My HealtheVet Release 12.4 Notes for VA Blue Button and VA CCD
Department of Veterans Affairs

Release Notes Version	Version 1
Release Notes Date	03/16/13

My HealtheVet Release 12.4 includes several enhancements to the VA Blue Button:

- The VA Blue Button output file name now includes the time in the filename so that users who request more than one output on a given day can easily distinguish between these.
- User messages that appear in the Blue Button output have been updated to convey business rules (such as hold periods) to users.
- Multiple formatting enhancements have been made to improve the VA Blue Button text output file (see details below).
- New data elements have been added to the VA Demographics section (see details below).
- The VA Continuity of Care Document (VA CCD) is now available in PDF file format in addition to XML format. A downloadable XML Style Sheet is also available to view the XML file format.

Sample VA Blue Button files are provided to illustrate the VA Blue Button and VA CCD output. Release notes and sample files will be updated as changes occur, and these updates are posted on the VA Blue Button website at www.va.gov/bluebutton .

What's New?

- As shown in the sample files, the VA Blue Button output header has an updated version number: Produced by the VA Blue Button (v12.4)
- Improved user messages to communicate data class business rules: Several data classes contain an updated user message that appears near the top of the section including Self Reported Demographics, VA Appointments, VA Medication History, Self Reported Medications and Supplements , VA Allergies, Self Reported Allergies, VA Problem List, VA Admissions and Discharges, VA Immunizations, VA Laboratory Results, VA Vitals and Readings, Self Reported Vitals and Readings, VA Radiology Reports, and VA Medication History
- New data elements were added to VA Demographics
- Multiple formatting changes to improve the VA Blue Button text file output:
  - Data class section dividers were adjusted to avoid wrapping to the next line (e.g. VA Demographics, VA Electrocardiogram (EKG) Reports, VA Admissions and Discharges, VA Allergies)
  - A double bar separator was added to VA Immunizations to separate the list of immunizations from the Results Key that appears at the end of the section.
  - An extra line feed that preceded the Results Key was removed for VA Immunizations

- In the Download Request Summary section, the field User Request Type was removed from the Blue Button output since all users now customize their selections
- In VA Immunizations, an issue with older date formats displaying as unknown was corrected
- For VA Demographics, a missing dashed line separator has been added to separate demographic records from different VA Treating Facilities
- For VA Vitals and Readings, a missing user message was added to the second section ("This section shows all of the vital signs and health measures listed in your VA health record, grouped by the type of vital sign.")
- A missing line feed was added to the end of the section for VA Appointments, VA Allergies, and Self Reported Allergies
- The maximum width of the output in the text file was adjusted for VA Notes

Table 1: VA Blue Button Data Classes March 2013				
Type of Information	**Data Source**	**Description**	**When Available**	**Date Range**
Activity Journal	Self Reported	Daily exercise and activity log	Immediately	User selected
Allergies	Self Reported	History of allergies including severity, reaction, diagnosis, and comments	Immediately	All
Demographics	Self Reported	Personal information entered during account registration and updates	Immediately	All
Family Health History	Self Reported	Family member's health history and events that may affect health	Immediately	All
Food Journal	Self Reported	Daily food intake to monitor diet or control weight	Immediately	User selected
Health Care Providers	Self Reported	Information pertaining to caregivers and health care providers	Immediately	All
Health Insurance	Self Reported	Information about health insurance coverage and policies	Immediately	All
Immunizations	Self Reported	Immunization date, method used, and any reactions	Immediately	All
Labs and Tests	Self Reported	Information about lab tests performed and test results	Immediately	User selected
Medical Events	Self Reported	History of illnesses, accidents, or other events	Immediately	All
Medications and Supplements	Self Reported	Medications, over-the-counter drugs, herbals, and supplements	Immediately	All
Military Health History	Self Reported	Military health history, potential exposures, and treatments	Immediately	All
Treatment Facilities	Self Reported	Medical treatment facilities and locations	Immediately	All
Vitals and Readings	Self Reported	Common health measures (e.g., blood pressure, blood sugar, pain, etc.)	Immediately	User selected
VA Allergies*	VA EHR	Recorded allergies and adverse reactions	Immediately	All
VA Admissions and Discharges*	VA EHR	Admissions and discharges including comprehensive discharge summaries	For Discharge Summary only: 7 days after completed	User selected
VA Appointments*	VA EHR	Two years past and all future VA appointment details	Immediately	All
VA Demographics*	VA EHR	Demographic information from VA Treating Facilities in the last 3 years	Immediately	All
VA Electrocardiogram (EKG)*	VA EHR	A list of EKG studies performed at VA Treating Facilities	Immediately	User selected

VA Immunizations*	VA EHR	History of recorded immunizations along with any reactions	Immediately	All
VA Laboratory Results*	VA EHR	Results of Chemistry, Hematology, and Microbiology lab tests	7 days after test results verified	User selected
VA Medication History	VA EHR	History of VA medication refills	Immediately	User selected
VA Notes*	VA EHR	All completed progress notes from January 1, 2013 forward	7 days after note completed	User selected
VA Pathology Reports*	VA EHR	Surgical Pathology, Cytology, and Electron Microscopy study results	14 days after report completed	User selected
VA Problem List*	VA EHR	List of active health issues and conditions	7 days after entry	All
VA Radiology Reports*	VA EHR	Results of Radiology and other imaging studies	7 days after report verified	User selected
VA Vitals and Readings*	VA EHR	Blood pressure, pulse, body temperature, weight, etc.	Immediately	User selected
VA Wellness Reminders*	VA EHR	Patient friendly clinical reminders for preventive services	Immediately	All
Military Service Information*	DoD	Historical record of military service including position and rank codes	Immediately	All
* Requires a My HealtheVet Premium account				

Table 2: VA CCD Data Classes March 2013				
Data Class	Comments	Source	Delay	Date Range
Person Information*	Name, address, gender, date of birth,	VA EHR	No	All
Language*	Language	VA EHR	No	All
Allergies*	Allergy information from all VA treatment facilities	VA EHR	No	All
History of Encounters*	The 25 most recent historical outpatient encounters (completed) for the patient from all VA treatment facilities for which the encounter date was within the last 36 months	VA EHR	No	Last 36 months up to a maximum of 25 most recent
History of Procedures*	The 25 most recent historical (completed) surgical and radiological procedures for the patient from all VA treatment facilities for which the procedure date was within the last 12 months	VA EHR	No	Last 12 months and up to 25 maximum
Immunizations*	Information from all VA treatment facilities	VA EHR	No	All
Lab Results - Chemistry and Hematology *	The five most recent patient Chemistry and Hematology lab results from all VA treatment facilities for which the result date was within the last 12 months	VA EHR	7 days after test results verified	Last 12 months or 5 most recent panel results
Medications - Prescription and Non-Prescription*	Patient medications (outpatient and self-reported) information from all VA treatment facilities for which the dispense date was within the last 15 months. Only medications that have an active or non-active prescription status are listed	VA EHR	No	Last 15 months
Problems/Conditions*	Patient conditions (active and inactive) information from all VA treatment facilities	VA EHR	7 days after reported date of onset	All
Vital Signs*	The ten most recent patient vital signs (inpatient and outpatient) from all VA treatment facilities for which the panel date taken was within the last 12 months. Note: If more than one panel was taken on the same date, only the most recent panel is populated for that date	VA EHR	No	Last 12 months or 10 most recent
Contacts*	Emergency and guardian contacts	VA EHR	No	All
* Requires a My Health*e*Vet Premium account				