountability database is extracted from a number of files found within the Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) environment. Each month the extracted information is sent via MailMan messages from all VistA systems to the VA Pharmacy Benefits Management (PBM) office in Hines, Illinois. At Hines, quality assurance procedures are performed on the data and local pharmaceutical names are converted to common names before the information is entered into the Drug Accountability database. The users of this database include the PBM, Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs), the Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs), and the VA Research community.

Features:

Provides a national database containing information on drug dispensing at VAMCs. Provides reporting at local, regional, and national levels for VAMCs and VISNs. Provides monthly, quarterly, and annual reports to the VAMCs and VISNs. Provides the translation of local pharmaceutical names to common names. Provides confirmation to VAMCs that MailMan messages have been received successfully by the Hines facility.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		Pharmacy Benefits Management Strategic Healthcare Group	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Organizations Management		Pharmacy Benefits Management Office/OI Field Office, Hines, IL	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VistA		1998 to 2011	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	MS SQL		Windows 2003
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	600 GB		Active

Eastern Pacemaker Surveillance Center (EPSC) Database

Overview:

The Eastern Pacemaker Surveillance Center Database supports the Eastern Pacemaker Surveillance Center (EPSC) staff in its function of monitoring some 11,000 Veterans Health Administration (VHA) patients who have implanted pacemakers or cardioverters. The database stores medically useful information about the patients and their pacemaker test results in order to highlight serial changes, which determine whether the pacemaker is still functioning normally, or whether the patient requires further intervention. The EPSC staff performs regular telephonic checkups, in conjunction with less frequent in-hospital clinic checkups, to determine when pacemakers need to be replaced. Patients are scheduled and called by the Pacemaker Surveillance Center, and have their electrocardiogram recorded and analyzed over the phone, using wires attached to their fingers and a VHA-supplied transmitter. Additionally, some patients are monitored via web-based downloads of their device telemetry. The Pacemaker Center also provides in-hospital clinic checkups for local Washington DC VHA pacemaker patients. All information obtained during the checkups is recorded in the EPSC Database. The database also contains records of pacemaker patients being monitored by VHA facilities east of the Mississippi and who are not being monitored directly by their respective VA medical centers. The VHA Department of Medical Services encourages local VHA medical centers to refer their patients for pacemaker follow-up monitoring to either the Eastern Surveillance Center or to the counterpart Western Surveillance Center in San Francisco, whichever is geographically appropriate. However, referral is optional. The database also maintains a registry of all VHA patients, living and deceased, who have had pacemakers implanted at, or who have been monitored by, VHA facilities. The EPSC receives information for the registry directly from the medical centers for patients that it does not monitor, totaling over 80,000 as of 2010.

Features:

Supports the EPSC's regularly scheduled medical checkup program for pacemaker and International Classification of Diseases patients throughout the Eastern half of the United States, via telephone (or in-hospital clinic checkups for local Washington DC area VHA pacemaker patients). Provides a central registry of all information relevant to the installation, model, and functioning of pacemakers implanted in VHA patients. Provides reports annually for VHA Central Office and referring VHA medical centers, of patients' implant histories. Provides reports as needed to VHA Central Office and referring VHA medical centers, of VHA patients involved in pacemaker and lead recalls or advisories.

Program Office	Responsible Office
Office of Patient Care Services	Executive Assistant to Chief Patient Care Services Officer
Business Area	Physical Location
Patient	50 Irving Street, NW Washington DC 20422
Data Source	Operation Period
VistA or manually entered	1982 to Present

Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Dec Alpha	VA FileMan	Windows NT
Data Registry	Size	Status
Yes	100 MB	Active

Electronic GAO and OIG Recommendation Status (EGORS (formerly the External Review Mgmt Information System (ERMIS)))

Overview:

The Electronic Government Accountability Office/Office of Inspector General Recommendation Status (EGORS) tracks reports and recommendations from the Office of Inspector General (OIG) and the Government Accountability Office (GAO). It replaced the External Review Management Information System (ERMIS). EGORS contains two main components: OIG and GAO. All OIG and GAO program report recommendations, action plans, status reports, and anticipated completion dates are entered and tracked by Veterans Affairs Central Office (VACO). Information including actions and outcomes can be transmitted electronically to oversight organizations. EGORS also contains findings from each report that can be tracked and trended.

Features:

Provides internal and external review management information pertinent to inspections conducted by the following survey organizations: OIG and GAO. Provides service-level worksheets for recommended action plans. Provides a tracking mechanism for all other reviewing bodies. Provides communication between the site, network, and VACO on all action plans. Provides the following standardized reports in addition to an ad hoc reporting mechanism: 7 Recommendation & Action Plans Report by Service , facility or network, 7 Delinquent Report 7 Audit Reports Unresolved Over Six Months 7 Unimplemented Recommendations for One Year , Reports Over One Year Old, Reports Six Months or Older, Significant Findings, specific findings reports, Monthly Report of Open Recommendations, Quarterly Report of the Status of New, Ongoing and Completed OIG and GAO reports.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of the Under Secretary for Health		Management Review Service	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Organizations Management		810 Vermont Ave. NW	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VACO		1987 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	MS Access	Windows 2000	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	30 MB	Active	

Embedded Fragments Registry (EFR)

Overview:

The DoD has estimated approximately 5,000 Global War On Terror (GWOT) service members and veterans have shrapnel or embedded fragment wounds. Studies have shown that embedded metal fragments are not inert in the body and are slowly absorbed over time and can result in health problems. The registry tracks and reports care provided to these service members. The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is charged with supporting the Presidential Task Force on Returning GWOT Heroes which has stated in the GWOT report (recommendation P -7) that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) shall create an Embedded Fragment Surveillance Center and Registry to track, monitor and provide appropriate medical care and follow up for veterans with embedded fragments resulting from injuries sustained during their tour of duty.

The potential for short and long term health effects related to embedded fragments and knowledge of the large number of injuries to soldiers in Iraq resulting in embedded fragments, many composed of hazardous materials, has led to the decision that all veterans with embedded fragments need to be identified, screened and monitored by the VA. The Toxic Embedded Fragment Surveillance Center (TEFSC) has been established at the Baltimore VA Medical Center to coordinate this charge. A critical component of the TEFSC medical surveillance program is the development of a registry providing access to the names, contact information, medical history, biological monitoring data and fragment analyses information for all veterans who have one or more embedded fragments or who are likely to have embedded fragments. The registry will be used as a medical surveillance tool by providing a mechanism to identify veterans with embedded fragments, manage clinical data related to embedded fragments, and develop medical and surgical guidelines that will enable the TEFSC staff and VA clinicians to deliver appropriate medical care to these veterans.

Features:

Patients being recommended as candidates for inclusion into the Embedded Fragments Registry are referred by Local VA Providers and identified by the Department of Defense (DoD). Patients in each of these populations are put through a screening process to identify them as possible candidates for inclusion. Once the screening is complete and they are found to meet the criteria for referral, the patient's relevant referral data are sent to TEFSC for a final determination to be made. The process of evaluating the patient to make that decision and to identify what actions will be required by TEFSC to begin collecting information relevant to their care is known as Triage. The ultimate goal of Triage is to populate the registry.

Program Office	Responsible Office
OPHEH 13	Radiation and Physical Exposures
Business Area	Physical Location
Multi-Purpose	
Data Source	Operation Period
VTA, VistA, ADR, among others.	

Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Dell	SQL Server 2008	Windows 2008
Data Registry	Size	Status
Yes		Active

Emerging Pathogens Initiative (EPI)

Overview:

The Emerging Pathogens Initiative (EPI) database contains emerging pathogens information from the local Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs). The EPI software package allows the VA to track emerging pathogens on the national level without additional data entry at the local level. The results from aggregation of data can be shared with the appropriate public health authorities including non-VA and the private health care sector allowing national planning, formulation of intervention strategies, and resource allocations. EPI is designed to automatically collect data on emerging diseases for Veterans Affairs Central Office (VACO) to analyze. The data is sent to the Austin Information Technology Center (AITC) from all Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) systems for initial processing and combination with related workload data. Veterans Affairs Central Office (VACO) data retrieval and analysis is then carried out. The AITC creates two file structures both in Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) file format, which are used as a source of data for the Veterans Affairs Headquarters (VAHQ) Infectious Diseases Program Office. These files are manipulated and used for analysis and reporting by the Infectious Diseases Program Office. Emerging Pathogens (as characterized by VACO) act as triggers for data acquisition activities in the automated program. The system retrieves relevant, predetermined, patient-specific information in the form of a Health Level Seven (HL7) message that is transmitted to the central data repository at the AITC. Once at that location, the data is converted to a SAS dataset for analysis by the VACO Infectious Diseases Program Office. Before data transmission an Emerging Pathogens Verification Report is produced for the local sites to review, verify, and make corrections as needed. After data transmission to the AITC it is added to the EPI database.

Features:

Provides data on emerging pathogens to VAHQ without additional local data entry. Provides extracts with specific Emerging Pathogen data. Provides national SAS data sets for the Infectious Disease Program. Provides SAS Reporting capabilities for appropriate use and distribution.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		Acute Care, Medical Service	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1998 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	SAS		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	1 GB		Active

Environmental Agents Service (EAS) Registry System of Records

Overview:

The Environmental Agent Service (EAS) Registries is the information system encompassing the Ionizing Radiation Registry (IRR), the Agent Orange Registry (AOR), and the Gulf War Registry (GWR) which also includes related Depleted Uranium (DU) exams. These registries were originally developed using paper code sheets that were sent to the VA Austin Information Technology Center where typists converted to data files on the mainframe. The Registries have undergone a modernization and simplification effort that allows the entry of data via a web interface at [REDACTED] by staff at the VA medical centers.

In compliance with the Federal Information Systems Management Act (FISMA) this is considered a single system of records with the three registry components i.e. IRR, AOR, GWR with DU that have been integrated into a single Oracle database. Please see individual Monograph entries for specific details on: Ionizing Radiation Registry (IRR), Agent Orange Registry (AOR), and the Gulf War Registry (GWR).

Features:

The Registry is maintained to enable the VA to keep Veterans informed on research findings or new compensation policies through periodic newsletters. It provides a mechanism to catalogue prominent symptoms, reproductive health, reported exposures and diagnoses, and to communicate with Veterans. The voluntary, self-selected nature of the registry makes it valuable for health surveillance; however, it is not designed or intended to be a research tool and therefore, the results cannot be generalized to represent all Veterans illnesses resulting from service in a theatre of conflict. Please see individual Monograph entries for specific details on: Ionizing Radiation Registry (IRR), Agent Orange Registry (AOR), and the Gulf War Registry (GWR).

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Public Health & Environmental Hazards		Environmental Agents Service	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VHA Staff		not available	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
IBM	Oracle		Linux
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	5 GB	Active	

Federal Health Information Exchange (FHIE)

Overview:

The Federal Health Information Exchange (FHIE) Program is an interagency information technology initiative between the Departments of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Defense (DoD) that enables a secure, one-way transmission of protected electronic health information from DoD to VA. FHIE offers authorized VA clinicians, including those involved in claims adjudication, immediate access to DoD clinical data about service members who separate from the Armed Forces. FHIE supports DoD's and VA's goal of ensuring a smooth transition for Veterans from active military service to civilian life. See also Bidirectional Health Information Exchange (BHIE) Initiative.

Features:

FHIE supports the one-way transfer of historical data on separated and retired military personnel from DoD's Composite Health Care System to the FHIE Data Repository for use in VA clinical encounters, and potential future use for aggregate analysis. This data includes patient demographics, laboratory results, radiology reports, outpatient government and retail pharmacy information, admission discharge transfer (ADT) data, discharge summaries, consults reports, allergies and data from the DoD Standard Ambulatory Data Record. FHIE also supports the secure transfer of these FHIE data to Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) claims adjudicators for use in claims processing.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Information Field Offices (OIFO)		Federal Health Information Exchange (FHIE) Program Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
DOD & Military Treatment Facilities and VAMCs		2002 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
HP	Oracle		Windows 2000
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	1 TB		Active

Foreign Medical Program (FMP)

Overview:

The Foreign Medical Program (FMP) is a health care benefits program designed for US Veterans with Veterans Affairs-rated service-connected conditions that are residing or traveling abroad (Canada and Philippines excluded). Under FMP, VA assumes payment responsibility for certain necessary medical services associated with the treatment of these service-connected conditions. The FMP database stores necessary information about Veterans eligible for foreign payment or reimbursement. Included is information about the services used and expenses incurred. FMP shares files with CHAMPVA (Civilian Health and Medical Program of VA) Eligibility & Payment Functions (CVA), and resides on the same server at the Health Administration Center (HAC) at Denver, Colorado. The HAC is a division of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Chief Business Office.

Features:

Provides payment or reimbursement of covered medical expenses to eligible Veterans and/or their providers while living or traveling abroad. Stores all FMP information on eligible Veterans, including their treatment and medical expense histories.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Chief Business Office		Health Administration Center	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial		Health Administration Center	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VBA, FORIEGN CARE PROVIDERS/Overseas Beneficiaries		1994 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
HP Alpha	VA FileMan	VMS	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	140 MB	Active	

Former Prisoner of War Statistical Tracking System

Overview:

The Former Prisoner of War (POW) Statistical Tracking System database is a registry designed to comply with Public Law 97-37, the Former Prisoner of War Benefits Act of 1981. This database contains information about the Medical Evaluation Program for ex-POWs at VA facilities. The program provides a complete medical and psychiatric evaluation of ex-POWs. Only ex-POWs who volunteer to participate in the program are included in this registry. Health examinations are given to ex-POWs at VA facilities. The findings are then recorded on a special coding sheet, VA Form 10-0048a. Quarterly, these code sheets are sent to the Austin Information Technology Center, where they are manually keyed into the database. The main users of this registry are:

- * The Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War
- * Congress
- * National Academy of Sciences
- * Researchers
- * The National Center for Veteran Analysis and Statistics.

Features:

Provides registry of ex-POWs who received a protocol medical examination at VA facilities. Provides data for research studies. Provides data for reports to Congress and to the Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War. Provides data for evaluating the effectiveness of programs concerning ex-POWs as mandated by Public Law 97-37. Includes information on health care provided and compensation received by ex-POWs.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		Office of Mental Health Services	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1984 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
Yes	2 MB		Active

Functional Status and Outcome Database (FSOD)

Overview:

The Functional Status and Outcome Database (FSOD) captures and tracks information about patient rehabilitative care throughout the VA. FSOD supports the entry of information from acute and sub-acute inpatient rehabilitation programs, as well as a broad range of outpatient rehabilitation programs. Outcome-based information including length of stay and cost is also tracked. Participating Veterans Affairs Medical Center staff enter information into FSOD on-line through a software program called VA FIMware (Functional Independence Measurement (FIM)). Users throughout the VA can access stored FSOD data through VA FIMware. Quarterly, FSOD data is transferred electronically to the Uniform Data System for Medical Rehabilitation (UDSmr) server in Buffalo, New York. The UDSmr database contains a U.S. national roll-up of rehabilitative programs. Users include all VA personnel involved in rehabilitative care and the UDSmr.

Features:

Provides tracking of outcome-based information on rehabilitative programs. Provides on-line entry of rehabilitative data. Contains the Functional Independence Measurement (FIM) evaluation tool, a proprietary functional assessment tool created by UDSmr. It establishes a common language that can be used to discuss disabilities across disciplines.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Service	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1997 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	Oracle		Linux
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	4 GB		Active

Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Centers (GRECC) - VACO WebOps Silver Spring

Overview:

The Geriatric Research, Education, and Clinical Centers (GRECC) database tracks information on the following:

- * GRECCs' administrative functions
- * Personnel
- * Research awards and projects
- * Publications
- * Clinical programs
- * Continuing education
- * Outreach consultation
- * Trainee activities
- * Other professional activities and awards.

Personnel at GRECC sites enter information throughout the year. At the end of the fiscal year, this information is transmitted from each GRECC site to the Geriatrics and Extended Care Strategic Health Care Group as part of an annual report. This database is located at Veterans Affairs Central Office (VACO) WebOps in Silver Spring and contains data from fiscal year 1999 to the present. The main user of this database is the Geriatrics and Extended Care Strategic Health Care Group in VACO.

Features:

Provides historical data for trend analysis. Monitors performance of GRECC sites and tracks site activities. Provides reporting capability for responses to inquiries from:

- * Congress
- * Department of Veterans Affairs
- * Other interested governmental agencies
- * Other public and private agencies and the general public.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		Geriatrics & Extended Care Strategic Healthcare Group	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Organizations Management		VACO WebOps	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1999 to 2010	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Dell	MS SQL		Windows 2000
Data Registry	Size		Status
Yes	14 MB		Active

Gulf War Registry (GWR) - The Environmental Hazards Strategic Healthcare Group (EHSHG) Registry System of Records

Overview:

The Environmental Hazards Strategic Healthcare Group (EHSHG) Registry System of Records is the information system encompassing the Ionizing Radiation Registry (IRR), the Agent Orange Registry (AOR), and the Gulf War Registry (GWR) which also includes related Depleted Uranium (DU) exams.

Features:

The GWR area of the EHSHG database contains information about Veterans who have participated in the Gulf War/Operation Iraqi Freedom and had a GWR examination at a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical facility. This exam may be accompanied by a Depleted Uranium (DU) questionnaire and lab results. The Gulf War period of conflict is between August 2, 1990, and on March 19, 2003 extended as Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) with a yet to be determined official termination date. The Gulf Theater of operations, as defined by 38 CFR 3.317, includes Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Oman, the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea, and the airspace above all of these locations.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of Public Health and Environmental Hazards		Environmental Hazards Strategic Healthcare Group (EHSHG)
Business Area		Physical Location
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX
Data Source		Operation Period
Web-based entry at VAMCs		2002 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
IBM	Oracle	Linux
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	5 GB encompasses the GWR as well as AGR and IRR	Active

Health Data Repository (HDR)

Overview:

The Health Data Repository (HDR) is a VA multi-year development project to create a longitudinal record of Veterans clinical data, including a method to display "legacy" clinical data from 128 Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture systems. Data displayed will be in "real-time" and will come from the Health Data Repository for re-engineered applications and VistA for all other clinical applications. The long-term goal of the HDR project is to be a national transactional database that stores all clinical data from re-engineered applications and a number of regional databases that will provide access to VistA data.

Features:

Clinical Data Service (CDS) for the authoritative read and write to the HDR databases; HDR Historical- relational database of "legacy" clinical data; HDR Data Warehouse.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Health Products Division		Office of Health Information	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VHA Medical Centers		2005 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
HP	Oracle	Unix	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	23 TB	Active	

Health Eligibility Center (HEC) System

Overview:

The Health Eligibility Center (HEC) is responsible for determining eligibility of Veterans for VHA medical care. The HEC is the authoritative source for Veteran eligibility and subsequent enrollment priority. To be enrolled, a Veteran must meet basic eligibility criteria. The HEC gathers all the information needed to make eligibility decisions and records and processes the information using the HEC System. The HEC also:

- * Validates social security numbers from the Social Security Administration
- * Verifies incomes from the Internal Revenue Service and Social Security Administration
- * Receives information from Veterans Benefits Administration on Veterans to determine eligibility and enrollment assignment
- * Is the authoritative source and Data Steward for Demographic, Eligibility, and Enrollment data. This does not include Patient Identity elements.
- * Provides Business oversight to all software products related to Registration, Eligibility and Enrollment.

Features:

- * Shares Eligibility and Enrollment Data with all sites that have treated the Veteran.
- * Is the authoritative source for Eligibility, Enrollment, and Income Verification Matching.
- * Validates social security number of Veterans.
- * Prioritizes all enrollees and confirms their eligibility for the Veterans Health Administration medical program.
- * Maintains the Purple Heart (PH), Prisoners of War (POW), and Project 112/Shipboard Hazard and Defense (SHAD) registries.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Chief Business Office		Health Eligibility Center
Business Area		Physical Location
Patient		Health Eligibility Center
Data Source		Operation Period
ALL VAMCs		1992 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Dec Alpha	VA FileMan	VMS
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	127 GB	Active

Health Services Training Report (HST) Database

Overview:

The Health Services Training Report (HST) Database tracks the overall number of Personnel and Accounting Integrated Data Systems (PAID) and Without Compensation (WOC) Trainee positions by the cooperating academic institutions for all medical center approved health services programs. Information in the database comes from all Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs) who have Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA) approved HST programs. Worksheets and memos are distributed to participating VAMCs by the OAA annually. VAMC personnel enter the information electronically into the database located at the OAA Support Center (OAASC) in St. Louis, Missouri. The main user of this database is the OAA.

Features:

Provides multi-year cost projections based on actual and estimated trainee positions across the Veterans Health Administration Health Care System. Provides Trainee population tracking in participating VAMCs. Provides reporting capability to OAA regarding the number of Health Services Trainees and Residents.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Academic Affiliations		Office of Academic Affiliations	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics			
Data Source		Operation Period	
VA Medical Centers		1997 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	MS SQL	Windows 2003	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	20 GB	Active	

Home Based Primary Care (HBC)

Overview:

The Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) database receives and compiles data from local Hospital Based Home Care (HBHC) sanctioned programs at the 140 Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs) that run home care programs under the Home Based Primary Care program. The primary purpose is to provide HBPC management with case mix, case load, and other performance information. The HBPC information system is referred to as HBC at the VA Austin Information Technology Center and as HBHC at the local level. The HBHC automated a paper-based system of reporting home care episodes. When an admission form is completed, an episode is opened and input into HBHC for a potential home care patient. The patient is evaluated and accepted to or rejected from the program. When a patient leaves the program for any reason an episode is closed and a discharge form completed and input into HBHC. HBHC runs a nightly extract of information within the Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture. Extractions include information on all Patient Care Encounters (PCEs) with the patient and home visits made by home care providers. Details of which provider(s) made the visit, the date, any diagnosis and any procedures performed are included. Each local application sends its data to the Austin HBC database on a monthly basis. A monthly report is prepared based on this information identifying the active cases at each VAMC. A more detailed quarterly report is produced that includes national comparisons among sites.

Features:

Creates a centralized repository of information on home care admissions, discharges and patient care encounters from the 140 VAMCs with their own home care programs. Receives monthly updates of information from all reporting VAMCs. Creates monthly and quarterly reports allowing workload comparisons between sites. Enables HBPC management to control and assess the staff workload and case mix. Provides basis for responding to congressional inquiries as needed, and for providing extracts to Decision Support Service (DSS) on request.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		Geriatrics & Extended Care Strategic Healthcare Group	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1983 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	76 MB		Active

Ionizing Radiation Registry (IRR) - The Environmental Hazards Strategic Healthcare Group (EHSHG) Registry System of Records

Overview:

The Environmental Agent Service Registries (EHSHG) is the information system encompassing the Ionizing Radiation Registry (IRR), the Agent Orange Registry (AOR), and the Gulf War Registry (GWR) which also includes related Depleted Uranium (DU) exams. The IRR area of the Environmental Agents Service (EAS) database contains the results of questionnaires completed by Veterans who may have been exposed to ionizing radiation while on active military duty and have had an IRR examination at a VA medical facility.

Features:

The voluntary, self-selected nature of the registry makes it valuable for health surveillance; however, it is not designed or intended to be a research tool and therefore, the results cannot be generalized to represent all IR Veterans. Veterans exposed to ionizing radiation under the following circumstances are eligible to receive an IRR examination: On-site participation in a test involving the atmospheric detonation of a nuclear device (between 1945 and 1962), at a nuclear device testing site -- the Pacific Islands e.g. Bikini, New Mexico, Nevada, etc. (whether or not the testing nation was the United States). Participation in the occupation of Hiroshima or Nagasaki, Japan, from August 6, 1945 through July 1, 1946. Internment as a POW in Japan during World War II, which the Secretary of Veteran Affairs determines resulted in an opportunity for exposure to ionizing radiation comparable to that of Veterans involved in the occupation of Hiroshima or Nagasaki, Japan Treatment with Nasopharyngeal (NP) radium irradiation while in the active military, naval or air service. Participation in another "radiation risk activity" as defined in VA regulations.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of Public Health and Environmental Hazards		Environmental Hazards Strategic Healthcare Group (EHSHG)
Business Area		Physical Location
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX
Data Source		Operation Period
Web-based entry at VAMCs		2002 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
IBM	Oracle	Linux
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	5 GB encompasses the IRR as well as AGR and GWR	Active

Lockbox, First Party

Overview:

Lockbox First Party provides automated processing of payments made by Veterans who are required to make co-payments for health care services at VA facilities. Veterans receive their bills through the Consolidated Co-payment Processing Center (CCPC) and make payment through Lockbox First Party. Lockbox First Party provides a central collection point for payments through a commercial bank. In addition, Lockbox First Party provides reporting and inquiry capability.

Features:

Provides automated processing of payments. Provides central collection point for payments. Provides reporting and inquiry capability.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Chief Business Office		Chief Business Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
Lockbox Bank		1999 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Sun	Oracle	Unix	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes	11 GB	Active	

Mammography Quality Standards VA (MQS VA)

Overview:

The Mammography Quality Standards VA (MQS VA) data contains specific facility, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) and system wide mammography information used to monitor and analyze the VA's achievement of and adherence to national Radiology and Mammography Quality standards. It contains data for the tracking, trending and monitoring of accreditation and certification of facilities participating in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Mammography Program. Information is obtained from Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture Decision Support System (DSS) Radiology extracts. This information details how often mammography is performed and in which facility and VISN, based from Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code nomenclature. Specific items include, but are not limited to: CPT code(s); medical facility; date of procedure(s); types of imaging procedure(s) and/or biopsy(ies) performed and the facility performing the procedure(s). While the American College of Radiology (ACR) is the primary accrediting institution for all mammography suites in the country, it is the sole accrediting institution for the VHA mammography sites. The ACR independently gathers information from all VAMCs with on-site mammography and sends information weekly to the MQS VA. Forty-three VHA sites are accredited and certified. The ACR uses the information to determine clinical image quality, standards compliance, equipment functional parameters, etc. as a basis for awarding accreditation. The MQS VA data is used to monitor the equipment performance, staff Quality Control (QC) and Quality Assurance (QA) requirements. Accreditation requires the review of clinical images, staff credentials, phantom image assessment, etc. triennially with annual updates. Certification, on the other hand, requires the facility to maintain accreditation, obtain an annual medical physicist survey of mammography equipment and undergo an annual inspection conducted by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The MQS VA data allows the Diagnostic Services, National Radiology Program, which certifies mammography facilities, to notify the VAMCs when their performance reaches levels that may cause substandard images resulting in the potential loss of accreditation and certification. An enhancement to the database has been implemented that adds the results from the annual on-site FDA inspections of VAMC mammography suites. The FDA will send to MQS VA the inspection/test results and the results are added to the database. This will allow the MQS VA to notify VAMCs of identified deficiencies and assure that issues affecting quality mammography are corrected.

Features:

Provides tracking and trend analysis for the VHA Mammography Program. Provides identification of data reporting inconsistencies. Provides notification to VAMCs and VISNs on status of accreditation and certification issues. Allows information to be viewed by facility, VISN, by patient (with appropriate secure access), and by CPT code. Provides monitoring of mammography standards test results performed by the FDA.

Program Office	Responsible Office
Office of Patient Care Services	Diagnostic Services (Radiology Program)

Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		3022 Croasdaile Dr.	
Data Source		Operation Period	
AITC DSS, ACR, FDA, VISNs, VAMCs		1994 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	MS Access		Windows XP
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes	80 GB	Active	

Master Veteran Index (MVI)

Overview:

As of June 28, 2010, the Master Veteran Index (MVI) database based on the enhanced Master Patient Index (MPI) is the authoritative identity service within the VA, establishing, maintaining and synchronizing identities for VA clients, Veterans and beneficiaries. The MVI includes authoritative sources for health identity data and contains over 17 million patient entries populated from all VHA facilities nationwide. The MVI provides the access point mechanism for linking patient's information to enable an enterprise-wide view of patient information, uniquely identifies all active patients who have been admitted, treated, or registered in any VHA facility, and assigns a unique identifier to the patient. The MVI correlates a patient's identity across the enterprise, including all VistA systems and external systems, such as Department of Defense (DoD) and the Nationwide Health Information Network (NwHIN). The MVI facilitates the sharing of health information, resulting in coordinated and integrated health care for Veterans. New Information Technology systems must be interoperable with the MVI and legacy systems will establish integration by October 1, 2012. The Healthcare Identity Management (HC IdM) Team within VHA's Data Quality Program is the steward of patient identity data, performing maintenance and support activities.

Features:

The MVI assigns each individual served by the VA a unique patient identifier (Integration Control Number, or ICN). A probabilistic algorithm is utilized for matching. Probabilistic matching compares data that is common between two records to develop a score. The higher the score the closer these traits match. Based on this common data a score is developed for each trait/trait set. The overall score can result in a match, no match or a potential match. Each index entry in the MVI also contains the patient's identifying information (e.g., name, ssn, date of birth, gender) and a current list of facilities where the patient has been seen. The MVI is updated as new patients are added or demographic information is updated at the correlated system and manages updates to identity traits and shares those with integrated systems. The MVI Primary View is the centralized Enterprise "View" of a patient. The creation of the Primary View uses centralized business rules on the MVI, which include both data validation rules and authority score value rules. The compilation of business rules become the "logic" that determines if changes should be applied to a patient's identity data. The Primary View is considered to be the best collection of the patient's identity traits known within the VA.

Program Office	Responsible Office
Data Quality Program, Office of Health Informatics & Analytics	Healthcare Identity Management
Business Area	Physical Location
Patient	Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX
Data Source	Operation Period
VAMCs	1999 to Present

Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
HP	CACHE	VMS
Data Registry	Size	Status
Yes	269 GB	Active

Medical Care Cost Recovery National Database (MCCR NDB)

Overview:

The Medical Care Cost Recovery National Database (MCCR NDB) provides a repository of summary Medical Care Collections Fund (MCCF) billing and collection information used by program management to compare facility performance. It stores summary information for Veterans Health Administration (VHA) receivables including the number of receivables and their summarized status information. This database is used to monitor the status of the VHA's collection process and to provide visibility on the types of bills and collections being done by the Department. The objective of the VA MCCF Program is to collect reimbursement from third party health insurers and co-payments from certain non-service-connected (NSC) Veterans for the cost of medical care furnished to Veterans. Legislation has authorized VHA to: submit claims to and recover payments from Veterans' third party health insurance carriers for treatment of non-service-connected conditions; recover co-payments from certain Veterans for treatment of non-service-connected conditions; and recover co-payments for medications from certain Veterans for treatment of non-service-connected conditions. All of the information captured in the MCCR NDB is derived from the Accounts Receivable (AR) modules running at each medical center. MCCR NDB is not used for official collections figures; instead, the Department uses the Financial Management System (FMS).

Features:

Provides a national view of VA facility medical care collection activities. Allows sites to determine when extraction routines are run locally. Provides national and regional reports including Schedule-9 for the Department of the Treasury and third party billing coverage reports. Formats information sent from medical centers and sends the report back to medical center once information is added to MCCR NDB. Provides centralized monthly reporting by categories with totals for the whole VHA system.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Chief Business Office		Office of Health Information	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial		Albany CIOFO	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VistA		1993 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Dec Alpha	VA FileMan		VMS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	2 GB		Active

Medical SAS File (MDP)

Overview:

The Medical SAS (Statistical Analysis Software) system provides a variety of SAS-formatted files containing medical data for use by VA staff. These files, and the ability to create user files, are available by connecting to the Austin Information Technology Center (AITC) mainframe. SAS files publish unique patient statistics, utilization, financial and workload information and include extracts from the National Patient Care Database, the Patient Treatment File, the Administrative Data Repository and other databases located at the AITC.

Features:

These files produce a variety of data for the VA community to assist medical center, regional, and central office personnel in reporting VA workload and patient care information. Datasets contain VA data from as early as the 1980s. More detailed information is available from the VA Information Resource Center (VIREC) in the form of Research User Guides ([REDACTED]).

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Health Information		National Data Systems	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VA Medical Centers		1980 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	SAS		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	233 GB		Active

Monthly Program Cost Report (MPCR)

Overview:

The Monthly Program Cost Report (MPCR) replaces the Cost Distribution Report (CDR). The MPCR provides summary information about Veterans Affairs operational costs, Full Time Equivalents (FTE), and workload (number of patient bed days, outpatient clinic stops, etc.). MPCR receives financial data feeds from Decision Support System and workload data feeds from National Patient Care Database, Home Based Primary Care and Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Work Measurement in order to provide the VHA with a flexible cost reporting system. The MPCR is assembled from information from all Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs). MPCR is processed monthly and consists of two reports: station level and a national level rollup. These two reports are available to users via Roger's Software Development (RSD) on the Austin Information Technology Center mainframe and CD ROM. The primary users of MPCR are the VAMC staff, VHA Budget Office, Medical Care Cost Recovery, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget.

Features:

Allows users to compare facility and medical center per unit cost to nationwide per unit cost.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Finance		DSS Financial Assistance	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
DSS, VISN, etc		2004 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	IDMS		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	4 GB		Active

My HealtheVet (MHV)

Overview:

My HealtheVet (MHV) is VA’s award-winning online Personal Health Record (PHR), located at www.myhealth.va.gov. The mission of MHV is to improve delivery of health care for all Veterans, independent of where they receive care, by providing one-stop, online access to better manage their overall health, make informed health decisions, and record and store important health and military history information. Offering web-based tools that empower Veterans to become active partners in their health care, MHV provides access to VA health care and information 24/7. MHV registrants can click a “Blue Button” on the website to view, print or download their available personal health information. They can choose to share that information with other providers, caregivers, or family members safely, securely, and privately. Web technology combines essential health record information enhanced by online health resources to enable and encourage patient/clinician collaboration. The online environment maps closely to existing clinical business practices and extends the way care is delivered and managed. MHV allows VA patients to request and receive VA prescription refills and provides a blended history of VA and self-entered medications. Registrants who are VA patients and have identity verified access to My HealtheVet can receive copies of select VA electronic health records, including VA Appointments, Allergies and Wellness Reminders. Many VA patients are communicating with their participating health care teams through Secure Messaging.

Features:

MHV has numerous personal health record functions:

- Download personal health information using VA’s Blue Button
- Refill VA prescriptions online
- View personal VA Appointments
- View personal VA Allergies, blended with self-entered Allergies
- View personal VA Wellness Reminders
- View and add events and reminders to a personal health calendar
- Access On-line Medical Libraries
- Keep track of personal health information
- Self-enter military and family health histories
- Track illnesses, accidents, or other events
- Enter and track over-the-counter medications, immunizations, and tests
- View blended VA Prescriptions with self-entered medications
- Record, track, and print (if desired) important vital statistics
- Explore the Healthy Living Centers and Diseases & Conditions Centers
- Communicate via Secure Messaging for VA patients and their health care teams

Program Office	Responsible Office
Office of Informatics and Analytics	Health Informatics and Data

Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
Web Interface, VistA			
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Sun	Oracle	Solaris Unix	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	105 GB	Active	

National Health Care Practitioner Database (NHCPD)

Overview:

This database is part of the National Medical Information System (NMIS). The National Health Care Practitioner Database (NHCPD) supports Veterans Health Administration Privacy Act requirements by segregating personal information about health care practitioners such as name and social security number from patient information recorded in the National Patient Care Database for Ambulatory Care Reporting and Primary Care Management Module.

Features:

The NHCPD retains a history of names, social security numbers, employing Veterans Affairs Medical Centers and provider types, also known as the person class code, for practitioners.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Informatics and Analytics		National Data Systems	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		2001 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Sun V880	Oracle	Solaris Unix	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	1 GB	Active	

National Item File (NIF)

Overview:

The National Item File (NIF) is used to uniquely identify products used in the supply chain. The Universal Product Number is placed as a bar code on products to enable users of the products to readily identify the product's characteristics.

Features:

Provides information regarding Medical and Surgical Products used by the VA medical facilities.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
NIF Maintenance Office		Office of Procurement and Logistics	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Multi-Purpose		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
IFCAP		2005 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Sun	Oracle		Solaris Unix
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	7 Gb	Active	

National Laboratory Workload and Laboratory Management Index Program

Overview:

Effective management of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Service (P&LMS) laboratories requires indicators capable of demonstrating each individual laboratory's productivity and efficiency. Local sites require the capability to determine in real time, the effects of any procedural or policy changes relating to productivity and efficiency. Data collected by each individual medical center is compiled on a national level at the Austin Information Technology Center (AITC) for P&LMS Central Office utilization. Each local medical center will have the capability to independently monitor laboratory trends and make appropriate decisions. A detailed view of workload data will be provided to support a variety of management and clinical requirements and needs. Measurements of productivity and efficiency data are capable of providing medical center to medical center comparisons. In addition, workload data is suitable for comparison to private sector facilities that capture laboratory workload based on Current Procedure Terminology (CPT). The National Laboratory Workload & Laboratory Management Index Program has been selected as the efficiency and productivity logic model. The National Laboratory Workload & Laboratory Management Index Program report replaces the Lab Automated Management Information System (AMIS) segment used in the past. Each local site identifies the reportable units based on CPT and VA guidelines. Reportable units are extracted by laboratory software and are transmitted to the AITC. The transmitted data is compiled and stored in the National Laboratory Workload & Laboratory Management Index Program database. This database supports P&LMS Headquarters and Veterans Integrated Service Network director's office.

Features:

Provides medical center to medical center comparisons capabilities. Provides capability for each local medical center to monitor laboratory trends for decision making. Provides a detailed view of workload data to support a variety of management and clinical requirements and needs.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		Diagnostic Services Strategic Healthcare Group	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Organizations Management		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1996 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	900 GB		Active

National Medical Information System (NMIS)

Overview:

The National Medical Information System is a combination of the National Patient Care Database (NPCD), the Patient Treatment File (PTF) and the National Health Care Practitioner Database (NHCPD). These databases act as a single system for Health Care Resource Management and Research. In compliance with the Federal Information System Management Act (FISMA) they are reported as a single system. Data extracts from NMIS are created using Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) and stored on the Austin Information Technology Center mainframe as medical SAS Files (see MDP Med SAS File).

Features:

Please see individual Monograph entries for National Health Care Practitioner Database (NHCPD), National Patient Care Database (NPCD), and Patient Treatment File (PTF) for specific details.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Informatics and Analytics		National Data Systems	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VA Medical Centers		1996 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Mainframe, Sun V880	Oracle, Flat File	z/Os, Solaris Unix	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No		Active	

National Mental Health Database System (NMHDS)

Overview:

The National Mental Health Database System (NMHDS) records and stores information about Veterans treated for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) at any of the over 100 Specialized Outpatient PTSD Programs at local Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs) in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). PTSD patients new to treatment are administered a standard 50-question interview by a clinician. Their answers are recorded in the NMHDS database at the local VAMC. Weekly, each program's information is uploaded to a central database located and operated at the Pittsburgh VAMC by the Office of Information & Technology Mental Health Field Based Program Office. The information is gathered into a national database comprised of sociodemographic background, diagnostic history and period of service for the treated Veterans. Due to the sensitive nature of the information, access is limited to a specific end user, the Northeast Program Evaluation Center (NEPEC), in Connecticut. NEPEC uses the information as a performance measure for specialized outpatient PTSD programs, and provides feedback to these programs regarding the characteristics of Veterans treated. Formerly, NMHDS also stored information on substance abuse patients. However, that function is now handled by a separate database called the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) running at Pittsburgh.

Features:

Provides for the collection and storage of information on PTSD patients. Provides information to the NEPEC for performance measurements.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		Office of Mental Health Services	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1992 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
HP	Oracle		Linux
Data Registry	Size		Status
Yes	700 MB		Active

National On-Line Information Sharing (NOIS)

Overview:

The National On-Line Information Sharing (NOIS) application provides centralized tracking of service requests and problems associated with the daily operation of computer systems within the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). NOIS is a Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) package that resides on the FORUM national electronic mail system and is maintained by the Enterprise VistA Support (EVS) division of Health Systems Implementation, Training and Enterprise Support within the Office of Information (OI). Incoming requests and problems are logged in NOIS as trouble tickets by the OI National Help Desk, National VistA Support (NVS) staff, or can be directly input by customers. NOIS tracks service requests from initiation through problem resolution, and is used for information sharing and dialog by those involved in support, development and management, as well as customers. All VA FORUM users can see any NOIS request. They are not limited to those requests logged by them. In this way, NOIS can be used as a research tool to track problems and problem resolution by package or by site. NOIS uses either a Graphical User Interface or List Manager interface for displaying trouble ticket lists and information. Users can customize views and lists by defining their personal defaults. Browse and search options allow viewing of all tickets. Notifications can be sent automatically to users or customers about changes to tickets using MailMan or menu alerts. NOIS information can be extracted for use in PC applications and spreadsheets.

Features:

Provides tracking and resolution of reported problems to NVS. Provides tracking for problems that require program changes. Allows management to monitor workload for appropriate resource distribution. Provides monitoring on bug fixes and future releases. Provides documentation for common problems to aid in troubleshooting. Provides VHA facilities the capability of logging problems locally.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Information		National VistA Support Division of Customer Services	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		OI Field Office	
Data Source		Operation Period	
Forum Users		1993 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Dec Alpha	VA FileMan		VMS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	2 GB		Active

National Patch Module (NPM)

Overview:

The National Patch Module (NPM) software provides a database for the distribution of software patches and updates to Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA). Options are provided for: 1) Systematic entry and review of patches by developers, 2) Review and completion of patches by Software Quality Assurance (SQA), 3) Review and release of patches by Enterprise VistA Support (EVS), and 4) Display and distribution of the verified/released patches to the users in the field. Once a problem is identified and a solution found or an enhancement is requested in VistA software, a developer enters a patch in the NPM. The patch is identified by software namespace, version, and a patch number. At this point, the patch entry has a status of "UNDER DEVELOPMENT" and is accessible only by other developers of the software. Once the developer has finished coding the patch and it's ready for review, SQA reviews the patch. Once SQA has reviewed the patch and no changes are required, SQA changes the status to "COMPLETED/UNVERIFIED." After the patch is completed, EVS reviews the patch. Once EVS makes the determination that it is ready for release, EVS changes the status to "VERIFIED." The patch is then automatically distributed and becomes available for users in the field.

Features:

Creates a patch mail message with text and installable routines that is delivered to all the sites via network mail. It allows entry of associated (dependent) patches (i.e., those patches that must be reviewed and installed prior to the current patch).

Provides flags to:

- * Identify which routines in a patch have previous patches
- * Hold verification/release of a patch until a certain date
- * Force sequential verification/release of associated patches.

Provides numerous reports including:

- 1) verified patches and summaries,
- 2) completed/unverified patches for a selected package, and
- 3) under development patches for a selected package. Provides automatic notification of new released patches. Provides ability to copy information from an existing patch into a new patch.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Information		Office of the Chief Information Officer Technical Services	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		Silver Spring Field Office	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VHA personnel		1982 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Dec Alpha	VA FileMan		VMS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	1 GB		Active

National Patient Care Database (NPCD)

Overview:

The National Patient Care Database (NPCD), located at the Austin Information Technology Center, is part of the National Medical Information Systems (NMIS). The NPCD collects integrated patient care data from all Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) IT systems. Data recorded in the VistA Patient Care Encounter (PCE) package, which captures clinical data resulting from ambulatory care patient encounters is transmitted to the NPCD using the Ambulatory Care Reporting Module of the VistA Patient Information Management System (PIMS) package. The Ambulatory Care Reporting Module provides necessary information on patient treatment, what services were rendered to patients, who provided the services, and whether services reported were synchronized with the VA medical center database.

Directive 2006-026 (05/05/2006) required the inclusion to patient care data capture requirements the capture of inpatient encounters for patients seen in outpatient clinics and inpatient billable professional services.

Additionally, NPCD includes VistA Spinal Cord Dysfunction (SCD) package and Primary Care Management Module (PCMM) data. The SCD central registry in NPCD is used to provide VA-wide review of patient demographics, clinical aspects of injury and disease, and resource utilization involved in providing care to patients. The PCMM data in NPCD includes primary care patient to provider assignments and provider utilization data.

The NPCD is used by Veterans Health Administration (VHA) program offices for a wide variety of tasks to include research and budget allocation to medical centers.

Features:

Provides integrated patient care data across VHA facilities and care setting. Provides comprehensive data for research studies. Provides information for workload analysis. Provides data for patient care analysis.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Informatics and Analytics		National Data Systems	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VA Medical Centers		1997 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Sun V880	Oracle		Solaris Unix
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	2 TB		Active

National Prosthetic Patient Database (NPPD (Prosthetics & Sensory Aids Service))

Overview:

The National Prosthetics Patient Database (NPPD) established a central database of Prosthetics data recorded at each Veterans Health Administration facility. Its objective was to enable clinical reviews to increase quality, reduce costs, and improve efficiency of the Prosthetics program. Increase the quality of the services to our Veterans by providing a means to develop consistency in services, review prescription and management practices, develop training, monitor Home Medical Equipment, and measure performance improvements. Reduce costs by comparing costs system-wide, identifying common items for consolidated contracting, identifying costs for Medical Cost Care Funds (MCCF) purposes and improving contracting cost benefit. Improve efficiency by validating the data, improving budget management, determining where coding errors occur, providing training, and comparing unique social security numbers for multiple site usage and item issue. The NPPD Menu provides patient information, patient eligibility, Prosthetic treatment, date of provision, cost, vendor, and purchasing agent information. This system tracks average cost data and its usage and provides on both a monthly and quarterly basis detailed and summary reports by station, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) and agency. The NPPD Menu resides in Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) at the medical center level. This data is updated quarterly. Data is rolled up at each facility and transmitted to Hines. The data is then loaded into the Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW) from which data extracts are done. The data is also put into a ProClarity cube and is available to VA local, regional, and national managers online. National managers have the ability to properly monitor, oversee and manage the national program and regional managers are able to effectively manage their respective areas using this tool. The primary purpose of this database is to provide financial and clinical oversight of the Prosthetics program and is used primarily by the Prosthetics and Sensory Aids (PSA) including VISN staff, VISN Prosthetics Representatives, Prosthetics Program Managers and other Prosthetics staff.

Features:

Provides ad hoc reporting capability to conduct cost analysis and prescription practice reviews. Enhances prescription practices and research by providing a means for national utilization comparisons using Health Care Financing Administration's Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) standardization. Provides a patient item history on main NPPD groups that are based on HCPCS codes. These groups include: Wheelchairs and Accessories; Artificial Limbs; Braces and Orthotics; Oxygen and Respiratory; Durable Medical Equipment; and Surgical Implants. Prosthetic HCPCS are mapped to the NPPD Groups/Lines, providing a means to analyze, validate, summarize, and report usage and cost at the medical center and national levels.

Program Office	Responsible Office
Prosthetics and Sensory Aids Service	Prosthetic & Sensory Aids Service Strategic Healthcare Group
Business Area	Physical Location
Patient	Prosthetic Clinical Management Office/OI Field Office

Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1997 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	MS SQL	Windows NT	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes	40 GB	Active	

National Survey of Veterans (NSV)

Overview:

The National Survey of Veterans (NSV) is a survey aimed at delineating the characteristics of the Veteran population at a single point in time. The information collected in this survey allows the VA to follow trends in the Veteran population, compare Veterans who use VA programs to those who do not, and provides a current resource of data for policy analyses and program planning. Under Section 527, 38 U.S. Code, the VA Secretary has the authority to gather data for the purpose of planning and evaluating VA programs. The NSV is conducted under this general authorization. The NSV is conducted in order to obtain information relevant to the planning and budgeting of VA programs and services for Veterans, in general, as well as for certain subgroups of Veterans and to provide a snapshot profile of the Veteran population. The sixth NSV was conducted in 2010 which included the requirement under Public Law (P.L.) 108- 454, Section 805, to assess beneficiary awareness of VA benefits and services. The P.L. also expanded the survey populations to include in addition to Veterans, other beneficiary groups: Active Duty Service members; demobilized National Guard and Reserve members; Family members (spouses) and Surviving spouses. The 2010 NSV was conducted using a mailed, self-administered questionnaire. There were two sampling approaches: address-based sampling (ABS) and list-based sampling. Veterans, Veteran spouses and Surviving spouses were sampled using the ABS approach. The Active Duty Service members, Active Duty spouses, and demobilized National Guard and Reserve members in the continental U.S. were sampled using lists provided by the Department of Defense, Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC). Data collection began October 16, 2009, and ended March 19, 2010. Two data collection methods were used, one for the address-based sample group and one for the list-based sample group, to collect the 2010 NSV data. Two procedures for the address frame included two phases of data collection. First, after sending pre-notification letters, a short (screening) survey was sent to each sampled address. Information collected on the screener was used to sample or subsample households at the second phase and to identify which of the eligible sample members would be in the mail or web survey populations. Veteran households were not subsampled. Members of other segments were subsampled and only members of the subsample received an extended survey. Because names and addresses were received for the list-based sample members, they were approached through a series of personally addressed contact letters and reminders. All contacted respondents, both address-based and list-based, were offered the option to complete the survey via the web.

Features:

Allows VA to monitor trends in the Veteran population and compare characteristics of Veterans who use VA programs to those who do not. Provides a current resource of data available for policy analyses and research. The 2010 NSV included the requirement under Public Law (P.L.) 108- 454, Section 805, to assess beneficiary awareness of VA benefits and services. The P.L. also expanded the survey populations to include in addition to Veterans, other beneficiary groups: Active Duty Service members; demobilized National Guard and Reserve members; Family members (spouses) and Surviving spouses.

Program Office	Responsible Office
Office of Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy	Office of Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy

Business Area		Physical Location
Patient		Office of DAS for Policy
Data Source		Operation Period
Mailed and web, self-administered questionnaire and telephone interviews with 8,710 Veterans in 2010.		2010-2010
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Dell	SAS	Windows XP
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	63 MB	Active

Non-VA Fee Basis Medical System (FEE)

Overview:

The Fee Basis Medical and Pharmacy System (FEE) automates the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Fee for Service program. It authorizes and pays private physicians, hospitals, and pharmacists for products and services provided to Veterans approved for the program. Veterans are reimbursed through FEE for medically-related expenses including travel. Information is entered into the FEE system through Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture online menus. FEE is run at the Austin Information Technology Center and interfaces with the Financial Management System (FMS), the Beneficiary Identification and Records Locator System (BIRLS), and the VHA Work Measurement database (VWM), to produce payments, accounting updates, and reports. FEE facilitates money management, master record updating, and input error resolution. Daily reports indicating all payments processed and erroneous input transactions are transmitted to approximately 170 Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs). Letters are sent to Veterans on a monthly basis detailing payments made on their behalf to Fee for Service providers. Monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and annual reports are sent to the Veterans Affairs Central Office (VACO) and VAMCs. The Non-VA Fee Basis Medical System is commonly referred to as Central FEE.

Features:

Provides tracking of patient, program, and vendor-specific information. Provides VAMCs authorization capability for individual or batch payments and the functionality to re-initiate previously rejected payments. Provides the cost and quantity of non-VA inpatient and outpatient care given to Fee for Service eligible Veterans. Provides geographic distribution of Fee for Service providers, and the distance of these providers from the Veterans. Provides online reporting capability. Several reports assist in the management of the FEE program at the VAMCs and identify workload incurred by each Primary Service Area (PSA).

Program Office		Responsible Office
Chief Business Office for Purchased Care		Fee Program Office
Business Area		Physical Location
Financial		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX
Data Source		Operation Period
VAMCs, BIRLS, FMS		1975 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Mainframe	Oracle & VSAM	z/OS
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	6 GB	Active

Non-VA Hospital System (NVH)

Overview:

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) pays for care provided to VA beneficiaries in non-VA hospitals through its contract hospitalization program as mandated by Congress in the late 1980s. The Non-VA Hospital System (NVH) software captures the patient's Demographics, Provider, Hospital Name and Location, Medicare Provider Number, Diagnoses and Procedures for which the patient received care during his/her inpatient stay. The data is received from either the patient or the medical center providing the care (normally on a UB-92 form). The billing office employee enters the information into Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture and sends information to the Austin Information Technology Center (AITC). The non-VA hospitals are reimbursed at Medicare rates based on the Prospective System (PPS). PPS uses the appropriate Diagnostic Related Groups (DRGs). Each DRG has a different rate-adjusted reimbursement based on the regional and urban/rural designation of the provider non-VA Hospitals. NVH is housed at the AITC and uses software developed by the AITC in conjunction with 3M and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). It is a batch system written in Common Business Oriented Language, ALC, and Statistical Analysis Software. Processing occurs daily.

Features:

Provides cost and DRG information to the Veterans Affairs Medical Centers for private care hospitalizations. Provides reports for the Medical Administration and Fiscal offices.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Chief Business Office		Fee Program Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		Not Available	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	9 GB		Active

Nuclear Medicine National Headquarter System

Overview:

The Nuclear Medicine National HQ System database is a series of MS Excel spreadsheets and Access Database Tables by fiscal year. They consist of information from all Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs) performing or contracting nuclear medicine services in Veterans Affairs medical facilities. The medical centers are required to complete questionnaires annually (RCS 10-0010-Nuclear Medicine Service Annual Report). The information is then manually entered into the Access Tables, which includes:

- * Distribution and cost of in-house VA - Contract Physician Services, whether contracted services are made via sharing agreement (with another VA medical facility or other government medical providers) or with private providers.
- * Workload data for the performance and/or purchase of PET/CT studies.
- * Organizational structure of services.
- * Updated changes in key imaging service personnel (chiefs, chief technicians, radiation safety officers).
- * Workload data on the number and type of studies (scans) performed, including Medicare Relative Value Units (RVUs), also referred to as Weighted Work Units (WWUs). WWUs are a workload measure calculated as the product of a study's Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code, which consists of total work costs (the cost of physician medical expertise and time), and total practice costs (the costs of running a practice, such as equipment, supplies, salaries, utilities etc). Medicare combines WWUs together with one other parameter to derive RVUs, a workload measure widely used in the health care industry. WWUs allow Nuclear Medicine to account for the complexity of each study in assessing workload, that some studies are more time consuming and require higher levels of expertise. This gives a more accurate picture of workload; productivity etc than using just "total studies" would yield.
- * A detailed Full-Time Equivalent Employee (FTEE) grid, and staffing distributions of FTEEs across nuclear medicine services.
- * Information on Radiation Safety Committees and Radiation Safety Officers (RSOs). Beginning in 2011 this will include data collection on part-time and non VA (contract) RSOs; other affiliations they may have and if so to whom they report (supervision) at their VA medical center.
- * Collection of data on nuclear medicine services' progress in meeting the special needs of our female veterans.
- * Revolving documentation of all major VA-owned gamma cameras (by type) and computer systems, their specifications and ages.
- * Types of educational training/certification programs available at VA sites
- * Ongoing funded research projects by Nuclear Medicine (NM) staff, identified by source of funding and research purpose.
- * Data on physician-specific quality indicators at each nuclear medicine service.
- * Academic achievements by NM staff, including published books/chapters, journals and abstracts.
- * Information from polling field sites re: relevant issues and programs Headquarters needs to address.
- * Results of a Congressionally mandated contracted quality assessment exercise, also known as a Proficiency study. Study results are analyzed for comparison within VA facilities (for example by mission or size), and against participating private sector health care groups.
- * Information collected on current issues in nuclear medicine as they arise. Radiation Safety

Committee structures and membership, Radiation Safety Officer information and information on how nuclear medicine services provided for female veterans are examples of current issues. The database is now stored completely within MS Access Database Tables with output still presented in the form of Excel graphs and tables.

Features:

Provides an annual report summarizing the information received from all the VAMCs submitting questionnaires. The bulk of the report is a presentation of the data compiled from the questionnaires in the form of graphs on WWUs, quality studies, staffing, and other parameters. Where applicable, appropriate data is trended over time encompassing multiple years' data. Provides reporting on demand in response to requests for information from users around the country. In addition, it is the primary source data for the Service's annual Technical Staffing Productivity Algorithm, an annual study and projection of technical staffing uses and needs. This effort is in conjunction with Health Services Research and Development in Ann Arbor MI.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of Patient Care Services		National Headquarters Nuclear Medicine
Business Area		Physical Location
Organizations Management		2215 Fuller Rod
Data Source		Operation Period
VAMCs		1992 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Dec Alpha	MS Access	Windows XP
Data Registry	Size	Status
Yes	1.4GB	Active

Occupational Health Record-keeping System (OHRs)

Overview:

Occupational Health Record-keeping System (OHRs) is part of the Clinical Information Support System (CISS) portal framework and the initial CISS partner system. OHRs is a web-based application that enables employee occupational health staff to create, maintain, and monitor medical records for VA employees and generate national, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN), and site-specific reports.

The focus of OHRs is to collect clinical data for wellness, medical surveillance, and appropriate treatment of work-based injury or illness. OHRs will capture and store information on patient encounters, such as encounter type, purpose, status, provider, and other pertinent clinical data obtained during the patient visit. Users with appropriate security privileges are allowed to add and sign or co-sign the encounter and, if needed, perform scheduled and unscheduled reporting on items such as vaccination rates, vaccination and immunity statuses.

The OHRs application does not share patient-specific data, but will collect data elements limited to information deemed critical to the Occupational Health delivery of care processes in the OHRs database. Employee data is obtained from the central Personnel and Accounting Integrated Data System (PAID) while volunteer information is obtained from the Voluntary Service System (VSS). Other Non-Paid and non-VSS data is collected by direct data entry into OHRs at the time of the patient encounter. OHRs is further designed to document, track and report immunizations administered to other Federal Agency employees outside of VA.

Features:

Occupational Health, Pandemic Flu, H1N1, Adverse Reactions, Medical Surveillance for Respirator and Respirator Fit Tests are part of the current feature set of OHRs. Future development includes interface work with Automated Safety Incident Surveillance and Tracking System (ASISTS) and Workers Compensation/ Occupational Safety and Health Management Information System (WC/OSH MIS (WC/OSH-MIS) applications.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Occupational Health & Safety Program Executive Office		Office of Enterprise Development (OED)	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial and Health Care			
Data Source		Operation Period	
PAID, STS, SDS		Sep 9, 2009	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
HP	SQL Server 2005	Linux	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes		Active	

Paragon 7

Overview:

(Formerly called Resident Engineer Mgmt System 2000 (REMS2000) / Paragon 6) Paragon 7 allows Resident Engineers and Project Managers to manage and administer construction projects and the numerous contracts, design construction and Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ), associated with those projects. The database is used to create reports that facilitate the execution and completion of these contracts. Paragon replaced the Resident Engineer Management System (REMS) in 1999 and over the years has been upgraded to version 7.3. This database is used to manage and administer construction projects at each resident/engineer project site and to report information to a central database which allows the senior management to view up to the minute data at any time. Paragon is a commercial application that is owned and managed by Via Novus in Oakland, CA. The system is available nationally via the Internet connection to Via Novus and a Citrix client connection configuration. On 4/25/08 we were informed that ViaNovus has been acquired by the SWORD Group. Stored information includes: contract modifications, product submittals, architect/engineer site visits, testing lab funding, contract funding, government furnished equipment, contract information requests, costs, description of the project under construction, and inspection details.

Features:

Provides complete Program and Project Management data capture for creating and tracking contract modifications and budget for the project. In addition, provides a means for tracking Requests for Information (RFI's), product submittals, etc. associated with typical Resident Engineer management of an assigned contract. By comparing actual obligations against project budgets and potential costs associated with additional potential obligations, a "risk analysis" can be accomplished to provide forecasting of projected project costs. The system is available nationally via a Citrix client configuration which allows remotely located program managers and project managers to have real-time access to the project and contract data as it is collected and edited by field staff. Supports budget reporting and tracking by specific construction project. Supports contract tracking by specific construction project.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Construction & Facilities Management		Operations Support Service (00CFM2B) /Resource Management Office (00CFM2)	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		Contractor / Consultant Server	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VA Field Engineers & Project Managers		1999 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	SQL Server 2005	Windows 2003	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	500 MB	Active	

Patient Advocate Tracking System (PATS)

Overview:

The Patient Advocate Tracking System (PATS) is a centralized, web based application that records and tracks instances of patient compliments and complaints concerning their care at VA health care facilities. These instances of patient contacts may come from a variety of sources including family members, the patient, congressional members and/or Veterans service offices on behalf of the Veterans receiving care at VA facilities. This database provides a menu of reports that can be used to track and trend data across Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs). Reports of contact allow the Patient Advocate to trend compliments and complaints, and ensure that issues raised are resolved. The reports include data such as patient demographics, date of contact, method of contact, who made the contact, issues involved, what service was involved, resolution date and resolution status. Data is collected from Veterans Affairs Medical Centers and sent to the VISN Support Center (VSSC) where the data is maintained and reports created.

Features:

Allows recording and tracking of instances of patient complaints and compliments. Provides an analysis of trends of customer complaints. Generates a report of customer contacts.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Centered Care and Cultural Transformation		Strategic Management Office, Cost Estimating and A/E Evaluation Service	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Organizations Management		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		2000 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	Rocky Mtn Central Cancer DB		Windows XP
Data Registry	Size		Status
No			Active

Patient Assessment File (PAF)

Overview:

The Patient Assessment File (PAF) database compiles the results of the Patient Assessment Instrument (PAI) questionnaire filled out for intermediate care Veterans Health Administration (VHA) patients. The PAI is filled out within two weeks of admission. It is also completed semi-annually on April 1st and October 1st for each patient by a registered nurse familiar with the patient. The PAI questions cover medical treatments, conditions, selected diagnoses, activities of daily living, behaviors, some rehabilitation therapies, and chronic respiratory support. The database is managed by the Geriatrics & Extended Care Strategic Health Care Group in the Office of Patient Care Services. It is currently running at the Austin Information Technology Center (AITC) and is stored in flat files.

PAF's primary customer is the Allocation Resource Center (ARC) in Braintree MA. The ARC receives the data from AITC and combines it with data from the Patient Treatment File (PTF) which contains more detailed demographic and treatment information. The ARC builds ORACLE tables, assigning RUG II (Resource Utilization Group II) scores and weighted work units reflecting the level and type of care needed. The 16 different weighted work units, ranging from 479 to 1800, are a factor in the resource allocation and budget decisions on long-term care, and are used to measure efficiency. The data is also used in other reports to Central Office, the Veterans Integrated Service Networks, and the facilities. Several other units also use PAF information including the Decision Support System (DSS). Currently, PAF is in the process of being replaced by the Resident Assessment Instrument/Minimum Data Set (RAI/MDS). RAI/MDS uses a much more extensive questionnaire as its source of information. The RAI/MDS provides clinical data and care protocols in addition to the newer RUG III scores, and is required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service funded hospitals.

Features:

Provides the ARC with the information needed to assign RUGS scores and weighted work units, which are used to classify intermediate care patients and to determine workload.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		Geriatrics & Extended Care Strategic Healthcare Group	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1987 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	10 MB		Active

Patient Treatment File (PTF)

Overview:

This database is part of the National Medical Information System (NMIS). The Patient Treatment File (PTF) contains a record for each inpatient care episode provided under VA auspices in VA and non-VA facilities nationwide. Each episode contains data on admission, diagnosis, procedures, surgical episodes, and disposition (discharge) information and Diagnostic Related Group (DRG). Each transfer is recorded to allocate days of care properly to the service(s) responsible for that care. Recurring and special purpose reports are used for studies on patient movement trends, diagnostic frequency, workload, budget preparation, Diagnostic Related Group (DRG) assignment and accreditation requirements. Reports are available for online access via Roger's Software Development's (RSD) Online Report Viewing. Several large data files are installed on-line at the Austin Information Technology Center for remote access. Selected data can be downloaded to perform end user processing, including report generation. Information is received from a variety of modules in Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture. This batch system is written in Common Business Oriented Language and ALC. Processing is done on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis.

Features:

Contains record for each episode of inpatient care provided under VA auspices. Provides workload data which may be used for healthcare planning. Provides information for health science research. Provides analysis of patient movement trends.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of Informatics and Analytics		National Data Systems
Business Area		Physical Location
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX
Data Source		Operation Period
VA Medical Centers		1975 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File	z/OS
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	1300 MB	Active

Performance and Operational Web-Enabled Reports (POWER)

Overview:

The Performance and Operational Web-Enabled Reports (POWER) system is a state-of-the-art data warehouse containing data on Veterans Health Administration (VHA) performance metrics that are obtained daily from the individual VistA systems.

The POWER system was developed to measure the key performance indicators across VHA facilities and is helping to improve VHA's Medical Care Collections Fund (MCCF) revenue operational performance by providing accurate, reliable, and up-to-date performance measure information. POWER leverages a data warehouse to maintain data used in VHA performance measure calculations. The site provides Web-based analytical reporting capabilities, allowing users to view data by dimensions, such as, National, Consolidated Patient Account Center (CPAC), Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN), or Station locations and by month. The data can also be displayed in tables, graphs and spreadsheets. It should be noted that POWER is not an accounting system; rather, it is a strategic and operational performance reporting system. The POWER system supports VHA's efforts to improve its revenue business operations by providing accurate and reliable performance information on the following metrics: Collections, Gross Days Revenue Outstanding (GDRO), Percentage of Accounts Receivable (AR) Greater than 90 Days, Days to Bill, Total Billings, Percentage of Collections to Billings, and Cost to Collect. POWER is VHA's revenue performance metric dashboard monitoring system that tracks MCCF performance by National, CPAC, VISN and Station. The link is

[REDACTED]

Features:

The site provides Web-based analytical reporting capabilities, allowing users to generate standard and custom-view reports and to obtain color-coded revenue performance data by several dimensions, such as organizational level (National, CPAC, VISN and Station) and time periods. POWER displays the data in tables and graphs and can export data to Excel.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Chief Business Office		Allocation Resource Center	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Multi-Purpose		Allocation Resource Center in Braintree, MA	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VistA and Other VHA systems (e.g. FMS, CCPC)		2004 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Alphaserver	Oracle		Linux
Data Registry	Size		Status
Yes			Active

Pharmacy Benefits Management (PBM)

Overview:

The Pharmacy Benefits Management (PBM) database collects information on medication dispensed to both inpatient and outpatient Veterans who receive health care from the VA. Information for the PBM database is extracted from a number of files found within the Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) environment. Each month the extracted information is sent via MailMan messages from all VistA systems to the VA Pharmacy Benefits Management (PBM) office in Hines, Illinois. At Hines, quality assurance procedures are performed on the data and local pharmaceutical names are converted to common names before the information is entered into the PBM database. The users of this database include the PBM, Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMC), the Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs), and the VA Research community.

Features:

Provides a national database containing information on drug dispensing at VAMCs. Provides reporting at local, regional, and national levels for VAMCs and VISNs. Provides monthly, quarterly, and annual reports to the VAMCs and VISNs. Provides the translation of local pharmaceutical names to common names. Provides confirmation to VAMCs that MailMan messages have been received successfully by the Hines facility.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Pharmacy Benefits Management Services		Pharmacy Benefits Management Services
Business Area		Physical Location
Operations & Logistics		National CMOP/Tucson
Data Source		Operation Period
VistA		1998 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Intel	MS SQL	Windows 2003
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	1400	Active

Plan Library Information and Retrieval System (PLIARS)

Overview:

The Plan Library Information and Retrieval System (PLIARS) is an electronic catalogue of microfilmed Contract and As-Built drawings of VA building plans and cemeteries. It is a single flat file list of the more than 500,000 aperture cards stored at the Veterans Affairs Central Office (VACO). Each record contains an entry for Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) station number, date, building number, a code representing the discipline, project number, floor, and wing. Disciplines include architectural, electrical, mechanical, structural, etc. Hard copy of the plans are stored at each VAMC. The plans are microfilmed at the National Archives and aperture cards are produced for both Contract and As-Built stages of the contract. An original copy of each aperture card is kept at the National Archives, with copies to VACO and the VAMC. The Program Planning and Management Office enters a record into PLIARS for each new card the VACO receives. They are also responsible for maintaining the database. Primary users of the PLIARS database are contractors hired to do work. In-house technical staff and the Engineering offices at the VAMC's. Users of PLIARS can request aperture cards for the buildings, disciplines, projects and medical centers as needed. Staff pull the aperture cards from the files and make either half or full size blow-ups of the drawings.

Features:

Catalogues over half a million architectural and structural drawing plans for Veterans Affairs dating back to 1925. Permits easy identification and locating of aperture cards (microfilm) for these plans stored at the VACO. Provides centralized, convenient access to VAMCs plans for use by contractors and others.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Facilities Management		Resource Management Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		Washington DC	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VA HEADQUARTERS		1979 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	SQL Server 2005	Windows 2003	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes	7.6GB	Active	

Real Property Project Tracking System (RPPTS)

Overview:

The Real Property Project Tracking System (RPPTS), formerly known as the Lease/Project Tracking (LEASE) database, contains information about lease and land projects that are handled by the Office of Construction & Facilities Management. Through a delegation of leasing authority from General Services Administration (GSA), VA directly leases its space. Information collected includes type of space, type of lease, proposed space dimensions and budget, type of land acquisition, brief description of the project, acquisition milestone dates, and project manager's contact information. The information is provided and entered in by the responsible project manager. RPPTS was developed by the VA Headquarters Automation Center in collaboration with Real Property Management Service to provide on-line access to information concerning VA's direct leasing projects.

Features:

Provides information for workload and performance measurement. Contains project-tracking information about activities related to the acquisition of leased space. Provides information for system inquiries, ad-hoc reports, and other reporting requirements.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Construction & Facilities Management (VA)		Resource Management Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		VACO	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VACO		1992 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	MS Access		Windows 2000
Data Registry	Size		Status
Yes	2 MB		Active

Remote Order Entry System (ROES)

Overview:

The Remote Order Entry System (ROES) is the front end of the Denver Acquisition & Logistics Center's (DALC) order fulfillment production system. ROES is used by VA and Department of Defense clinicians to place orders for certain types of medical products and services that are maintained under contract by the DALC. The most substantial product line handled through ROES is hearing aids. The ROES application and database are tailored for efficiency in ordering the specified devices and other items available from the DALC, and tracking them upon issue to an individual patient when appropriate. Other product lines handled through ROES include hearing aid accessories and batteries, cochlear implants, prosthetic items, aids for the visually impaired, and assistive devices. A line of service provided by the DALC and facilitated by ROES is that of hearing aid repair. The ROES application and database tie together the DALC enterprise business functions of contracting/acquisition management, order fulfillment, distribution management, finance, and product life cycle support. Extensive order tracking, serialized device registration, patient/device history, and sales/financial reporting are also supported by the database.

Features:

ROES uses advanced practices in software design, supporting hardware platform, database management, and network integration. It integrates a web-based application architecture with a Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture environment. The database is optimized for the DALC's progressive procurement and distribution practices, process flows, advanced general business practices, and current VA regulations.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of Procurement and Logistics		Denver Acquisition & Logistics Center
Business Area		Physical Location
Patient		Denver Acquisition & Logistics Center
Data Source		Operation Period
VHA Medical Centers		1990 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Intel	VA FileMan	Windows 2008
Data Registry	Size	Status
Yes	20 GB	Active

Report of VA Medical Training Programs

Overview:

The Report of VA Medical Training Programs Database is used to track medical center health services trainees and VA physicians serving as faculty. The database also tracks the number of U.S. and international medical residents on-duty at a Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC). Information in the database comes from all VAMCs that have residency programs. The Office of Academic Affiliations distributes worksheets and memos to participating VAMCs annually. VAMC personnel enter the information electronically into the database located at the Academic Information Management Center (AIMC) in St. Louis, Missouri. The main user of this database is the Office of Academic Affiliations which uses the reports from the system to assist in its decision making.

Features:

Provides information for making staffing decisions. Provides total count of full and part time VA physicians serving as faculty. Provides the number of medical students by medical center. Provides a total count of foreign medical students and graduates. Provides medical graduate reporting by specialty (medical, geriatric, surgery, etc.) and sub-specialty.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Academic Affiliations		Office of Academic Affiliations	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Human Resources			
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1996 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	MS SQL	Windows 2003	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	150 MB	Active	

Research and Development Information System (RDIS)

Overview:

The Research and Development Information System (RDIS) is the Veterans Affairs Central Office budgetary and project data repository for managing the VA Research and Development Program. The RDIS contains data collected from Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs) on all VA research projects. It stores information on VAMC investigators, project budget allocations and expenditures, initial project abstracts, progress reports and research space. VA Medical Centers collect and submit the data using an application called electronic Project Management and Information System (ePROMISE). That data is submitted to Veterans Affairs Central Office and becomes a component of RDIS. ePROMISE collects data from over 150 VA facilities (including 75 VAMCs). VA funded, non-VA funded and non-funded research proposals are reviewed and must be approved by the Research and Development (R&D) Committee and relevant R&D Subcommittees (Human Studies, Animal Use, and/or Biosafety) at each VAMC. Basic information on research projects approved by the VAMC Research and Development committee is transmitted to the RDIS, which tracks the life cycle of these projects.

Features:

Provides budgetary and project information for research projects. Provides information on research investigators.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Research & Development		Office of Research & Development	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		VAHQ	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1993 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
PC	MS SQL		Windows NT
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	800 MB		Active

Residency Allocation Database

Overview:

The Residency Allocation Database is used to determine allocation of funds for residency programs offered by Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs). Information for the database comes from any VAMC that has made a funding request for its residency programs. The Office of Academic Affiliations distributes worksheets and memos are sent to participating VAMCs. VAMC personnel enter the information electronically into the database housed at the Academic Information Management Center (AIMC) located in St. Louis, Missouri. The data entry and collection process is done annually beginning in September and ending in December. The main user of this database is the Office of Academic Affiliations.

Features:

Allows the Office of Academic Affiliations to allocate residency positions throughout the VAMC system. Provides tracking of funding request changes. Provides AIMC personnel statistics for funding projections and trend analysis. Allows capture of residency program information for thirty-eight medical specialties.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Academic Affiliations		Office of Academic Affiliations	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Human Resources			
Data Source		Operation Period	
VA Medical Centers		1993 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	MS SQL	Windows 2003	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	120 MB	Active	

Resident Assessment Instrument/Minimum Data Set (RAI/MDS)

Overview:

The Resident Assessment Instrument/Minimum Data Set (RAI/MDS) is a comprehensive assessment and care planning process used by the nursing home industry since 1990 as a requirement for nursing home participation in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The RAI/MDS provides data for monitoring changes in resident status that are consistent and reliable over time. The VA commitment to quality propelled the implementation of the RAI/MDS in its nursing homes now known as VA Community Living Centers (CLC). In addition to providing consistent clinical information, the RAI/MDS can be used as a measure of both quality and resource utilization, thereby serving as a benchmark for quality and cost data within the VA as well as with community based nursing facilities. Workload based on RAI/MDS can be calculated electronically by the interactions of the elements of the MDS data and grouped into 53 categories referred to as Resource Utilization Groups (RUG-IV). Residents are assessed quarterly. The data is grouped for analysis at the Austin Information Technology Center (AITC). Conversion to electronic data entry and transmission to the AITC was completed system-wide by year-end 2000. In 2010, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services released a significantly upgraded version, MDS 3.0, to begin to be implemented on October 1, 2011 in VHA CLCs. Training is underway currently. The MDS 3.0 will generate a new set of Quality Indicators and Quality Monitors as well the RUGs will increase to 64 RUGs from the current 53 RUG groups.

Features:

Captures comprehensive clinical/functional data quarterly on veterans admitted to Veterans Affairs Medical Center CLCs. Provides a systematic approach to identification of patient problems for care planning and treatment. Provides data for budget and resource utilization by grouping data into 53 RUG-IV categories. A source of data for benchmarking quality in a consistent manner both within the VA and with non-VA facilities. **The RUG categories will increase from 53 to 66 with the implementation of MDS 3.0 scheduled for implementation October 1, 2011.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Patient Care Services		Geriatrics & Extended Care Strategic Healthcare Group	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMC CLCs		2001 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	Oracle		Windows 2003
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	5 GB		Active

Short Form Health Survey for Veterans (SF-36V)

Overview:

The Short Form Health Survey for Veterans (SF-36V) database is an electronic collection of completed SF-36V surveys. The SF-36V questionnaire was developed by the Veterans Health Survey (VHS) and is a patient based survey designed specifically for use among Veterans who are in ambulatory care. The questionnaire asks Veterans about their behaviors and their overall views on health. There are thirty-one standard questions in the survey. In addition, one of five custom modules can be selected to appear at the end of the survey to provide more feedback about the following areas: Diet and Physical Activity; Satisfaction; Smoking and Alcohol; Social Support; Utilization and Insurance. The SF-36V can be given to Veterans in one of two ways: through the mail or over the phone. Completed questionnaires are sent to the National Customer Feedback Center (NCFC) where they are scanned in and converted into a digital format. The primary user of this database is the Office of Performance and Quality (OP&Q).

Features:

The SF-36V database is an electronic collection of completed SF36V surveys. The questionnaire gathers information on Veterans via thirty-one standard questions. One of five custom modules can be selected to appear at the end of the survey to provide more feedback about the following areas:

- * Diet and Physical Activity
- * Satisfaction
- * Smoking and Alcohol
- * Social Support
- * Utilization and Insurance

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of the Under Secretary for Health		Office of Quality & Performance	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		VA Central Office	
Data Source		Operation Period	
Veteran		Not Available	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	CACHE		Windows 2000
Data Registry	Size		Status
No			Active

Site Implementation Tracking

Overview:

The Site Implementation Tracking database is a module on the VA national electronic mail system FORUM that tracks when Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs) sites install a new version of a Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) module or package. It also tracks site-specific demographic information, such as director of the medical center, chief of staff, security officer, and facility Chief Information Officer.

Features:

Tracks when VAMCs install new versions of VistA packages and patches. Maintains site-specific demographic information on VAMCs.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Information & Technology		Enterprise Infrastructure and Engineering	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		OI Field Office	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1984 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Dec Alpha	VA FileMan	VMS	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	6 MB	Active	

Spinal Cord Dysfunction (SCD)

Overview:

The Spinal Cord Dysfunction (SCD) module supports the maintenance of local and national registries for the tracking of patients with spinal cord injury and disease from both traumatic and non-traumatic causes. SCD includes features for clinical, management, and research staff. Clinicians benefit from the ability to see profiles of SCD patients, ensure that regular annual exams are completed, and measure patient outcomes. Managers have a suite of reports that reflect the resources needed to care for SCD patients. Researchers have access to a national registry for all Veteran SCD patients and their associated health care events.

Features:

Allows for the entry and tracking of a patient's outcomes over time, including American Spinal Injury Association (ASIA) Impairment Scale, FIM (Functional Independence Measure), CHART (Craig Handicap Assessment and Reporting Technique), FAM (Functional Assessment Measure), DIENER, DUSOI (Duke University of Illness Index), and for Multiple Sclerosis patients Kurtzke FSS (Functional Systems Scales) and EDSS (Expanded Disability Status Scales). Provides a set of report options to monitor outcomes on an aggregate basis, i.e., outcomes for an aggregate group of patients, according to ASIA impairment. Generates an Health Level Seven message to a national registry whenever a new record is created or a current record is edited. The central registry is used to provide VA wide review of patient demographics, clinical aspects of injury and disease, and resource utilization involved in providing care to patients. Provides a link to the Health Summary package and a variety of reports including aggregate outcomes, ad hoc, and data filtering capabilities.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Patient Care Services		SCD Registry Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs & Spinal Cord Center		1995 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Sun	Oracle	Solaris Unix	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes	243.74Mb	Active	

Surgery Risk Assessment (SRA) Database

Overview:

The Surgery Risk Assessment (SRA) database is part of the VA Surgical Quality Improvement Program (VASQIP). This database contains assessments of selected surgical operations performed at Veteran Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs). Addition to the SRA database requires that the surgery is Major (as defined by the CPT codes assigned to the surgery), it must not be cardiac related, and it may not be concurrent with another surgery. Frequently performed other types of surgeries may also be excluded. Nurse reviewers at VAMCs gather the information from surgical data located in the Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) environment. Information is also collected from pre-and post-operative charts and from interviews with patients. This information is entered into VistA and transmitted daily by a batch process to the Hines Office of Information & Technology (OI&T) Field Office. While the database has been in operation since 1995, the system only contains data for the current fiscal year. The data from previous fiscal years is archived if later retrieval is needed. Valid transmissions are sent to the VASQIP office at Denver for analysis. Information from non-assessed surgeries is transmitted from the VAMCs to the Hines OI Field Office monthly. This is also passed along to VASQIP at Denver. The users of this database include the VASQIP Executive Board.

Features:

Provides error checking of transmissions from VAMCs to ensure data quality. Provides annual reports evaluating VAMCs surgical performance. Provides information for trend analysis by the VASQIP Executive Board for VAMC's Chiefs of Surgery. Provides historical risk assessment information to help researchers improve the quality of surgical procedures.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Patient Care Services		Patient Care Services	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Multi-Purpose		Hines OI&T Field Office	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1991 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
HP Alpha	VA FileMan	VMS	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	300 MB	Active	

Traumatic Brain Injury Registry (TBI)

Overview:

As the number of Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF/OIF) Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) patients has grown, so has the need to track and monitor care to meet the lifelong needs of these veterans. In March 2007, a Computerized Patient Record System (CPRS) OIF/OEF TBI Screening Reminder was released. This is a first-line screening tool to identify potential TBI patients. Additional information about veterans who have been identified as possible TBI patients by the initial Screening Reminder is collected through a Comprehensive TBI evaluation. Reminder results, in the form of Health Factors, Comprehensive TBI evaluation data, and Comprehensive TBI Follow-up results of individual Veterans will be sent to a national database. This data will be aggregated in order to provide relevant responses to key stakeholders, such as members of Congress, to monitor the quality of care and to implement system improvements.

In addition, tracking applications will be used to collect data on TBI patient appointments.

Features:

The TBI Registry contains data regarding the diagnosis of the Veteran population that have been screened for traumatic brain injuries. The TBI Registry also gathers results from instruments that are administered to Veteran's who report symptoms that are consistent with possible traumatic brain injuries. Reports may be generated on local, Veterans Integrated Service Network, or national levels to provide relevant responses to key stakeholders.

The TBI tracking application is used collect data relative to TBI patient appointments.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Rehabilitation Services		Patient Care Services	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Multi-Purpose			
Data Source		Operation Period	
CDW, VAMC's			
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Dell	SQL Server 2008	Windows 2003	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes	15G	Active	

VA Drug Pricing Database

Overview:

The VA Drug Pricing database contains the current prices for pharmaceuticals purchased by the federal government. These listed prices are based on the Federal Supply Schedule (FSS). This database is mandated by Public Law 102-585, the Veterans Health Care Act of 1992, which sets the maximum amount that a drug may be bought for by the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). The source of this information is contained in printed contracts or data files supplied by the drug manufacturers, representing the pricing agreements between VHA and the manufacturers. Price data is input by the National Acquisition Center (NAC) into the database administered by the Pharmacy Benefits Management Strategic Health Care Group. Information from this database is published on the World Wide Web at the following site: <http://www.pbm.va.gov>. The users of this database include pharmaceutical manufacturers, drug wholesalers, and those who purchase pharmaceuticals for the VHA and other government agencies.

Features:

Provides current government drug prices. Provides World Wide Web users quick and easy access to the information. Provides the information in dBASE III file format for use by most PC-based database and spreadsheet applications.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of Patient Care Services		Pharmacy Benefits Management Services
Business Area		Physical Location
Financial		Pharmacy Benefits Management Services
Data Source		Operation Period
PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURERS & FSS PRICING SCHEDULE		1993 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Intel	Foxpro	Windows 2008
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	50 MB	Active

VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure (VINCI)

Overview:

VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure (VINCI) is a computing environment intended to allow researchers access to data and analysis tools through a secure remote desktop connection. VINCI is a partner with Business Information Services Line (BISL) and the Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW). Access to the CDW can be granted through VINCI (with appropriate permissions) or data sets may be materialized for specific projects.

Features:

VINCI hosts data of particular interest to researchers in the VHA. Unstructured or text data (TIU, Radiology), are available for informatics research supported by other data from the CDW and a variety of other sources. The Decision Support Systems (DSS) National Data Extracts (data compiled from various DSS databases and subsystems) are available from VINCI with the field names standardized across all years. This data is available as Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) files or in SQL Server 2008 format. The MedSAS data are also available with some files in SQL format. VINCI data managers provide data for approved research projects after permissions are granted by the appropriate data steward. VINCI data sets are used within the VINCI environment where tools for analysis and reporting are available. Please see



Program Office		Responsible Office	
VHA ORD HSR&D		Office of Research & Development	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Multi-Purpose		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
CDW, VHA Operational Information Systems, VistA			
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
HP	SQL Server 2008	Windows 2008	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes	5 TB	Active	

VA National Bed Control System

Overview:

The VA National Bed Control System records the levels of operating, unavailable and authorized beds at each VAMC, and it tracks requests for changes in these levels. For changes in operating, unavailable and authorized bed levels, the Director of a Medical Center or his/her authorized delegate enters a bed change request into the Bed Control Database. A Bed Control Database trigger automatically notifies the respective Veterans Integrated Support Network (VISN) director. The VISN director's designated staff reviews the request and either approves, disapproves, or cancels it through the Bed Control Database. If a medical center request is approved by the VISN director, a Bed Control Database trigger notifies staff in the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management (10N) to review and take action, followed by the appropriate VHA Program Office and then the Under Secretary for Health. Once a request has been approved, cancelled, or disapproved by either the Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management, VHA Program Office, or the Under Secretary for Health, the medical center director and the appropriate VISN director are automatically notified of the action. The approval process is tracked and visible to the authorized user of the system. When changes are approved, the database updates its bed level information accordingly. Pertinent justification and documents associated with each bed change request are stored in the database.

Features:

It provides quick entry of operating, unavailable, and/or authorized bed level change requests by medical center directors. It tracks the approval activity of a request and stores pertinent justification and documents associated with the request. It generates cumulative national, state, regional, site, and station bed control reports. It allows tracking of unavailable beds that are due back in operation and provides bed accountability and usage information. Ad hoc reporting capability is also a feature.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management		VHA Support Service Center
Business Area		Physical Location
Operations & Logistics		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX
Data Source		Operation Period
VHA facilities		1992 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Dell	MS SQL	Windows 2008
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	10 GB	Active

VA National Clozapine Registry

Overview:

The VA National Clozapine Registry tracks the health and demographics of patients who have been prescribed clozapine by the VA. Clozapine, or the brand name Clozaril, is a drug used to treat the most serious cases of schizophrenia. Unfortunately, clozapine may also affect portions of the blood, lowering the body's resistance to infection and sometimes creating life-threatening circumstances. Realizing the severity of the problem, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) established guidelines for analysis of White Blood Cells and Neutrophils and set strict minimum limits. The FDA also mandated that any manufacturer of clozapine must maintain a Clozapine Registry. These registries are to track the location and the health of clozapine patients and to ensure "weekly White Blood Cell testing prior to delivery of the next week's supply of medication". To date, the clozapine manufacturer registries have been unable to develop sufficient controls to meet these requirements, especially the ability to prevent dispensing clozapine when blood results are abnormal. However, because of the unique structure of Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture, the Veterans Health Administration obtained permission from the FDA and clozapine manufacturers to use its in-place computer network to gather and evaluate weekly patient information, then export this data to manufacturer clozapine registries. The VA assigned functional administration of this effort to the National Clozapine Coordinating Center (NCCC) located in Dallas, Texas. Weekly data on each VA clozapine patient is processed at two locations. Facility Level --When a clozapine prescription is written, a computer program in each facility's internal computer system retrieves white blood cell count, neutrophil count, and clozapine dose and evaluates the information according to FDA guidelines. If an adverse blood condition is found, the computer may warn to trigger a physician reevaluation, or lock out entirely to prevent dispensing, depending on the severity. Weekly, this information, along with certain patient demographic information, is gathered locally and transmitted to Hines Office of Information & Technology Field Office for centralized storage. This data can only be accessed by the NCCC. Raw data is downloaded from the Hines OI Field Office database on a weekly basis. An ancillary computer program reformats the data and evaluates the information for inconsistencies and data gathering errors. The computer-corrected data is manually compared with hand-written facsimile information sent to the NCCC by each site. This manually corrected data is again reformatted for data storage in MS Access format at the NCCC. The corrected data is also reformatted into American Standard Code for Information Interchange fixed-length fields and transmitted via modem to the manufacturers' Clozapine Registry and, in turn, to the FDA.

Features:

Provides data on VA clozapine patients required to meet national commitments to the FDA and manufacturers' clozapine registries. Provides the best possible safety for VA clozapine patients by using a unique interlock at the pharmacy level which permits, warns, or prevents clozapine from being dispensed in accordance with current FDA guidelines for white blood cell count and neutrophil count, resulting in the safest domestic clozapine dispensing program available. Provides for secure communication between the NCCC and local computers, without violating local security restrictions. Makes basic demographic data, white blood cell counts and, since 1999, neutrophil counts, for over 8600 patients who have tried clozapine in over 130 domestic VA hospitals, available for research purposes. Saves millions of dollars a year for the VA (\$8 million in 1998) in the form of lower drug costs from the manufacturers, who deduct the cost of clozapine

monitoring from their regular prices.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
ADUSH for Clinical Operations, Mental Health Operations		Deputy USH for Operations and Management	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		VA North Texas Health Care System, Dallas VA Medical Center	
Data Source		Operation Period	
Individual VAMC's using clozapine		1991 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
LAN Server	MS Access		Windows XP
Data Registry	Size		Status
Yes	272 MB		Active

VA Site Tracking (VAST)

Overview:

The purpose of the VA Site Tracking (VAST) database is to provide a single source for official counts of Veterans Health Administration (VHA) service sites. The official counts as published in the Quarterly Executive Summary are needed for correspondence to Congress, news organizations, budget submissions and stakeholders. The VAST data also encompasses addresses, telephone numbers, latitude/longitude, operational status and services. It also provides historic changes to station numbers. This information is provided by each Network in coordination with the VHA Chief Network Office (10N) and the Office of Financial Systems (104) to the VHA Planning Systems Support Group.

Features:

Provides Web-based access to current VHA service sites both operational and planned. Allows an official accounting of the types of sites nationally and by Network. Access to locations of types of services by Veterans Integrated Service Network or by state. Provides mailing and street addresses along with telephone numbers. Provides Web-accessible canned reports (PDF format). Enables each site to be geographically mapped for determination of impact upon service areas and access to health care.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
ADUSH of Policy and Planning		Planning System Support Group	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		1601 SW Archer Rd.	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VA PROGRAM OFFICES, CHIEF NETWORK OFFICES		2000 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	MS SQL		Windows NT
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	5 MB		Active

VETSNET SAS Extract

Overview:

As of July 15, 2009, the VETSNET Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) file is now available on the Austin Information Technology Center (AITC) mainframe. Note that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) is replacing the legacy Benefits Delivery Network Compensation and Pension system with the corporate VETSNET database. The VETSNET SAS dataset is created from a monthly extract to AITC from the VBA VETSNET corporate database and includes some of the data elements from the Compensation and Pension Mini SAS dataset and also includes many additional data elements.

Features:

The VETSNET SAS file provides a data source that can be used to generate customized files and reports.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
		National Data Systems	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VBA		July 15, 2009 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No			Active

VHA Leadership and Workforce Development System (VHALWD (Prior Executive Information System (EIS)))

Overview:

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Leadership and Workforce Development System (VHALWD) has 36 separate databases that contain information on people, positions, and organizations, work groups, workforce, workforce and leadership classes, workforce development programs and participation, personal development plans, supervisory levels, mentor and coach attributes, High Performance Development Model (HPDM) core competency, intern data, EEO reporting, succession planning, workforce planning, senior executive information, applicant tracking and recruitment, Executive Career Field (ECF) position and performance information, and education funding and programs. The VHA Executive Management Program consists of the functions that fall under the purview of the VHA Executive Resources Board (ERB) and the VHA Performance Review Board (PRB). Their functions include executive development, recruitment and placement, organizational analysis, succession planning, workforce planning, EEO and ADR assessment, workload tracking and reporting of human capital and HR, and individual and organizational performance assessment and recognition. The method used to collect this information is a proprietary system using relational database technology. Information from these databases are joined and expanded to inform programs and processes. This combination of information is used in the administration of talent management, VHA human capital objectives, and in the support of the ERB and PRB functions.

Features:

Provides organizational structure, position management, employee data warehouse, direct reports, management reports, Human Resource (HR) tracking, national program management for the leadership and succession continuum, workforce planning, VHA strategic planning, employee census survey work group support, and the modernization of HR administrative functions.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of the Under Secretary for Health		Workforce Management and Consulting Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Human Resources		OI VISN 16 Little Rock, AR	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VHA facilities, VHA personnel, VHA Canteen, VHACO, VACO, VISNS, VBA and NCA		1999 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	MS SQL		Windows 2008
Data Registry	Size		Status
Yes	300 GB		Active

VHA Support Service Center Capital Assets (VSSC)

Overview:

The VHA Support Service Center Capital Assets Databases is a web based project application and tracking database. This is used for capital project application submissions and capital project tracking for the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Minor and Non-recurring Maintenance (NRM) Programs. Annually, VHA Facilities enter project applications for both programs. Monthly, the VHA facilities update the schedule and cost information for approved Minor and NRM projects.

Features:

Provides information for development of the Minor and NRM Operating Plans. Serves as a point for data collection on projects and justifications for approvals. Provides monthly status reports on schedule, cost, contract and progress.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of the Chief Network Officer		VHA Support Service Center	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		VHA Computer Room	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VHA Facilities		Not Available	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	SQL Server 2008		Windows 2008
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	5.5 GB		Active

VHA Support Service Center Electronic Wait List (EWL)

Overview:

The goal of the Electronic Wait List (EWL) is to provide care to the patient as quickly as possible. To facilitate this goal, patients may be placed on a Wait List for a different team or even at a different facility. The EWL keeps track of appointments, clinics, and providers associated with patients on the various EWL. Patient eligibility information and service connected status is also recorded and updated. EWL is able to determine a status change in the veteran's service connected percentage and service connected priority. As well as changes to appointment, clinics, and personnel that affect Wait List patients. EWL is able to provide email notifications regarding status changes to assigned mail groups.

In the outpatient setting, patients are assigned a primary care team and provider who are responsible for delivering essential health care, coordinating all health care services, and serving as the point of access for specialty care. This is accomplished through the Primary Care Management Module (PCMM) of the Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA). When a patient cannot be assigned to a primary care team or position, the PCMM software asks if the patient should be placed on the EWL. PCMM Wait List reports assist in the management of patients awaiting a primary care team or provider assignment.

The EWL can also produce reports on demand regarding EWL related activities.

Displays Veterans Waiting on the Electronic Wait List by VISN or Station. Includes Veterans last name, last four digits of social security number, zip code, percent service connected and enrolled status.

Features:

Uses stop lighting to show Veterans waiting over (red)/under (green) 30 days. Graph only displays Veterans waiting OVER 30 days.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
VHA Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health (ADUSH)		VHA Support Service Center	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		VHA Computer Room	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VistA		Not Available	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	SAS		Windows 2003
Data Registry	Size		Status
No			Active

VHA Support Service Center National SSN Security Database (NSSD)

Overview:

The VHA Support Service Center (VSSC) National SSN Security Database (NSSD) is a web based application that is used to maintain access levels to patient SSN level information for employees with approved access. For each VA employee that has approved access to patient SSN information, the employees Information Security Officer or Accelerated Cost Recovery System (ACRS) Point of contact adds an entry indicating access rights to specific types of data and the user's Active Directory Username into the NSSD. Other Windows server based reporting systems query this database when determining if a user can obtain detailed SSN level.

Features:

ACRS POC's add/edit/delete user's along with their access level to Real SSN data housed in VSSC reporting systems include the Financial and Clinical Data. VSSC Statistical Analysis Software reports and Financial Clinical Data Mart drill to detail reports check this system prior to sending real SSN data via Secure Socket Layer.

Program Office		Responsible Office
VHA Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health (ADUSH)		VHA Support Service Center
Business Area		Physical Location
Operations & Logistics		VHA Computer Room
Data Source		Operation Period
CUPS Point of Contact		Not Available
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Dell	MS SQL	Windows 2008
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	100 MB	Active

VHA Support Service Center Patient Appointment

Overview:

Patient appointment information is obtained from the Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture Scheduling module. The Patient Appointment Information application gathers appointment data to be loaded into a national database for statistical reporting. Patient appointments are scanned from September 1, 2002 to the present, and appointment data meeting specified criteria are transmitted to the Austin Information Technology Center Patient Appointment Information Transmission (PAIT) national database. Subsequent transmissions (bi-monthly) update PAIT bi-monthly via Health Level Seven message transmissions through Vitria Interface Engine (VIE) connections.

A Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) program in Austin utilizes PAIT data to create a bi-monthly SAS dataset on the Austin mainframe. This additional data is used to supplement the existing Clinic Appointment Wait Time and Clinic Utilization extracts created by the Veterans Health Administration Support Service Center (VSSC).

Features:

New and Established Patient Wait Times
 Missed Opportunities
 Access List

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Parent Organization of USSC		VHA Support Service Center	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Administrative		VHA Computer Room	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VistA			
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	SAS		Windows 2003
Data Registry	Size		Status
No			Active

VHA Support Service Center Primary Care Management Module (PCMM)

Overview:

The Primary Care Management Module (PCMM) was developed to assist VA facilities in implementing Primary Care. PCMM supports both Primary Care and non-Primary Care teams. The software allows the user to set up and define a team, assign positions to the team, assign staff to the positions, assign patients to the team, and assign patients to a Primary Care Provider (PCP) or Associate Provider (AP). In a Primary Care setting, patients are assigned a PCP, Associate Provider (AP) and/or a Transition Patient Advocate (TPA) who is responsible for delivering essential health care, coordinating all health care services, and serving as the point of access for specialty care. The PCP is supported by a team of professionals which may include nurses, pharmacists, social workers, etc. Associate Providers are non-physician clinicians (such as Physicians Assistants, Nurse Practitioners or Residents) who may provide care under the supervision of a presiding PCP. The PCMM software is considered to be an important component to measure patient demand and the PCPs capacity to meet that demand and to reduce wait times.

PCMM was developed to assist facilities in implementing primary care for veterans. It uses the site's data to identify patients and to assign them to a PCP. PCMM provides tools to facilitate the startup process, automating such tasks as identifying patients to be assigned to primary care; assigning patients to teams, and assigning patients to practitioners via team positions.

Features:

The PCMM practitioner and primary care team information is stored at the Austin Information Technology Center in the National Patient Care Database. The data is used by the Office of Performance and Quality Measures for national reporting and performance measures and the VHA Support Service Center to derive patient care and other statistics related to Primary Care, in support of healthcare operations within the Veterans Health Administration.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
VHA Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health (ADUSH)		VHA Support Service Center	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Administrative		VHA Computer Room	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VistA			
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	SAS	Windows 2003	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No		Active	

VHA Support Service Center Primary Care Support Staff and Exam Room Database

Overview:

Networks are able to update on an ongoing basis data originally added to the Veterans Health Administration Physician Productivity and Staffing initiative to ensure that it reflects current conditions. This data access link function is restricted to a limited number of Network representatives. All the available facility, Network, and National Primary Care Staff and Room Utilization reports are available. In addition key guidance documents are available to people without edit access.

Features:

Data collected includes:

- * MD and other support staff Full-time Equivalent counts
- * Room counts (including number of exam rooms and interview rooms)

Program Office		Responsible Office	
VHA Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health (ADUSH)		VHA Support Service Center	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Organizations Management		VHA Computer Room	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VHA Facilities		2004 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Dell	MS SQL	Windows 2008	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No		Active	

VHA Support Service Center Quarterly Utility Usage

Overview:

The utility usage database gathers required information necessary for the annual energy report that VA submits to Department of Energy (DOE) as required by the National Energy Conservation Policy Act, Energy Policy Act of 1992 and Executive Order 13123. This database also acts as the energy data depository for Capital Asset Management System (CAMS) energy reports. Included is reporting on utility usage & costs, renewable energy usage & costs, energy audit plan dates, water management plan information and numerous reports. Information is currently being gathered for all Veterans Health Administration (VHA) owned, select VHA leased and select Veterans Benefits Administration facilities as required for the annual DOE report. Monthly data is gathered quarterly.

Features:

Enter, Edit, View and Report options are available.

Program Office		Responsible Office
VHA Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health (ADUSH)		VHA Support Service Center
Business Area		Physical Location
Operations & Logistics		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX
Data Source		Operation Period
VBA and VHA facilities		2000 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Dell	SQL Server 2005	Windows 2003
Data Registry	Size	Status
Yes	268.32MB MB	Active

VHA Support Service Center VHA Business Intelligence Reporting System

Overview:

The VHA Business Intelligence Reporting System formerly known as the The Financial Clinical Data Mart (FCDM) is an interactive information management system that uses SQL and On-Line Analytic Processing (OLAP) cube technology to build large, customized national databases. This technology allows Veterans Health Administration (VHA) to integrate clinical and financial data designed for rapid queries and reporting.

Features:

Samples of the types of data available in the FCDM cubes are listed below. For a complete list, visit the "Cube Data Definitions" and "Cube Fact Sheets" on the VSSC website.



Advanced Clinic Access:

- * Wait Time Clinic Performance Measures FY2005
- * Formulas used in Wait Time cube development

Capital and Planning:

- * Space and Functional Cube Definitions
- * Utilization Projections Cube Definitions

Clinical Cohorts:

- * Study completed on Diabetic patients newly started on TZD in 2003 with a pre & post A1C test
- * Quarterly Indicator (QI) rates for Medicare national and state percent of each QI triggered by quarter

Decision Support System (DSS):

- * DSS Outpatient Data Definitions
- * The DSS Inpatient Treating Specialty Cube provides DSS inpatient cost and workload data for all facilities in VHA.
- * Data can be displayed at the national, Veterans Integrated Service Network, facility, division, treating specialty, and DRG level.

Finance:

- * Financial Management Profile (FMP) Cube Definitions
- * Personnel and Accounting Integrated Data System (PAID) Gross to Net Cube Definitions

Human Resources (HR) and Employee Survey:

- * HR PAID Employee Cube Definitions
- * HR Nature of Action Cube Definitions

Non-VA Care:

- * Data Definitions for Fee Basis Workload

Patient Cost and Workload (Allocation Resource Center (ARC)/DSS):

- * Provides comprehensive overview of patient care workload and patient care costs that are key components in the Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation (VERA) model.
- * Combines ARC and DSS data (including CDR costs) to allow for analysis by VERA Patient Classes.

Prosthetics:

- * Data from National Prosthetics Program Database.
- * Cube provides cost & quantity for prosthetic devices, supplies, and repairs by facility & vendor.
- * Useful for analyses and trending by utilization, unit and average cost by line item class or individual Health Care Provider Cost.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
VHA Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health (ADUSH)		VHA Support Service Center	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Multi-Purpose		VHA Computer Room	
Data Source		Operation Period	
National DSS, Central FEE, and other national systems		2003 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
HP	MS SQL		Windows 2008
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	105 TB		Active

VHA Work Measurement (VWM)

Overview:

The Veterans Health Administration Work Measurement (VWM) database collects manually entered workload data. Staff at the medical centers use Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture Generic Code Sheet to enter information and transmit the data to the Austin Information Technology Center where it is stored in the VWM application. VWM, the replacement name for the Automated Management Information System (AMIS), came into existence in 1999 as some of the AMIS segments were no longer needed with the implementation of databases such as National Patient Care Database.

Features:

Monthly Input Cycle - Data can be transmitted during the last three workdays of the month and the first ten workdays of the new month. The system will accept current year and prior year data. All prior year data must be submitted in prior year format with the X modifier and year code 1.

Quarterly Input Cycle - Stations can submit data the last three workdays of the month through the 14th workday of the new month. Data Available via Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) Files

-Data from the VWM Segments will be stored monthly in the same format on the same SAS files (RMTPRD.AMS.ACCESS.DMS.mmmmyy). For a list of currently active VWM segments, please visit [REDACTED].

Program Office		Responsible Office
Program Office by Segment		National Data Systems
Business Area		Physical Location
Organizations Management		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX
Data Source		Operation Period
VHA		1999 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Mainframe	Oracle & VSAM & SAS	z/OS
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	97 MB	Active

Veterans Administration Central Cancer Registry (VACCR)

Overview:

The Veterans Administration Central Cancer Registry (VACCR) receives and stores information on cancer diagnosis and treatment constraints compiled and sent in by the local cancer registry staff at each of the 132 Veterans Affairs Medical Centers that handle cancer patients. The information sent is encoded to meet the site-specific requirements for registry inclusion as established by several oversight bodies, including the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries, the American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer, and the American Joint Commission on Cancer, among others. The information is obtained from a wide variety of medical record documents at the local medical center pertaining to each Veterans Health Administration (VHA) cancer patient. The information is then transmitted to the VACCR. Details collected include site, group, histology, general summary stage, age at diagnosis breakout, diagnostic confirmations, etc. Data extraction is available to researchers with VA approved Institutional Review Board studies, peer review, and Data Use Agreements.

Features:

Provides summary reports on VHA cancer patients annually and as requested by VHA management. Stores large quantities of data on VHA cancer patients derived from patient medical records in accordance with national cancer industry guidelines.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		Acute Care, Medical Service	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		50 Irving St. NW.	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1995 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
LAN Server	Rocky Mtn Central Cancer DB		Windows XP
Data Registry	Size		Status
Yes	8 GB		Active

Veterans Affairs Surgical Quality Improvement Program (VASQIP)

Overview:

The Veterans Affairs Surgical Quality Improvement Program (VASQIP) database resides in the VA National Surgery Office (NSO) and is a quality assurance activity-derived database containing information on all patients who undergo surgery within the VA. The primary purpose of this database is to improve the quality of care for Veterans undergoing surgery by providing information to care provider teams for self-assessment and quality improvement purposes. Data for the VASQIP database are entered by nurse data managers using Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture at the VA surgical facilities. These data captured in VistA are securely transmitted to the VASQIP database for compilation and analysis. Results of the data analysis are reported from the National Surgery Office (NSO) for quarterly and annual review of surgical quality and patient care issues; these data are confidential and privileged under the provisions of 38 U.S.C. 5705 and its implementing regulations.

Note: In 2009, the Cardiac Specialty program (Continuous Improvement in Cardiac Surgery Program (CICSP)) was merged with the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP) for a comprehensive all-specialty surgical database, VASQIP. It employs both Microsoft SQL Server and Statistical Analysis Software implementation.

Features:

Provides for data entry of surgery risk assessment and outcome analysis. Allows risk analysis to be performed for all surgery programs within the VHA. Demographic data are derived from the administrative packages, and operative and outcome data from the surgical package. Provides information required to focus and direct internal quality improvement efforts and national surgical policy initiatives. Provides reports to key Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) and hospital leadership indicating their performance relative to other VISNs and VA Medical Centers.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
VA National Surgery Office		Deputy USH for Operations and Management	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Administrative		Denver VA Medical Center (ECHCS), 1055 Clermont Street, IRMS, Denver, CO	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VistA		1987 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Dell	Multiple		Windows 2008
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	11.7 GB		Active

Veterans Enterprise Terminology Services (VETS)

Overview:

In 2003, Enterprise Terminology Services (ETS) was formed as a subproject of the Health Data Repository (HDR) project under Health Data Systems to help standardize the terminology reference files that are used by Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) applications through the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). In FY06, ETS merged with the Data Standardization (DS) and Standard Data Service (SDS) project teams into one project team, becoming Standards & Terminology Services (STS). Historically, VistA applications were developed in a decentralized manner and could be specialized in response to the needs of particular medical centers. As a result, VistA terminologies were not always standardized. Today, there is a shift toward enterprise-wide terminology standards, which are essential to establish consistency in meaning of data within VHA as a whole. The shift from dispersed, non-standard terminologies to a controlled, centralized terminology helps VHA meet requirements for an authoritative, longitudinal, accessible, and portable electronic health record (EHR). STS has worked closely with VHA stakeholders and partners to develop and maintain both the Enterprise Reference Terminology (ERT) content and VHA Enterprise Terminology Services (VETS) application and runtime services. STS software includes databases and tools that are used to maintain terminology content. ERT content ranges from simple lists of standardized terms to reference terminologies with fully populated semantics such as the National Drug File Reference Terminology (NDF-RT). VETS software includes the databases and services that provide the terminology content to STS stakeholders. VETS includes deployment and application runtime services that will provide common access to ERT content in both the current VistA and future My HealthVet VistA environments. STS has created and documented a Terminology Model, which will be used internally to structure ERT data and to provide services to VHA clinical applications. The model also supports data interchange within VHA and with various government and commercial partners.

The VETS applications are:

NTRT (New Term Rapid Turnaround)

A web application that has two groups of users: external request submitters and internal terminologists. Clinicians from the VA Medical Centers obtain an NTRT login (provided by STS) that enables them to request new terms to be added to the standardized VistA packages (Allergies, Vitals, TIU, Pharmacy). When a request is submitted, STS terminologists then use the NTRT application to track the request through a review process to determine if the request is valid.

TDS (Terminology Deployment Services)

A web application that only STS terminologists use to version and deploy standardized VHAT (VHA Terminology) content and Map Sets. NTRT requests that are approved are versioned in TDS and after a rigorous testing process are deployed to all 129 VistA production sites using TDS.

Terminology Browser

A web application that is available to the entire VA enterprise. This tool allows users to browse Standard Code Systems (SCS) like SNOMED or ICD-9, Map Sets that contain mappings, and VHAT terminology by domain (e.g. Allergies) or subset (e.g. Reactions). This tool was published

in VETS v9. Here is the production link:



TED (Terminology Editor)

A web application that allows STS terminologists to author new Map Sets that contain mappings. This is a Graphical User Interface editor tool that was created to replace importing content using XML files. This is new for VETS v10.

VUID (VHA Unique Identifier Service)

A web application that allows users that have a valid login (both internal and external to STS) to request one or more VUIDs to use for terminology standardization purposes.

Features:

Provides an overall terminology model for VHA that supports clinical data entry, retrieval, aggregation, and processing.

- * Supports information processing for decision support systems.
- * Supports concept mediation, mappings, and translation between code systems using Health Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP) and other standards.
- * Supports the use, maintenance, versioning, and updating of code systems from standards development organizations (SDOs) that are required by statute, mandated by an oversight body, or required by VHA business needs.
- * Provides a concept based, controlled medical vocabulary for VHA.
- * Supports VHA Health Information Models, including detailed models that are used by specific applications and their terminologies.
- * Supports semantic comparisons between concepts.
- * Supports the deployment of standardized reference files to VistA sites as VistA patches or VETS deployment sets.
- * Implements the New Term Rapid Turnaround (NTRT) process to facilitate timely updates to standardized reference files after they are deployed on a domain-by-domain basis.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Health Data Systems		Office of Health Information	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operation Period	
Data Standardization/Internal Terminology Development Environment		2005 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Alphaserver	Oracle		Unix
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	10 GB		Active

Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation (VERA)

Overview:

The Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation (VERA) database, is operated by the Allocation Resource Center (ARC) in Braintree, MA. The ARC is part of the Resource Allocation & Execution Office of the Office of Finance. The database is developed from the Patient Treatment File, National Patient Care Database, Fee Basis Medical and Pharmacy System, Decision Support System (DSS) National extracts, DSS Derived Monthly Program Cost Report (MPCR), Resident Assessment Instrument (RAI) Minimum Data Set (MDS), Clinical Case Registry (CCR), and Home Dialysis Data Collection System, the Pharmacy Benefits Management database and the Consolidated Enrollment File. Most of the clinical data is Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture data which is transmitted to the Austin Information Technology Center (AITC) where it is retrieved by the ARC each month. The ARC also retrieves DSS cost data from the AITC as well. Some additional information is received from the Hines Pharmacy Benefits Management and the CCR databases. The data from these sources is combined to develop patient-specific care and cost data for each hospitalization or visit at the location or treatment level. Aggregate tables summarize this data for reporting and analysis purposes. The VERA databases are the basis for resource allocation in the Veterans Health Administration.

Features:

Combines patient care data, Enrollment and cost data to create patient specific costing which is used in resource allocation, projections and planning. Supports resource redistribution models based on trends in case-mix, utilization, demographics, etc. Makes possible efficiency analyses, practice pattern, disease tracking and other studies in addition to resource allocation.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Finance		Resource Allocation & Execution Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial		Allocation Resource Center	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs, PTF, NPCD, RAI MDS, CCR, MPCR3, DSS		1989 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
HP Alpha	Oracle	Unix	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	5 TB	Active	

Veterans Implant Tracking and Alert System (VITAS)

Overview:

Veterans Implant Tracking and Alert System (VITAS) is to improve the process of tracking manufactured and/or processed implant devices and tissues with the ability to identify and locate patients quickly in the event of a recall and to serve clinical needs at the point of care. VITAS will be a centralized repository that receives and stores implant data from multiple medical/surgical disciplines providing implant placement services. VITAS will provide the ability to track, trend, and retrieve implant data at an Enterprise level. The database will be searchable which should render the manual search of patient implant information obsolete while allowing for rapid and efficient identification and timely notification of those Veterans with implanted devices or processed tissues in the event of a patient safety alert and/or recall. In the event of a recall, VITAS will provide clinicians a viable tracking system for continuous data updates regarding patient implant information.

Features:

1. Registries/VITAS Landing Page
2. Patient Search/Selection Screen (Increment 1)
3. Display Patient Search Results Screen (Increment 2)
4. Reporting Module (Increment 1)
5. User and Role Administration Module (Increment 1)
6. Display to add/edit user to Admin Screen (Increment 2)
7. User and Role Administration Module (Increment 1)
8. Display to add/edit user to Admin Screen (Increment 2)
9. Implant Tracking Module (Increment 1)
10. Display to Create non-VA implants in VITAS (Increment 2)
11. Display to View VA Surgical implants (Read only), View non-VA Surgical implants (Increment 2)
12. Implant Alert and Notification Module (Increment 1)
13. Interfaces with External Systems (Increment 1)
14. Interfaces with various specialty data sources such as Surgery, Prosthetics, Cardio Vascular Assessment Reporting and Tracking System (CART-CL), Implantable Cardiac Defibrillators Pacemaker (ICDPM), Orthopedics, Ophthalmology and Cardiology (Increment 2)

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Medical Care PEO		Health Data (HD) PMO	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Multi-Purpose			
Data Source		Operation Period	
CDW, SAS Medical Datasets, VAMC's			
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Dell	SQL Server 2008	Windows 2008	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes	300 GB of database files, 100 GB to support OS	Active	

VistA OncoTraX

Overview:

OncoTrax v2.11 is the Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture package at each of the Medical Centers which stores and transmits cancer diagnosis and treatment constraints data entered by the local cancer registry staff. The cancer data is sent to the Veterans Administration Central Cancer Registry (VACCR). The information sent is encoded to meet the site-specific requirements for registry inclusion as established by several oversight bodies, including the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries, the American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer, and the American Joint Commission on Cancer, among others. The information is obtained from a wide variety of medical record documents at the local medical center pertaining to each Veterans Health Administration (VHA) cancer patient. The information is then transmitted to the VACCR. Details collected include site, group, histology, general summary stage, age at diagnosis breakout, diagnostic confirmations, etc.

Features:

Stores large quantities of data on VHA cancer patients derived from patient medical records in accordance with national cancer industry guidelines.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
PCS/MSS		Acute Care, Medical Service	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient			
Data Source		Operation Period	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	CACHE		MUMPS
Data Registry	Size		Status
Yes			Active

Voluntary Service System (VSS)

Overview:

Voluntary Service System (VSS) is a national-level application which replaced the site-based Voluntary Timekeeping System (VTK). VTK was used for many years at the Veterans Affairs Medical Centers to track and manage the hours of service contributed by volunteers and volunteer organizations. Consistency of data between sites was a problem and the process of compiling national VTK reports was slow and costly. Many steps were involved because national data was only consolidated once a month and it was usually out of sync. Improved data collection and reporting is now available since users interact directly with a centralized national database. Rehosted VSS uses .NET technology that replaced data transmissions between sites and the Austin Information Technology Center to produce the consolidated national reports. Direct access to data provides instantaneous updates and up-to-the-minute reporting for all users. Central Office administrators and Voluntary staff now have broader more reliable data for managing Volunteer Services.

Features:

The VSS application helps Voluntary staff accomplish their tasks easily, through a web-based graphical user interface. Users at the local and national level can generate a wider array of reports about volunteers and sponsoring organizations. In addition, when volunteers report to medical facilities, they are able to log their own hours and print meal tickets themselves at secure log-in "kiosks."

Program Office		Responsible Office	
VHA Communications		Voluntary Service Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Multi-Purpose		1335 East-West Highway 3rd Floor	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		2003 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	MS SQL		Windows 2000
Data Registry	Size		Status
No			Active

Databases (Inactive)



Architect/Engineer Rating System (AERATES) - Inactive

Overview:

The Architect and Engineering Rating database (AERATES) captures ratings on architect and engineering contracting firms providing design and consulting services to the VA. VA program managers, VA technical staff, and Indefinite Quantity Employees (IDQEs) perform ratings at various milestones during the design and construction process. IDQEs are independent consultants hired by VA to support the program managers in the Veterans Affairs Central Office (VACO) and provide manpower to achieve quality control goals. The program managers also rate IDQEs. AERATES gathers information according to requirements set forth in the Brooks Act. It also meets the requirements for the Federal Acquisition Review (FAR) and the Veterans Affairs Acquisition Review (VAAR). The Facilities Quality Service uses the database information for the selection process when hiring architectural and engineering firms for VA work.

Features:

Stores individual performance ratings on consultants and contractors for non-delegated major VA construction projects in ten disciplines: architecture, interior design, structural engineering, heating/air conditioning, plumbing, civil engineering, fire protection, electrical engineering, landscape architecture, and estimating. Stores numerical ratings for: accuracy, completeness, cooperation, coordination, management, meeting schedules, personnel ability and quality of work. Provides an overall average score for each reviewer. Ensures compliance with Brooks Act, FAR and VAAR reporting requirements for rating contractors doing business with the VA.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Construction and Facilities Management		Strategic Management Office, Cost Estimating and A/E Evaluation Service	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		810 Vermont Ave. NW	
Data Source		Operation Period	
VAMCs		1979 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
VAX	Oracle		Unix
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	2 MB		Active

Care Management Information System (CMIS) - Inactive

Overview:

(This database is scheduled to be inactivated by June 30, 2008). The Care Management Information System is a product of years of development by Veterans Integrated Service Network 1. The system is web based and correlates periodic Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture data extracts from each site and other databases for easy access by the Care Coordinators.

Features:

Web based Patient Care Database specifically designed for Care Management.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
VHA04 CIO		VISN 4 CIO	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		VAMC University and Woodland Aves	
Data Source		Operational Period	
VistA, ARC		to June 30, 2008	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Dell	MS SQL	Windows 2003	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	10 GB	Inactive	

Construction Management Information System (CMIS) - Inactive

Overview:

The Construction Management Information System (CMIS) has been replaced by the Construction Financial Management Information System (CFMIS). The following is the description of the Construction Management Information System (CMIS). CMIS is a management tool to track the progress of active Veterans Health Administration (VHA) major, lease, enhanced-use, and parking projects. It is used to measure performance and provide information for internal and external use.

Features:

Provides performance measures for the VHA Facilities Management program. Tracks construction projects including financial information. Stores detailed information on each project including:

- * Project scope
- * Funding information
- * Project highlights
- * Key personnel
- * Contract information
- * Contractors
- * Project scheduling

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of Facilities Management		Resource Management Office
Business Area		Physical Location
Operations & Logistics		VACO
Data Source		Operation Period
VACO, VAMCs, FMS		1975 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Sun	Oracle	Unix
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	300 MB	Active

Cost Distribution Report (CDR) - Inactive

Overview:

The Monthly Program Cost Report (MPCR) replaced the Cost Distribution Report (CDR). The CDR provides summary information about Veterans Affairs costs, Full Time Equivalents (FTE), and workload (number of patient bed days, outpatient clinic stops, etc.). CDR emerged from the Automated Management Information System (AMIS) to provide the Veterans Health Administration with a flexible cost reporting system. The CDR is assembled from information from all Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs). It receives data feeds from the Financial Management System (FMS) via an extract process at the Austin Information Technology Center. Cost distribution percentages from service chiefs are incorporated by online entry into CDR at each VAMC. CDR provides users with a series of menu-driven screens for online interactive data entry. Each VAMC is able to select from a master list of valid accounts for their facility based on the types of services provided. CDR is processed monthly. A new report called the Monthly Program Cost Report is running concurrently with the CDR in FY04. This report will replace the CDR in FY05. The primary users of CDR are the VAMCs, Veterans Health Administration Budget Office, Medical Care Cost Recovery, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget.

Features:

Provides medical facilities with online access to CDR for:

- * making adjustments (update and delete) to existing financial accounts
- * creating new accounts as needed

Allows users to compare facility and medical center per unit cost to nationwide per unit cost. Reduces data entry requirements. Provides end-user queries and ad hoc reporting. Provides online access to FMS for cost center information and percentage calculations.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Finance		Implementation & Training Service	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Financial		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operational Period	
VAMCs		1967-2004	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	IDMS		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	4GB		Inactive

Dental Activity System (DAS) - Inactive

Overview:

The Dental Encounter System (DES) replaced the Dental Activity System (DAS). The DAS is an automated health care application designed to capture critical data about the operations of VA dental services. Information gathered for each patient encounter is linked and includes date, setting, patient Social Security Number (SSN), provider, and treatment services rendered. Within the DAS, productivity is measured using a relative value unit called the Composite Time Value (CTV). The DAS interfaces directly with other management information systems and provides data for statistical reporting purposes. Various management reports are generated that evaluate dental activity workload. DAS reports are produced on a monthly and quarterly basis. DAS is written in Common Business Oriented Language with inputs from Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture programs. DAS primary users are the Associate Chief Medical Director (AsCMD) for Dentistry and the Dental Professional Development Service.

Features:

Provides the inpatient summary listing by medical facility detailing the admissions/examinations, diagnostic, preventative and treatment activities, and staff resources utilized. Provides the outpatient summary listing by medical facility detailing the patient visits, diagnostic, preventative and treatment activities, administrative information, and staff resources utilized. Provides regional, district, and nation-wide summary reporting. Provides DAS personnel and time reporting. Provides utilization data including provider productivity, workload estimates, quantity and type of procedures or services delivered, and some non-clinical information.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of Patient Care Services		Primary & Ambulatory Care Strategic Healthcare Group
Business Area		Physical Location
Organizations Management		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX
Data Source		Operational Period
VAMCs		1985 to 2004
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File	z/OS
Data Registry	Size	Status
Yes	229 MB	Inactive

Energy Savings Projects (ESP) - Inactive

Overview:

The Energy Savings Projects (ESP) database tracks the status of projects designed to save energy. Only the projects not completely funded by the VA are included in this database. Data for the ESP is manually entered by users via the website maintained by the Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISN) Support Service Center (VSSC). The address for this website is [REDACTED]. Through this website, users enter data on new projects, search for specific projects, and download project information onto their personal computers. The users of this database include Congress and VA personnel responsible for maintaining information on energy savings projects.

Features:

Provides Web-based Graphic User Interface (GUI) data entry. Allows for query of projects on local, regional, or national level. Allows downloading of data from website into a spreadsheet. Fulfills Congressional reporting mandate.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of the Chief Network Officer		Liaison Staff Offices-Engineering/Construction Support	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operational Period	
VAMCs		1998 to 2005	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No			Inactive

Enhanced Sharing Agreement (ESAD) - Discontinued

Overview:

This database contains entries for all Enhanced Sharing Agreements (Title 38 U.S.C, 8153 and 7409.) including locum tenens and scarce medical specialists. The information contained in this database will be used for monitoring of Veterans Health Administration physician full-time equivalent and expenditures and for reporting to oversight organizations (Annual Report to Congress on Sharing of Health Care Resources).

Features:

By contractual agreement, includes references to AAMC and MGMA salary rates for MD services. Collects quarterly and annual updates for funds obligated and full-time equivalent.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Procurement and Logistics		Office of Procurement and Logistics	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		VHA Computer Room	
Data Source		Operational Period	
		2004 to 2009	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Dell	SQL Server 2005	Windows 2003	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	100 MB	Discontinued	

Enhancement Request (E3R) - Discontinued

Overview:

Enhancement Request (E3R) and National Enhancement Requests were the previous names of databases for what is now commonly called Electronic Error and Enhancement Reporting (E3R). This is a dormant module running on FORUM that offered Veterans Health Administration (VHA) staff a means for recommending enhancements to Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA), previously known as Distributed Hospital Computer Program (DHCP).

This product has been dormant for several years while VHA Office of Health Informatics redirects significant enhancement requests from the field to be submitted to through their Enterprise Systems Management office instead of direct entry to E3R.

Features:

The E3R package is designed for storing, reporting, and tracking the requests for changes in VistA applications. Anyone in VHA may propose an enhancement. The individual making the proposal specifies which package (module) in VistA he/she believes needs the enhancement. The enhancement request is sent to a user group associated with the package. The members of that mail group exchange messages on their view of the enhancement request. The proposal, along with all of the feedback from the mail group, is sent to the package's development program director for a final decision. E3R tracks and logs the entire discussion process on these enhancement proposals. Provides for submitter to initiate, modify, view or cancel a request. Assigns a suspense date and a status category to all submitted E3Rs. The status category informs all users of the request's current state in the processing cycle. Generates a mail message containing the text of the request whenever an E3R is generated. The message is sent to the submitter, the package developer and members of the mail group associated with the package. Tracks package developer's response to each E3R request. Developer can deny or accept the request, enter comments on it, and refer a request to an arbitrator if he feels the request should not be assigned to a package. Permits an arbitrator to enter comments, to reassign the request to the appropriate package, and, along with the package developer, to accept or deny the request. Produces several reports available to both users and developers.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Information & Technology		Office of Enterprise Development (OED)	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Multi-Purpose		OI Field Office	
Data Source		Operational Period	
		1987 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Dec Alpha	VA FileMan		VMS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	5 MB		Discontinued

Foundation Information for Real Property Management (FIRM) - Inactive replaced by SF - Inactive

Overview:

The Foundation Information for Real Property Management (FIRM) system was developed by the General Services Administration (GSA) to help federal agencies manage their real property assets. It is intended to provide a reporting mechanism for meeting GSA's and the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) reporting requirements relating to real property and space management. The Veterans Affairs (VA) FIRM database is used to quickly respond to ever increasing real property reporting requests. Information stored consists of space categorized by usage and location. FIRM is being reengineered to take advantage of current technology and incorporate rapidly evolving user requirements. The redeveloped FIRM will provide project tracking of real property acquisition and disposal, delegations of authority, leases, and GSA-assigned workspace planning information.

Features:

Reports information to federal real property officers for the management of their real property assets. Allows ad-hoc reporting on real property and space management. Provides monitoring of the life-cycle process, lease management and workspace planning of real property.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Facilities Management		Resource Management Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		VACO, Washington, CD	
Data Source		Operational Period	
Not Available		1987 to 2001	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Sun	Oracle		Unix
Data Registry	Size		Status
Yes			Inactive

Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Centers (GRECC) - Hines - Inactive

Overview:

The Geriatric Research, Education, and Clinical Centers (GRECC) database tracks information on the following:

- * GRECC's administrative functions
- * Personnel
- * Research awards and projects
- * Publications
- * Clinical programs
- * Continuing education
- * Outreach and cotation
- * Trainee activities
- * Other professional activities and awards.

Personnel at GRECC sites enter information throughout the year. At the end of the fiscal year, this information is transmitted from each GRECC site to the Geriatrics and Extended Care Strategic Health Care Group as part of an annual report. At present there are two versions of the GRECC database. This version located in the Hines Office of Information (OI) Field Office contains data from fiscal year 1989 to fiscal year 1998. The second version is currently housed at Veterans Affairs Central Office (VACO) Webops in Silver Spring and contains information from fiscal year 1999 to the present. The main user of this database is the Geriatrics and Extended Care Strategic Health Care Group in VACO.

Features:

Provides historical data for trend analysis. Monitors performance of GRECC sites and tracks site activities. Provides reporting capability for responses to inquiries from:

- * Congress
- * Department of Veterans Affairs
- * Other interested governmental agencies
- * Other public and private organizations
- * The general public.

Program Office	Responsible Office
Office of Patient Care Services	Geriatrics & Extended Care Strategic Healthcare Group
Business Area	Physical Location
Organizations Management	Hines CIO Field Office, Hines, IL
Data Source	Operational Period
VAMCs	1989 to 1998

Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Dec Alpha	VA FileMan	VMS
Data Registry	Size	Status
Yes		Inactive

Health Care Resources Sharing - Inactive

Overview:

The Health Care Resources Sharing database is used to track and monitor the status of legal and technical reviews of proposed contracts from Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs). These contracts with non-federal entities concern the buying and selling of medical services. Services can range from housekeeping to brain surgery. Information is provided by the VAMCs to the Sharing and Purchasing Office. A current contract list is produced from this information as well as the annual report to Congress on program activity.

Features:

Collects medical service contract information. Provides approved or disapproved status of medical contracts. Provides a data source for ad hoc requests for the purchase or sale of medical resources. Creates ad hoc reports of medical resources by facility or type of service.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Finance		Medical Sharing and Purchasing Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Human Resources		VACO, Washington, DC	
Data Source		Operational Period	
VAMCs		1995 to 2005	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	MS Access		Windows 98
Data Registry	Size		Status
No			Inactive

Health Professions Trainee Registration - Discontinued

Overview:

This database supports Veterans Health Administration "Clinical Trainee Registration" Directive 2003-032. The directive establishes that certain core data elements be entered in Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture within 72 hours of the start of training at VA facility. This database provides a national data repository for those data elements from all VA Medical Centers.

Features:

Collects core data on all VA Clinical trainees who do some or all of their training at a VA facility. Provides national counts of trainees as well as a registry of trainees for communication purposes.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Academic Affiliations		Office of Academic Affiliations	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics			
Data Source		Operation Period	
HL7 Extract from VA Medical Centers		2003 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	MS SQL	Windows 2008	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	25 GB	Discontinued	

Hepatitis C Registry (HEPC) - Subsumed by Clinical Case Registries (CCR) - Inactive

Overview:

This registry is part of the Clinical Case Registries (CCR). The Hepatitis C Extract project was created to meet Hepatitis C Initiative requirements. The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Headquarters Infectious Disease Program Office provides surveillance statistics from the Emerging Pathogens Initiative database located in the Austin Information Technology Center and periodically provides data to other stakeholders such as The House Veterans Affairs Committee. The Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) information includes Hepatitis C risk assessment, laboratory tests, and medications provided to the veteran population. Tracking this information allows the Infectious Disease Program Office to increase surveillance data in VHA and respond to Congressional queries about HCV veteran care. This project will also improve the consistency of screening practices for Hepatitis C infection. The Hepatitis C Extract application is comprised of enhancements to four Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture packages, Clinical Reminders, Laboratory, Inpatient Medications, and Outpatient Pharmacy. These work together to accomplish EPI search, extraction, and reporting requirements for Hepatitis A, B, and C. Once the Hepatitis C Extract is installed and set up in facilities, the roll-up of HCV extracted information is automatic and occurs in the background.

Features:

Hepatitis C risk assessment information stored by the EPI: Risk Factors for Hepatitis C; No Risk Factors for Hepatitis C; Declined Assessment for Risk Factors for Hepatitis C. Assessed previously (Previous Assessment for Hepatitis C Risk); Hepatitis C Antibody Positive on file; Hepatitis C Antibody Negative on file. Hepatitis emerging pathogens included in the EPI surveillance definitions for patients seeking care in a VHA facility: Hepatitis A Antibody Positive; Hepatitis B Positive; Hepatitis C Antibody Negative; Hepatitis C Antibody Positive. For each occurrence of one of the four pathogens above, the most recent laboratory test of bilirubin, SGOT, and SGPT is extracted and sent to the EPI database. Medications extracted for the EPI database based on the following Generic Drug list: INTERFERON ALFA-2A; INTERFERON ALFA-2B ; INTERFERON ALFA-2B/RIBAVIRIN; INTERFERON ALFA-3N ; INTERFERON ALFACON-1; INTERFERON BETA-1A; INTERFERON BETA-1B; RIBAVARIN.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Public Health Strategic Health Care		AIDS Service	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operational Period	
Not Available		Not Available	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Sun	Oracle		Unix
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes		Inactive	

History Management Information System (HMIS) - Inactive

Overview:

The History Management Information System (HMIS) was designed as a repository for the historical data from the Construction Management Information System (CMIS) database. When permanent action has been completed on a major, minor, lease, enhanced-use parking, Veterans Health Administration, cemetery or regional office project, this data is then transferred from the active database in CMIS to HMIS. When a major or minor construction project is retired, the information for this project is pulled from the CMIS system and stored in the HMIS system. Ad-hoc reports can be produced on inactive projects from HMIS.

Features:

Provides central repository for historical information on inactive VA construction projects.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of Facilities Management		Resource Management Office
Business Area		Physical Location
Operations & Logistics		VACO
Data Source		Operational Period
		1975 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
PC	MS Access	Windows 2000
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	400 MB	Inactive

Material Safety Data Sheets Database (MSDS) - Inactive

Overview:

The Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) program is still active, but the database is no longer being maintained by the VA, but a contractor. As a result of this change, the database is being labeled "Inactive" though the program is still active. The MSDS database was a storage and retrieval facility for all Material Safety Data Sheets pertaining to the VA. Mandated by Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA), MSDS must be produced and made available by every chemical manufacturer for every chemical they make. Data sheet information includes the chemical's ingredients, properties, guidelines for proper storage and handling, disposal information, and first-aid instructions in case of a spill or accidental contact. All VA facilities that have chemicals on their premises are required to keep MSDS in a binder placed in a service area that provides quick access to important chemical information for emergencies. Information for the MSDS system comes from the chemical manufacturers, VA facilities, and from subscription services that offer MSDS details. New information is added to the system daily. When MSDS have been in the system over two years, the manufacturers are contacted to determine if any information has changed. All MSDS are retained for a thirty-year period from their date of issue. The users of this database include the Safety Office of each VA facility and the Industrial Hygienist (IH) from each Safety Office.

Features:

Provided users access MSDS database via phone dial-in or through the World Wide Web.
Provided copies of material safety data sheets via fax machine.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Center for Engineering and Occupational Safety & Health		Center for Engineering and Occupational Safety & Health	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Organizations Management		1 Jefferson Barracks Dr	
Data Source		Operation Period	
Drug and Chemical Manufactures		1989 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	Oracle	Windows 2000	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	60 GB	Active	

MetaData Registry (MDR) - Discontinued

Overview:

The MDR is an authoritative source of reference information about the representation, meaning, and format of primary stores of data collected and managed by Veterans Health Administration. The MDR does not contain source data from systems but rather information that is necessary to clearly describe, inventory, analyze, and classify data. The MDR is data element focused and is compliant with ISO 11179.

Features:

The MDR allows all users to search for and read data in the MDR. For system owners and data stewards, there is a maintenance feature that allows them to maintain MDR data. There is also a feature to allow for "harmonization" for comparison and analysis of similar data elements.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Health Information		National Data Systems	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Multi-Purpose		Hines Data Center, Hines, IL	
Data Source		Operational Period	
VHA Systems		2004 - 2008	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Dell	Oracle	Windows NT	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes		Inactive	

Missing Patient Register (MPR) - Discontinued

Overview:

The Missing Patient Registry has been discontinued. Until a replacement information system is available, please develop an Issues Brief for each missing patient and send through your facility director to your Veterans Integrated Service Network office. The VISN office will then forward to the Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management (10N).

The MPR system was a web-based system designed to assist medical center personnel in tracking and locating patients reported as missing. The entry of missing patients into the Missing Patient Registry is done by Missing Patient Administrators at the facilities. A nightly batch job checks to see if the missing patients have been seen at another Veterans Health Administration facility. If the missing patient has been located at another facility, an e-mail is sent out notifying the facility that reported the patient missing.

Features:

Provides a listing of patients reported as missing by a VA medical facilities. Allows tracking and reporting of missing patient information from each VA site for distribution to all facilities. Note: The information regarding missing and/or found patients only goes to those sites actually doing the reporting.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management		National Data Systems	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operational Period	
VAMCs		1995 - 2008	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Dec Alpha	Oracle	Unix	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
Yes		Inactive	

National Center for Health Promotion Cholesterol and PAP Screening Database (NCHP_CPSDB) - Inactive Screening Database

Overview:

The National Center for Health Promotion Database (NCH) collects and stores cholesterol and PAP screening results. The data is used to assess the prevalence of health promotion screening activities provided to Veterans pursuant to Congressional mandates.

Features:

The data provides a management tool to monitor and improve prevalent rates of health promotion screening activities for Veterans.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Patient Care Services		National Center for Health Promotion	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operational Period	
Not Available		Not Available	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Data Registry	Size		Status
No			Inactive

National Enrollment Database (NED) - Inactive

Overview:

The National Enrollment Database (NED) resulted from the Eligibility Reform Act of 1996 that legislated the provision of VA health care services through an annual patient enrollment system. NED and the associated National Enrollment Data Mart (NEDM) were established to meet specific reporting requirements. NED serves as the single primary source for storing enrollment records at a national level and is populated on a nightly basis from enrollment and eligibility data residing at the Health Eligibility Center (HEC) via a Health Level Seven (HL7) messaging interface. The NED and NEDM provide timely and accurate enrollment data for the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Office of Policy and Planning, VHA Central Office, and Veterans Integrated Service Networks reporting and analysis. Through a collaborative effort between VHA Office of Information (VHA OI) and the Austin Information Technology Center (AITC) the NED was successfully loaded with over 6 million Veteran records.

Features:

Central repository containing Veteran enrollment information. A Statistical Analysis Software dataset generated from the NED is available for analysis. The SAS file resides on the AITC mainframe.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Health Eligibility Center		Health Eligibility Center	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operational Period	
Health Eligibility Center (HEC)		1997 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Dec Alpha	Oracle		Unix
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	1 TB		Inactive

Parkinsons Disease Research, Education, and Clinical Centers Registry (PADRECC) - Inactive

Overview:

The Parkinson's Disease Research, Education and Clinical Care Centers (PADRECCs) were established as VA Centers of Excellence for the care of patients with Parkinson's disease. The Office of Patient Care Services directed the PADRECCs to establish a national database registry to capture vital information for Veterans Health Administration to use for ongoing development and resourcing of these centers. The National PADRECC Registry was operational as of November 2003. The Registry is established as a System of Records.

Features:

Provides a registry of patients seen at each of the PADRECCs. Data includes demographics, visits, surgeries, and outcome test results. Reports are available for each center to obtain a snapshot of their Parkinson's patients and for the Program Office to monitor the activities of the PADRECCs.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Patient Care Services		Parkinson's Disease Research, Education, and Clinical Centers (PADRECC)	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		San Francisco VAMC, IRMS Server Room	
Data Source		Operational Period	
VA Medical Centers		2002 to Present	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	SQL Server 2005	Windows 2003	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	20 MB	Inactive	

Radiation Exposure Inquiries Database - Inactive

Overview:

The Radiation Exposure Inquiries Database contains information necessary to manage inquiries from Veterans, family members, and others concerned about the possible exposure to ionizing radiation during military service or at Veterans Affairs Medical Centers. It was developed by the Washington Office of Information (OI) Field Office to assist the VA Office of Public Health and Environmental Hazards. The system provides information about the inquirer, the alleged exposure, the agency or facility to which the inquiry was assigned, and the status of the response. Over 1700 inquiries have been entered into the database.

Features:

Provides a tool for tracking and providing information on all Veterans or family members that have filed inquiries on radiation experiences.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Public Health & Environmental Hazards		Office of Public Health & Environmental Hazards	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Patient		OI Field Office, Albany, New York	
Data Source		Operational Period	
VAMCs & DOD		1994 to 2001	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Dec Alpha	VA FileMan		VMS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No			Inactive

Universal Product Number (UPN) - Inactive replaced by NIF

Overview:

The Universal Product Number (UPN) is used to uniquely identify products used in the supply chain. The UPN is placed as bar code symbols on products to enable users of the products to readily identify the product's characteristics. This is accomplished by cross referencing the UPN identifier derived from the bar code symbols to a database of product information. The focus of VA's effort are on capturing the UPN information for Medical and Surgical products utilized by the VA medical facilities. Efforts are underway to establish a UPN repository of the Medical and Surgical products frequently used by the VA medical facilities. The repository would include the UPN identifier and product characteristics -manufacturer, packaging, etc. Initial efforts have centered around the capturing of UPN, Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture/Integrated Funds Distribution & Control Point Activity & Accounting and Procurement (IFCAP) Item Master file, and product data at pilot sites. The data captured through the use of bar code scanners and IFCAP routines is sent via MailMan to the Austin Information Technology Center where it is collected for future reference.

Features:

Provides information regarding Medical and Surgical products used by the VA medical facilities. Information includes:

- * UPN identifier
- * Manufacturer information
- * Product description
- * Product identifiers -stock numbers, etc
- * Packaging information - unit of measure, etc
- * Miscellaneous date and control information.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of Acquisition and Logistics		Office of Procurement and Logistics
Business Area		Physical Location
Operations & Logistics		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX
Data Source		Operational Period
VAMCs		Not Available
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File	Windows NT
Data Registry	Size	Status
No		Inactive

VA Longitudinal Online Research Database (VALOR) - Inactive

Overview:

This database is no longer in use and has been dismantled. It previously had Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval but is now considered closed by the Philadelphia VA Medical Center IRB. Below is the final description found in the 2010 Monograph.

The VA Longitudinal Online Research Database (VALOR) fulfills three important objectives essential to the research mission of the Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion (CHERP) and VA Health Services Research and Development Center of Excellence:

- * To maintain a distinct research database with information drawn from the Philadelphia VAMC VistA system, the VA's electronic medical record.
- * To implement technical and administrative protocols for data access that balances the information needs of the VA research community with ethical guidelines and federal regulations regarding patient privacy.
- * To facilitate access to individual and population-based data essential to conducting VA-based clinical and health services research projects.

Data elements chosen for inclusion in the VALOR database reflect common themes to health services and clinical research. Typically, research themes include analyses that demonstrate associations among demographics, diagnoses, therapeutic strategies, laboratory, radiology and other special study results, pharmacy utilization, and specific and general resource utilization within the ambulatory, inpatient and emergency room environments. The VALOR database is an extract of the Philadelphia VA Medical Center's VistA system that captures the full range of information generally used in conducting clinical and health services research projects. It includes all information on patients seen in the inpatient and ambulatory environments of the medical center since 1997 with the exclusion of people who have designated themselves solely as hospital employees. The information available in VALOR is the same as the information already obtainable through ad hoc queries of the VistA System, but VALOR offers efficiency and security advantages. Currently, queries that span different domains (e.g. pharmacy, laboratory, and clinical) are conducted in phases by different domain experts, each of whom provide their own pieces of data that must then be integrated by the investigator. This process is time consuming and requires the participation of many people, each of whom is exposed to personal health identifiers. Centralizing the process reduces the number of people involved in the query, reduces the risk of exposure of personal health identifiers and improves the efficiency in providing the researcher the required information. The VALOR database has been established under an Institutional Review Board (IRB)-granted waiver of authorization as required by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. The Philadelphia VA FITS manages physical security of the computer hardware. Direct access to the database contents is limited to the system manager and others with the approval of the IRB.

Features:

The purpose of the database is to provide information to others in order to conduct research. Three tiers of information dissemination have been identified, each requiring a different level of oversight and auditing: 1. Population-based queries that result in an accounting of patients who meet specified criteria. IRB and Information Security Officer notifications are required for these

queries. 2. Limited Data Set queries of specific clinical information on patient cohorts that meet specified criteria, but where personal health identifiers are not required. Pseudo identifiers are substituted for real medical record numbers for the purpose of following patients longitudinally across time. Queries that meet the limited data set specification and can be granted by a data use agreement. 3. Personal health information queries are only provided to investigators who have appropriate IRB approval to view the information. The IRB must review the study methods and purposes on a case-by-case basis and determine if the information can be released under a waiver of authorization or if an informed consent from the patient is needed. While the VALOR database contains a broad array of clinical information that includes protected health information; information is only disseminated to others in a de-identified form, or according to the stipulations given by the Philadelphia Institutional Review Board.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Health Services Research & Development		Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion
Business Area		Physical Location
Patient		3900 Woodland Avenue
Data Source		Operation Period
VAMCs		1997 to Present
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Intel	SQL Server 2005	Windows 2003
Data Registry	Size	Status
No	150 GB	Active

VA Voluntary Service (VAV) - Inactive

Overview:

The VA Voluntary Service (VAV) System provided reports on volunteer participation to all organizations involved in active volunteering at each VA Facility, including the organizations on the VA Voluntary Service Advisory Committee. It also provided a number of statistical reports to medical facilities on how volunteer assistance was used and created potential award recipient lists. The system stored information about the volunteer including name, address, age, SSN, etc., the hours worked, the number of visits, the service area using the volunteer's assistance, and the service organization the volunteer is associated with. VAV is now inactive. It was a batch system written in Common Business Oriented Language and Statistical Analysis Software. Processing was done monthly, quarterly, semi-annually and annually. The Voluntary Services System (VSS) has replaced it.

Features:

Provided summary reports on volunteer organization and services provided. Provided lists of services represented at various organizational levels. Provided lists of current and terminated volunteers. Provided information for awards tracking.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of the Under Secretary for Health		Voluntary Service Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Human Resources		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX	
Data Source		Operational Period	
VAMCs		1970 - 2003	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Mainframe	Flat File		z/OS
Data Registry	Size		Status
No			Inactive

VA/DoD Sharing - Inactive

Overview:

The Department of Veterans Affairs/Department of Defense (VA/DOD) Sharing Database was originally developed to provide the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and the Department of Defense (DoD) software for recording, tracking, and compiling reports from the information generated by joint VHA and DoD activities. Activities included the creation of formal agreements between VHA and DoD sites that were sharing resources in some manner. The original system resided on the VA's FORUM and was accessible to anyone who could access FORUM. It was determined that the legacy system could not respond to the changing needs of its users and those doing the maintenance. The database was converted from a character-based terminal/host system into an SQL relational database. Security features were added requiring users to login before gaining access to the information. The database was migrated from FORUM to a web-based product available on the VHA Intranet. The new system permits flexible, consistent use of the data across the enterprise and allows the Sharing and Purchasing Office (175) to enter and manage information on more than 1,000 sharing agreements. These agreements enable sharing of over 14,000 health services between VHA and DoD medical facilities. The system is accessible by VHA personnel at facilities with Intranet access and is available to DoD users as word documents transmitted by e-mail.

Features:

Allows Entering/Editing/Copying of new, revised, and/or amended sharing agreements and TRICARE contracts. Ensures completion of data validation before transmission to the database. Enables VHA to generate a wide to generate a wide variety of reports including all active agreements, expired agreements, agreements by VHA facility or military service, and count of agreements sorted by Health Services, Veterans Integrated Service Network, Military Organization, or Care Provider.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Finance		Medical Sharing and Purchasing Office	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		810 Vermont Ave. NW	
Data Source		Operational Period	
VACO		1999 to 2007	
Hardware	Storage Method		Operating System
Intel	MS SQL		Windows NT
Data Registry	Size		Status
No	10 MB		Inactive

Virtual Learning Center (VLC) - Inactive

Overview:

The Virtual Learning Center (VLC) was developed by the Veterans Health Administration Office of Special Projects as a systematic mechanism for VA employees to share innovations and successful/best practices to allow others to have easy access to this information saving time and resources when seeking ways to address similar needs. The Virtual Learning Center was activated in December 1997.

Features:

The site is available on the Intranet and features highly rated and accessed Successful Practices. Users can submit Successful Practices on-line. A search feature allows employees to find practices in their area of interest.

Program Office		Responsible Office	
Office of Communications		Office of Special Projects	
Business Area		Physical Location	
Operations & Logistics		OI Field Office	
Data Source		Operational Period	
VAMCs		1997 to Unknown	
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System	
Intel	MS SQL	Windows NT	
Data Registry	Size	Status	
No	100 MB	Inactive	

Work Group Database - Inactive

Overview:

The Work Group Database is designed to collect and report information relating to all national-level initiative work groups, task forces, and committees. Information about Work Group membership and outcomes is also tracked by this database. Users access the database from the Veterans Integrated Service Network Support Service Center (VSSC) Web site. Users are provided search and view facilities. Advanced privileges give certain users the ability to add new listings, edit existing listings, and upload documentation. The Work Group Chairperson or their designee enters information into the system through the Web site. The Chairperson or their designee updates the database when information is entered (i.e. when the Work Group is created, when major milestones are met, and when the work is completed). The users of this database include national-level initiative work groups and other parties interested in following the progress of work groups including Networks and facilities.

Features:

Provides viewing or download of Group documentation including charge letters and deliverables. Provides search capability to users for query of the database by Work Group name, membership, and/or topic. Provides Graphical User Interface (GUI) for users to enter information on-line through on VSSC Web site.

Program Office		Responsible Office
Office of the Chief Network Officer		VHA Support Service Center
Business Area		Physical Location
Organizations Management		Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), 1615 Woodward St., Austin, TX
Data Source		Operational Period
VACO		1999 to 2004
Hardware	Storage Method	Operating System
Intel	MS SQL	Windows 2000
Data Registry	Size	Status
No		Inactive

Glossary of Acronyms

zOS	Enterprise Server Operating System
AsCMD	Associate Chief Medical Director (also referred to as ACMD)
AAC	Austin Automation Center
ACG	Associated Care Group & Ambulatory Care Group
ACMD	Associate Chief Medical Director
ADR	Administrative Data Repository
ADT	Admission/Discharge/Transfer
AERATES	Architect/Engineer Rating System
AES	All Employee Survey
AH	Associated Health Allocation
AIMC	Academic Information Management Center
AITC	Austin Information Technology Center
ALC	Assembly Language Compiler
AMIS	Automated Management Information System
AOR	Agent Orange Registry
API	"Application (Program, Programming, Programmer) Interface"
AR	Accounts Receivable
ARC	Allocation Resource Center
ARRTP	Annual Report of Residency Training Programs
ASI	Addiction Severity Index
ASISTS	Automated Safety Incident Surveillance and Tracking System
BDC	Benefits Delivery Center (Hines)
BHIE	Bidirectional Health Information Exchange
BIRLS	Beneficiary Identification and Record Locator System
BVA	Board of Veteran's Appeals
CapAssets	VSSC Capital Assets
CAI	Capital Asset Inventory
CAMS	Contract Administration and Management System & Capital Asset Management System
CART-CL	Cardiac Assessment Tracking and Reporting System for Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories
CCPC	Consolidated Copayment Processing Center
CCR	Clinical Case Registry (Hepatitis C)
CCR	Clinical Case Registries
CCSHS	Center for Cooperative Studies and Health Services (VA)
CDR	Cost Distribution Report
CDW	Corporate Data Warehouse
CFMIS	Construction Financial Management Information System
CHAMPVA	Civilian Health and Medical Program Veterans Administration
CHART	Craig Handicap Assessment and Reporting Technique
CICSP	Continuous Improvement in Cardiac Surgery Program
CIO	Chief Information Office/Officer
CIRN	Clinical Information Resources Network
CISS	Clinical Information Support System
CJDLD	Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Lookback Dataset
CMD	Capacity Management Database & Chief Medical Director
CMIS	Construction Management Information System
CMOR	CIRN Master of Record
CNH	Community Nursing Home
CNO	Chief Network Officer
CNP	Compensation and Pension Mini-Master File
COBOL	Common business Oriented Language
CPT	Current Procedural Terminology (codes)

CTCD	Health Professions Trainee Registration
CTV	Composite Time Value
CTVHCS	Central Texas Veterans Health Care System
DAR	Data Architecture Repository
DAS	Dental Activity System
DBA	Database Administration
DEERS	Defense Enrollment and Eligibility Reporting System
DEMPS	Disaster Emergency Medical Personnel System
DES	Dental Encounter System
DHCP	Decentralized Hospital Computer Program (now known as VistA)
DOCRS/PLIARS	Plan Library Information and Retrieval System
DOD	Department of Defense
DRG	Diagnostic Related Groups
DSS	Decision Support System
DSSHG	Diagnostic Services Strategic Health Care Group
DVEIR	Defense and Veterans Eye Injury Registry
EAS	Environmental Agents Service
EDR	Event Driven Reporting System
EDSS	Expanded Disability Status Scales
EGORS	Electronic GAO and OIG Recommendation Status
EHSHG	Environmental Hazards Strategic Healthcare Group
EIS	Executive Information System
EMSHG	Emergency Management Strategic Health Care Group
EPCS	Electronic Prescription for Controlled Substance
EPI	Emerging Pathogens Initiative
EPS	Exception Processing Section
EPSC	Eastern Peacemaker Surveillance Center
ERB	Executive Resources Board
ESAD	Enhanced Sharing Agreement
ESP	Energy Savings Projects
EVS	Enterprise VistA Support (formerly known as NVS)
EWL	VSSC Electronic Wait List
E3R	Enhancement Request
FAM	Functional Assessment Measure
FAR	Federal Acquisition Review
FCDM	VSSC Financial Clinical Data Mart
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FEE	Fee Basis Medical and Pharmacy System
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHIE	Federal Health Information Exchange
FIM	Functional Independence Measurement (FIM)
FIRM	Foundation Information for Real Property Management
FM	Facilities Management & Fileman (database)
FMP	Foreign Medical Program
FMS	Financial Management System
FSOD	Functional Status Outcomes Database
FSS	Federal Supply Schedule
FTEE	Full-Time Equivalent Employee
GAF	General Assessment of Function (codes)
GAO	General Accounting Office
GRECC	"Geriatric Research, Education, and Clinical Centers"
GSA	General Services Administration
GUI	Graphical User Interface
GWR	Gulf War Registry
HAC	Health Administration Center
HBC	Home Based Primary Care
HBHC	Hospital Based Patient Care

HBPC	Home Based Primary Care
HCFA	Health Care Finance Administration
HCPCS	Health Care Financing Administration's (HCFA) Common Procedural Coding System
HCV	Hepatitis C Virus
HDR	Health Data Repository
HEC	Health Eligibility Center
HEPC	Hepatitis C Registry
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HL7	Health Level Seven (message)
HMIS	History Management Information System
HMO	Health Maintenance Organization
HSITES	"Health Systems Implementation, Training, and Enterprise Support"
HSRD	Health Services Research and Development
HST	Health Services Training Report
HTML	HyperText Markup Language
ICN	Integration Control Number
ICR	Immunology Case Registry & Intelligent Character Recognition
IDQES	Indefinite Quantity Employees
IFCAP	Integrated Funds Distribution & Control Point Activity & Accounting and Procurement
IG	Inspector General
IH	Industrial Hygienist
IPDB	Integrated Patient Database
IRB	Institutional Review Board
IRM	Information Resource Management
IRR	Ionizing Radiation Registry
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
JCAHO	Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Health Care Organizations
LBX	Lockbox
LEASE	Lease/Project Tracking
LMIP	National Laboratory Workload and Laboratory Management Index Program
MCCF	Medical Cost Care Funds
MCCR NDB	Medical Care Cost Recovery National Database
MDP	Medical SAS File
MDR	MetaData Registry
MDRAP	Residency Allocation Database
MHV	My HealtheVet
MI	Medical Inspector
MIRMO	Medical Information Resource Management Office (now OI)
MPCR	Monthly Program Cost Report
MPI	Master Patient Index & Multiprecision Integer
MPR	Missing Patient Register
MQS VA	Mammograph Quality Standards
MSD	Mass Storage Device & Most Significant Digit & Microsoft System Diagnostics (Microsoft)
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheets Database
MST	Military Sexual Trauma
MVI	Master Veteran Index
MVR	Master Veteran Record
NucMed	Nuclear Medicine National Headquarter System
NAC	National Acquisition Center
NCA	National Cemetery Administration
NCCC	National Clozapine Coordinating Center
NCFC	National Customer Feedback Center
NCS	National Cemetery Service
NED	National Enrollment Database

NEDB	National Enrollment Database
NEDM	National Enrollment Data Mart
NEPEC	Northeast Program Evaluation Center
NHCPD	National Health Care Practitioner Database
NIF	National Item File
NM	Nuclear Medicine
NMHDS	National Mental Health Database System
NMIS	National Medical Information System
NOIS	National Outline Information System
NP	Nasopharyngeal
NPCD	National Patient Care Database
NPDRC	National Performance Data Resource Center
NPM	National Patch Module
NPPD	National Prosthetics Patient Database
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission & National Regulatory Commission
NRM	Non-Recurring Maintenance
NRP	National Response Plan
NSV	National Survey of Veterans
NVH	non-VA Hospital System
NVS	National VistA Support (now known as EVS)
OEE	Office of Employee Education
OHRS	Occupational Health Record-keeping System
OI	Office of Information (VA)
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPC	Outpatient Clinic(s)
OP&Q	Office of Performance and Quality
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PADRECC	Parkinsons Disease Research
PAF	Patient Assessment File
PAI	Patient Assessment Instrument
PAIT	VSSC Patient Appointment
PBM	Pharmacy Benefits Management (formerly D&PPM)
PBMSHG	Pharmacy Benefits Management Strategic Health Care Group (119D)
PCE	Patient Care Encounters
PCMM	VSSC Primary Care Management Module
PDF	"Portable Document/Printer Description (file name extension Borlund, Lotus, Adobe)"
PERC	Performance Evaluation Resource Center
PGH	VA Pgh Health Care
PLIARS	Plan Library Information and Retrieved System
PLMS	Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Service
POW	Prisoner of War
POWER	Performance and Operational Web-Enabled Reports
PPS	Prospective System
PRB	Performance Review Board
PROMISE	Project Management and Information System
PSA	Prosthetics and Sensory Aids
PSU PBM	Pharmacy Benefits Management
PTF	Patient Treatment File & Patient Transaction File
PTSD	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
QA	Quality Assurance
QC	Quality Control
RAI/MDS	Resident Assessment Instrument/Minimum Data Set
RCS-0023	Report of VA Medical Training Programs
RDD	Random Digit Dialing
RDIS	Research and Development Information System
REMS2000	Resident Engineer Management System 2000

ROES	Remote Order Entry System
RPC	Remote Procedure Call & Real Procedure Call
RPM	Resource Planning and Management
RSD	Roger Software Development
RUG	Resource Utilization Groups
RVU	Relative Value Unit
SAS	Statistical Analysis Software
SCD	Spinal Cord Dysfunction
SF-36V	Short Form Health Survey for Veterans
SSA	Social Security Administration
SSN	Social Security Number
Tumor Registry	VistA OncoTraX
TBI	Traumatic Brain Injury Registry
UDSmr	Uniform Data System for Medical Rehabilitation
UPN	Universal Product Number
USPHS	United States Public Health Service
VistA	Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture
VAAR	Veterans Affairs Acquisition Review
VACCR	Veterans Administration Central Cancer Registry
VACO	Veterans Affairs Central Office
VAHQ	Veterans Affairs Headquarters
VALOR	VA Longitudinal Online Research Database
VAMC	Veterans Affairs Medical Center
VAST	VA Site Tracking
VAV	VA Voluntary Service
VBA	Veterans Benefits Administration
VERA	Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation
VETS	Veterans Enterprise Terminology Services
VETSNET	VETSNET SAS Extract
VHA	Veterans Health Administration
VHALWD	VHA Leadership and Workforce Development System
VHS	Veterans Health Survey
VINCI	VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure
VISN	Veterans Integrated Service Network(s)
VLC	Virtual Learning Center
VSO	Veterans' Service Organization
VSS	Voluntary Service System
VSSC	VISN Support Service Center
VTK	Volunteer Timekeeping System
VWM	VHA Work Measurement

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