

Adding and Deleting from Multiples

Some special considerations apply when you are editing Multiple-valued fields. One example of a Multiple field is the DIAGNOSIS field in the PATIENT file. As you may recall from Chapter 6, "About Each Field Type," a Multiple is a field in a record that can store multiple Subrecords. In this case, VA FileMan must be able to store multiple diagnosis entries for a single patient, and it uses a Multiple field to do so:

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Select PATIENT NAME: WAGSTROM,RICHARD

NAME: WAGSTROM,RICHARD// <RET>
PATIENT DATE OF BIRTH: 4/19/49// <RET>
Select DIAGNOSIS: ??
  1  ANGINA PECTORIS
  2  PNEUMONIA

Answer with DIAGNOSIS
  You may enter a new DIAGNOSIS, if you wish

Select DIAGNOSIS: ANGINA PECTORIS
DIAGNOSIS: ANGINA PECTORIS// <RET>
AGE AT ONSET: 25
HISTORY:
1> <RET>
EDIT OPTION: <RET>

Select DIAGNOSIS: <RET>

Select PATIENT NAME:

```

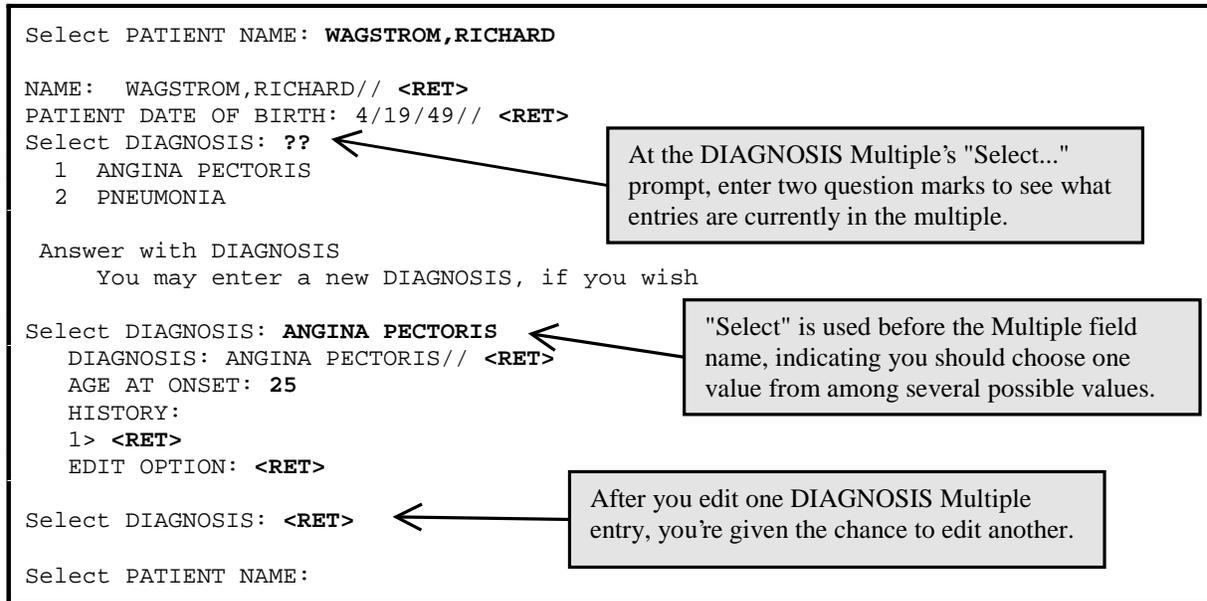


Figure 94: An Example of a Multiple Field

Multiples have .01 fields, just like records at the top level of a file. Thus, just as with records at the top level of a file, you select entries in the Multiple at the Multiple's "Select..." prompt. You can also add a new entry by typing it in at the Multiple's "Select..." prompt. You can delete an entry in a Multiple by entering an at-sign ("@" in the existing entry's .01 field.

Enter a single question mark ("?) at a Multiple's "Select..." prompt to retrieve brief Help for the field; enter two question marks ("??") to choose from the list of entries in the Multiple.