VistAWeb

Version 7.5
WEBV*1*14

User Manual

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Revision History

Date	Patch	Page(s)	Change(s)	Project Manager	Technical Writer
June 2008	WEBV*1*14	p. 3	Added screen capture of message that appears if CCOW is not on system when VistAWeb is launched.	Madsen	JoAnn Green
June 2008	WEBV*1*14	p.5	Added section on what's new in Version 7.5	Madsen	JoAnn Green
May 2008	WEBV*1*14 VistAWeb 7.5	p 16,17	Added reference to Chem and Hematology; added figure 29b	Madsen	JoAnn Green
October 2007	WEBV*1*11 VistAWeb 7.0	p.5	Added section "What's New in Version 7.0?" Incorporated what was new in version 6.0 interspersed throughout the manual	Madsen	
July 2007	WEBV*1*10 VistAWeb 6.5.1	NA	Additional changes were made to the way VistAWeb handles server connections.	Madsen	NA
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February 2007	n/a	p.1 p.2 p.21 p.25	Added note on VA internal network links. Repeated note on VA internal network links. Repeated note on VA internal network links. Revised special user access contact.	Madsen	Kelsey
December 2006	WEBV*1*8 VistAWeb 6.0	n/a p.1 p.2 p.4	Minor text edits throughout. Tightened up text in Introduction section to better reflect functionality and access to VistAWeb. Added note on intranet links. Retained most of the 5.0 release text in section, "Review of Previous VistAWeb Release 5.0."	Madsen	Kelsey

Date	Patch	Page(s)	Change(s)	Project Manager	Technical Writer
			Exchanged various figures to show VA Service Desk instead of National Help Desk.		
		p.7	Revised note to reflect that CDS expands date range for all HDR-IMS Vital Signs date range requests.		
		p.9	Added section on “What’s New in VistAWeb Release 6.0?” Deleted Patient Record Flag warning on page 13 obviated by enhancement section on VistAWeb’s display of Category I flags.		
		p.17	Consolidated “Accessibility” section and “Launching” sections under heading, “Accessing VistAWeb.”		
		p.21	Repeated note on intranet links.		
		p.22	Added note about requirement for updating Verify codes by standalone users.		
		p.9	Added note about Internet Explorer access through Central Office site 100.		
		p.26	Revised special user access contact.		
		p31	Revised text and added Discharge Summary figure to properly account for date range choices, including the changed date range for Med Admin BCMA reports.		
		p.35	Added two new figures to section on Vitals Detail to help illustrate standard vs. nonstandard vitals data.		
		p.37	Added timeout screen shots and description.		
		p.39	Added acronyms list to end of document.		

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Introduction to VistAWeb

Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) VistAWeb is an intranet web application used to review remote patient information found in VistA and the Health Data Repository (HDR) databases. To a large extent, VistAWeb mirrors the reports behavior of the Computerized Patient Record System (CPRS) and Remote Data View (RDV). However, by permitting a more robust and timely retrieval of remote-site patient data, VistAWeb is also an enhancement to CPRS/RDV.

There are three ways to access VistAWeb. VistAWeb can be made available by adding it to the CPRS Tools Menu, and it can be selected as the default method of retrieving data from the Remote Data Available button in CPRS. These two methods are referred to as CPRS-spawned versions of VistAWeb. They are compliant with the Health Level 7 (HL7) Clinical Context Object Workgroup (CCOW) standards and therefore maintain context with the patient selected in CPRS. As a third option, VistAWeb can be accessed in a standalone mode by entering the uniform resource locator (URL) link (https://vistaweb.med.va.gov/) in the Internet Explorer address bar. These methods of accessing VistAWeb are discussed in more detail in later sections of this manual.

Note: *Some links found in this user manual go to sites or pages found on the VA intranet. These sites or pages are not accessible from outside the VA network.*

The standalone version of VistAWeb is connected to neither CPRS nor the clinical context management application. Standalone VistAWeb serves an important function for users who have been granted special access to multiple sites, such as for National Programs, Veterans Administration (VA) researchers, and others. VistAWeb was also made available more broadly, though temporarily, to assist clinical staff with the retrieval of patient information from the sites affected by damage caused by hurricane Katrina.

To fully appreciate the data that VistAWeb presents to the user, it is important to know something about the HDR as one of the sources of that data. Please read the following section to familiarize yourself with the purpose of the HDR and some of the terms and acronyms that describe it, as these will be used in subsequent sections of this manual.

Brief Overview of the HDR

The purpose of the HDR project is to establish a clinical data repository. A clinical data repository is a collection of clinical information that resides on one or more independent platforms and is used by clinicians and other personnel to facilitate longitudinal patient-centric care. The data in the HDR will be retrieved from existing VistA files and organized in a format that supports the delivery of care, regardless of the patient's current location or where the patient has been treated in the past. Additionally, the HDR will serve five main purposes:

- Serve as a primary source for the legal health record (LHR),
- Enable the generation of clinical reports based on the entire clinical holdings of Veterans Health Administration (VHA),
- Serve as a platform for a re-engineered CPRS,
- Serve as a platform for patient self-access to the medical record, and
- Support standardization between and among Department of Defense (DoD), Indian Health Services (IHS), and other government and private industry clinical databases through the creation of a standards-based database.

To accomplish this complex task of consolidating the clinical patient data from all of the VistA sites and creating a new system of data storage and retrieval, three different, but interrelated database strategies are being employed: HDR-Historical (Hx), HDR-Interim Messaging Solution (IMS), and HDR II. To date, only HDR-Historical and HDR-IMS are storing data.

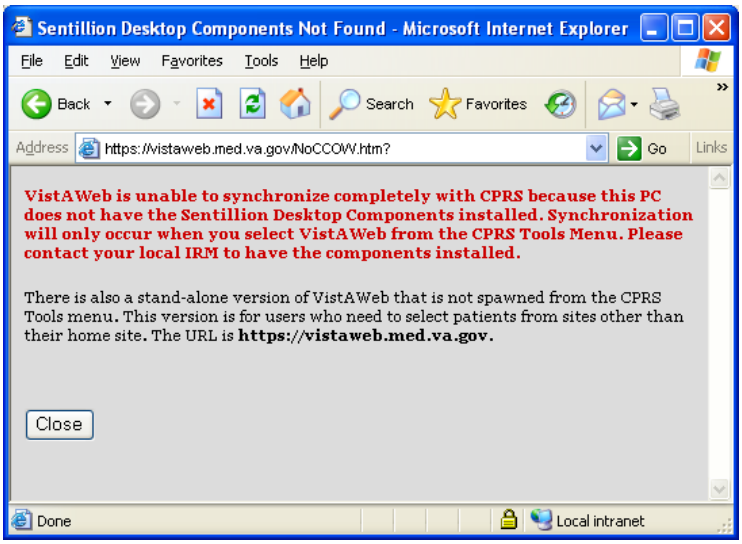
Data in HDR-Hx is being extracted from VistA sites on a domain-by-domain basis from a specified "date-backward" to the beginning of the clinical records in VistA and stored in a relational database. VistA data from a specified "date-forward" is stored on a domain-by-domain basis in the HDR-IMS database as HL7 messages. Data in HDR-IMS has been standardized by VHA's Data Standardization team in collaboration with domain stakeholders and subject matter experts. The data in HDR-Hx for these same domains has not been standardized—except for Allergies. A project decision was made to standardize the main VistA allergy file both backward and forward in time because a previously reported allergy, for instance an allergy to Penicillin, would have obvious relevance to present-day patient care. Standardized allergy data is coded and computable and thereby amenable to automated drug-allergy order checking. Currently a total of thirty domains, or major portions of clinical domains, have been targeted for storage in the HDR. It is anticipated that these domains will be standardized to varying degrees.

A read service (and in the future, a write service) called Clinical Data Service (CDS) returns the clinical patient data for the Vitals, Allergies, and Outpatient Pharmacy domains from the HDR databases to the VistAWeb application in response to requests for data by VistAWeb users. If both HDR-Hx and HDR-IMS contain the same record, VistAWeb discards the duplicate, displaying only the HDR-IMS data. Furthermore, there is duplicate data in VistA databases and both HDR databases because all of the data that has been extracted for the Historical database or stored in the IMS database came from or is still being sent to VistA databases. When VistAWeb retrieves site (VistA) records and duplicate records from the HDR, VistAWeb displays the HDR instance of the record.

Known Constraints

There are known constraints in the installation and use of VistAWeb:

1. VistAWeb is a CCOW-compliant application. If VistAWeb is launched from CPRS on a computer without the CCOW-compliant Vergence Desktop Components installed, the following message will appear and VistAWeb will then exit.



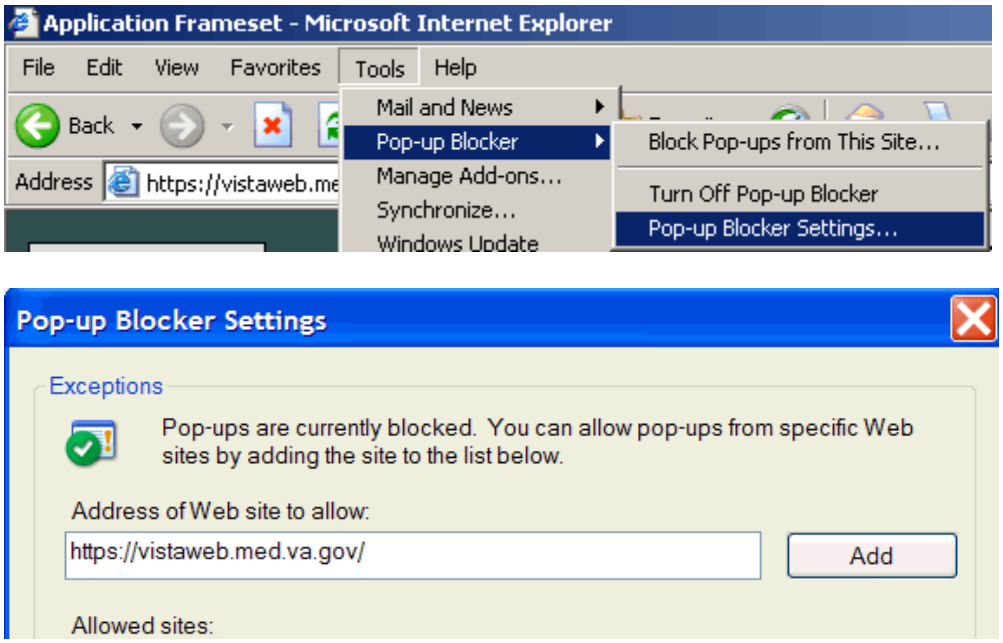
Note: *Information Resources Management (IRM) staff should refer to the VistAWeb Informational Patch OR*3*230 for guidance on where to find information and who to talk to about installation and configuration of the CCOW Desktop Components. Additional CCOW information can be found at http://vista.med.va.gov/vistaweb/Desktop_Components.htm and http://vista.med.va.gov/CCOW/index.html.*

2. Access to VistAWeb in a test account should ***not*** be made available to general users. Access ***should*** be made available in a production account. Accessing VistAWeb in test accounts will require the user to enter the IP address and port number of the test system each time a patient selection is performed. Access to VistAWeb in a test account should be restricted to IRM staff for limited testing purposes only.

Note: *Using VistAWeb to look up "test patients" may produce confusing results. Normally, no two sites ever have the same test patients. Using a test patient in a production account may seem to work satisfactorily, but can cause VistAWeb to error out as it attempts to reconcile a test patient at multiple sites.*

3. VistAWeb uses pop-ups. Field facilities that have chosen to turn off pop-ups on desktops will need to allow them for VistAWeb. In *Internet Explorer* in the *Tools* menu pull-down, select *Pop-up Blocker>Pop-up Blocker Settings*, type the VistAWeb URL in the *Address of the Web site to allow:* box, and click the *Add* button (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Setting Internet Explorer to Allow Pop-ups



Note: *Some links found in this user manual go to sites or pages found on the VA intranet. These sites or pages are not accessible from outside the VA network.*

What's New with VistAWeb Releases 7.0 and 7.5?

Several enhancements have been added to VistAWeb in the 7.0 and 7.5 releases. If you are already familiar with VistAWeb, read this section of the manual to find out what's new in this release. If you are not familiar with VistAWeb, you may want to start with Accessing VistAWeb and then come back to this section to find out what's new.

VistAWeb Version 7.5 Features/Enhancements.

1. Resolved PSI-08-057 (also known as Remedy #245921) "'All Results' in the Chemistry and Hematology report not returning all results." Users can now specify a limit (per site) on the number of reports returned, with the default being 50.
2. Fixed the formatting of the Surgery Report columns "DictationTime" and "Transcription Time."
3. Added the "Reason for Study" column in the Radiology Report (this will be populated when CPRS v27 rolls out.)
4. Past Clinical Visits report displaying "RSA ERROR" when "All Results" is selected (Remedy 241666)
5. Resolved PSI-08-078 (also known as Remedy #249810) FHIE/BHIE data was missing on the "All Outpatient Pharmacy" report (meds with an expiration date greater than the current date)

VistAWeb Version 7.0 Features/Enhancements

Ad Hoc Health Summaries

The capability of producing temporary ad hoc health summaries has been added to VistAWeb. This is similar to the ad hoc Report functionality in CPRS. After you select a patient and Ad Hoc Report under the Health Summaries menu, you can select from a list of Ad Hoc Reports and a list of File Selections to be included in your report. Then, if applicable to your selections, you can specify Header Name, Occurrence Limit, Time Limit, Display Hospital Location, Display Provider Narrative, and ICD Text Display, or you can select site-defined defaults. When sub-items are available, another "slush bucket" pops up for you to enter selections. Click the Run Report button to generate your ad hoc report (Figure 2). In the case of this example, an attempt was made to add an additional subcomponent, and the user was informed in small print above the Select Ad Hoc Reports window "Limit exceeded. Cannot add more sub-components." Figure 3 shows some of the additional selections that are available when "Outpatient Diagnosis" is selected as the "Header Name." For more information on ad hoc health summary components, please refer to the CPRS Technical Manual.

Figure 2: Ad Hoc Health Summary Report Selection

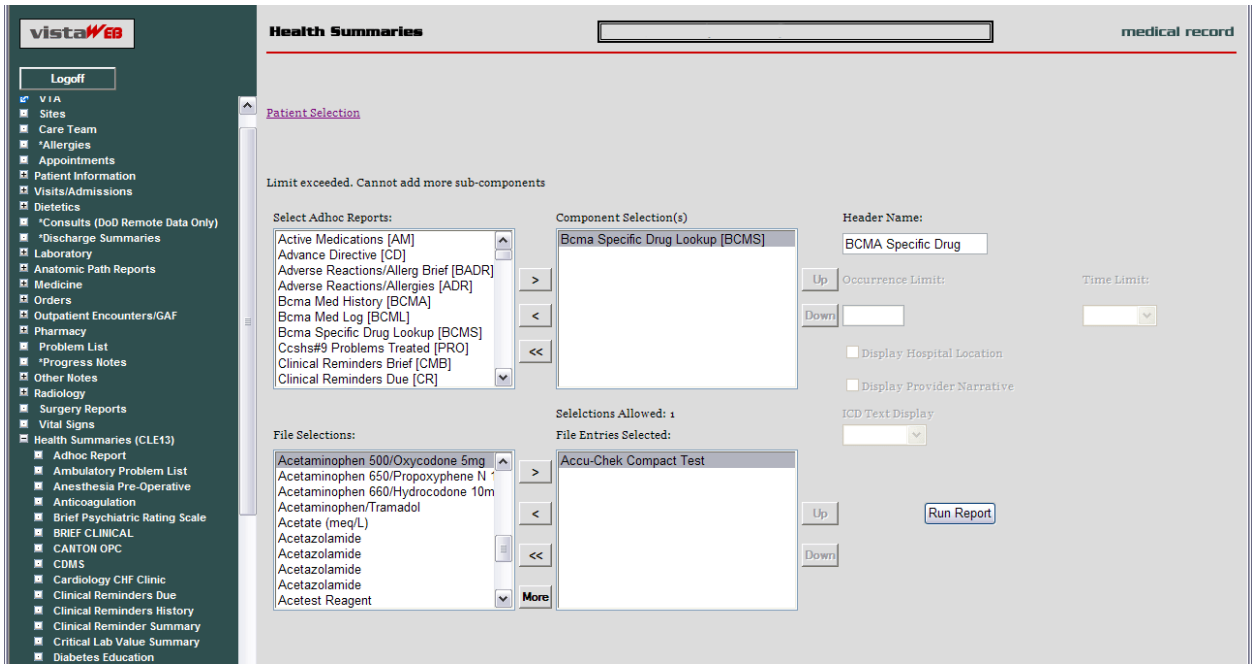
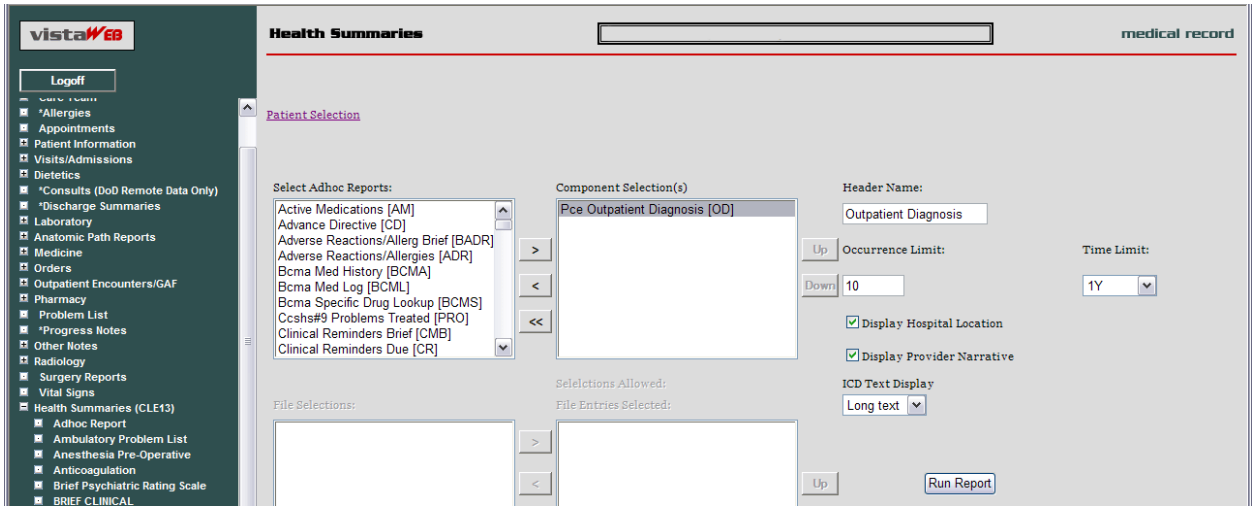


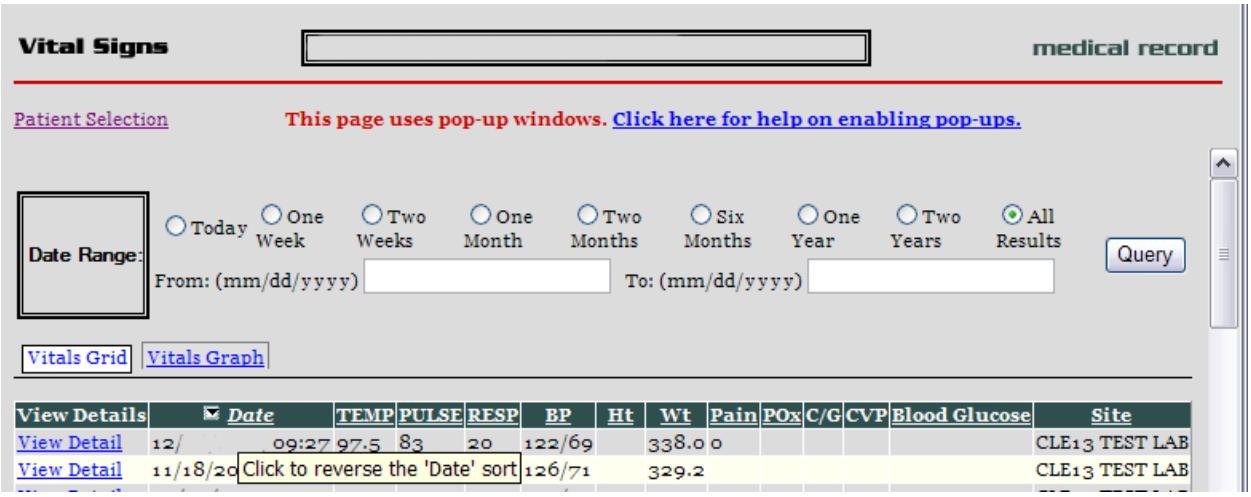
Figure 3: Additional Ad Hoc Components



Improved Navigation for Vitals

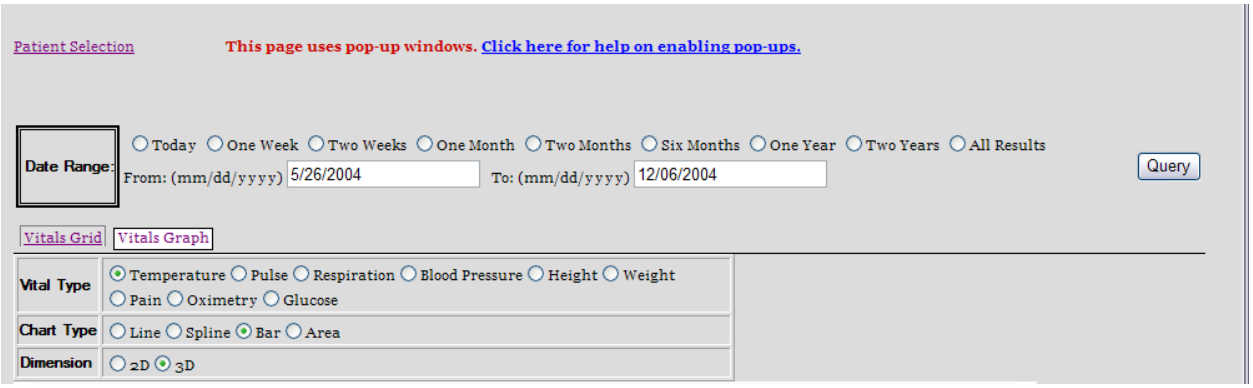
The vitals report now allows you to switch between grid and graph views, which permits graphing of multiple vital signs without having to return to the initial Vitals date selection screen. Figure 4 shows the Vitals Grid view.

Figure 4: Grid View



When you click on the Vitals Graph button, the screen displays selection radio buttons for the Vital Type, the Chart Type, and Dimension (Figure 5). In addition, to the Grid and Graph buttons, the vitals have been ordered to coincide with the order found on the View Detail report, and the table has been restructured so it better fits the screen area.

Figure 5: Graph View



Enhanced Sorting of Grids

Look back at Figure 4 and note that there is a small triangle next to Date in the Date column with hover text that says, “Click to reverse the ‘Date’ sort.” You can click on the triangle to reverse the date-order of the table. Columns that can be sorted are underlined. When you click on any of the other underlined column headings, they will re-sort and the reverse sort triangle will appear next the column heading you just sorted. The capability to reverse the sort helps provide easier access to data; for example, you can now reverse the sort on the Last Fill Date in the Outpatient Pharmacy grid to get the most recent dates at the top of the list instead of at the bottom.

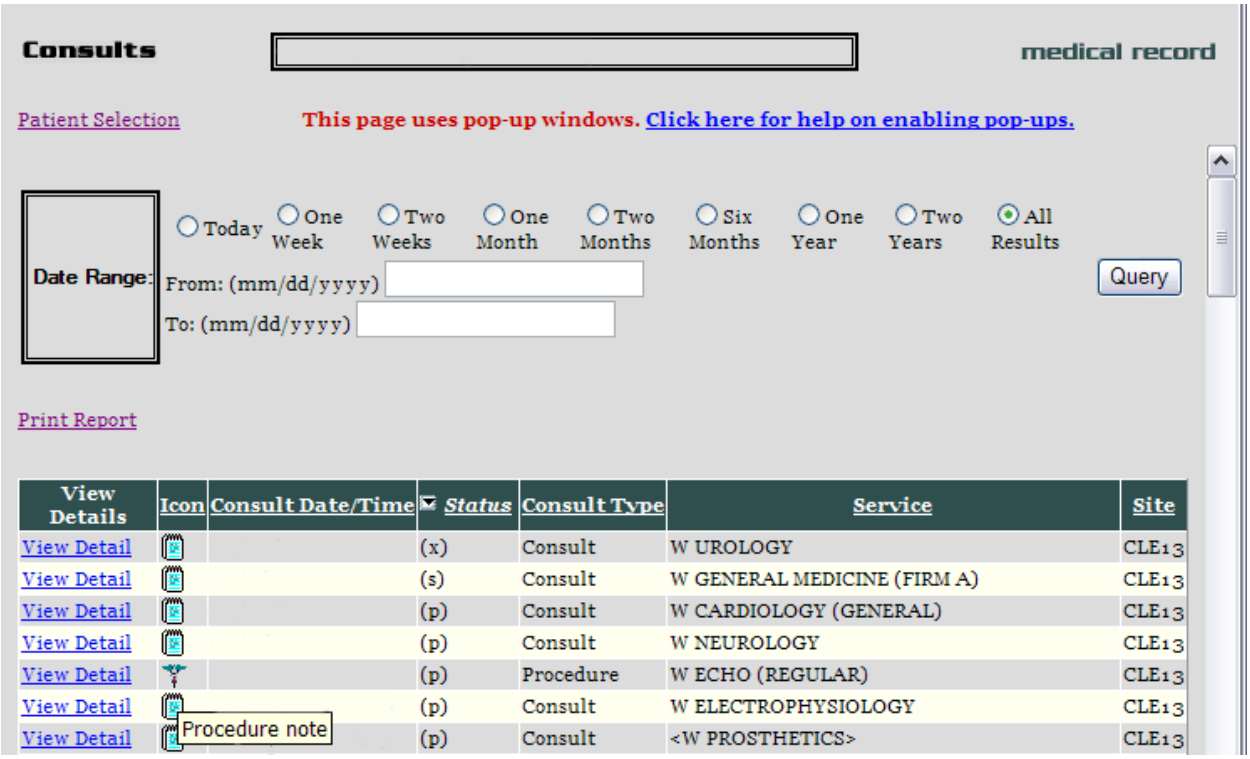
Icons and Hover Text

An Icon column and hover text have been added to the Progress Notes report and the newly added Consults and Procedures report. Table 1 shows the icons and their associated hover text. Figure 6 shows the Consults and Procedures report, the Icon column, and the hover text for a Procedure note.

Table 1: Icons and Hover Text for Progress Notes and Consults and Procedures

	View attached image in CPRS
	Progress note
	Progress note addendum
	Progress note with addendum
	Interdisciplinary child note
	Interdisciplinary note addendum
	Interdisciplinary child note with addendum
	Interdisciplinary parent note
	Interdisciplinary parent note with addendum
	Consult request
	Procedure request
	Interfacility consult request
	Interfacility procedure request

Figure 6: Consults and Procedures Report, Icon Column, and Hover Text



Veterans Tracking Application

A link to the Veteran Tracking Application (VTA) has been added at the top of the VistAWeb reports menu tree (see Figure 7). VTA is a modified version of the DoD Joint Patient Tracking Application (JPTA). After the link is clicked, the VTA SharePoint website is displayed if the user has already received access permission to the site. If the user has not

requested and received access permission, a screen is presented where the user can make that request.

Current functionality allows the display of Patient Treatment History notes entered directly into VTA by VA/DoD Liaisons and Case Managers, as well as a link to display clinical data from the DoD Composite Health Care System (CHCS) and a link to Theater data.

Note: *In both standalone and spawned VistAWeb, patient context is not maintained when users make patient selection changes. CCOW capability is not yet available.*

Note: *There currently is no link to VTA provided through CPRS.*

Figure 7: VTA Link

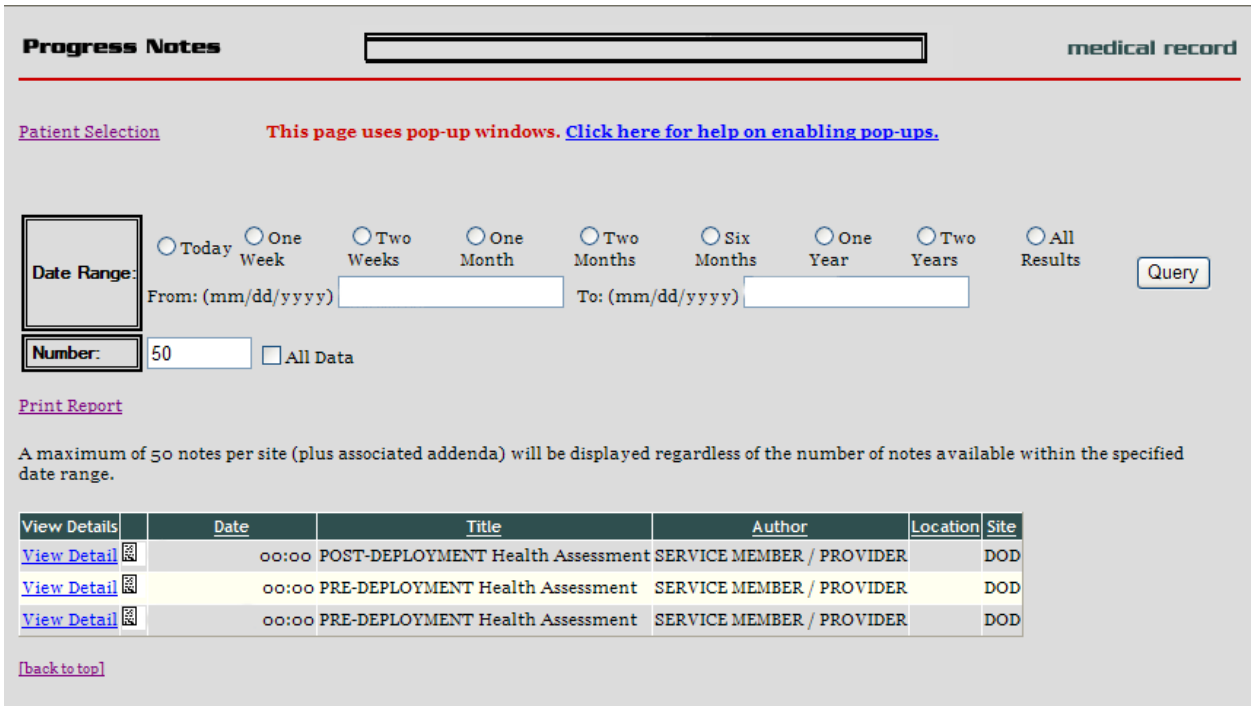
Department of Defense Documents

Additional Department of Defense (DoD) documents have been added to VistAWeb. Note that the symbol indicating potential DoD data now follows the menu name, rather than preceding it. This enhancement was done to improve accessibility for assistive technologies. The new reports are:

- Expanded ADT†
- Consults and Procedures†
- Consults (DoD Remote Data Only) †
- Discharge Summaries†
- Outpatient Encounters†

Several other reports were previously available as part of the growing list of DoD reports. For example, the Pre-deployment and Post-deployment Health Assessments Progress Notes report was made available in a previous release of VistAWeb (Figure 8).

Figure 8: Progress Notes for Pre- and Post-Deployment Health Assessments



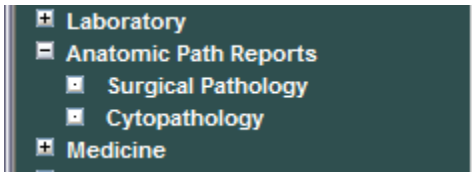
Consults

Consults report has been added to the VistAWeb menu. Clicking on the Consults menu item will bring up the Consults grid. The grid will display some of the Consult information, and a View Detail link will present the detailed Consult information, as shown in the list in the next section of the manual under *Orders – Current Orders, Consults*.

Anatomic Path(ology) Reports

Anatomic Pathology Reports have been added to the menu of reports. The menu item expands to show Surgical Pathology and Cytopathology reports (Figure 9).

Figure 9: Anatomic Path Reports

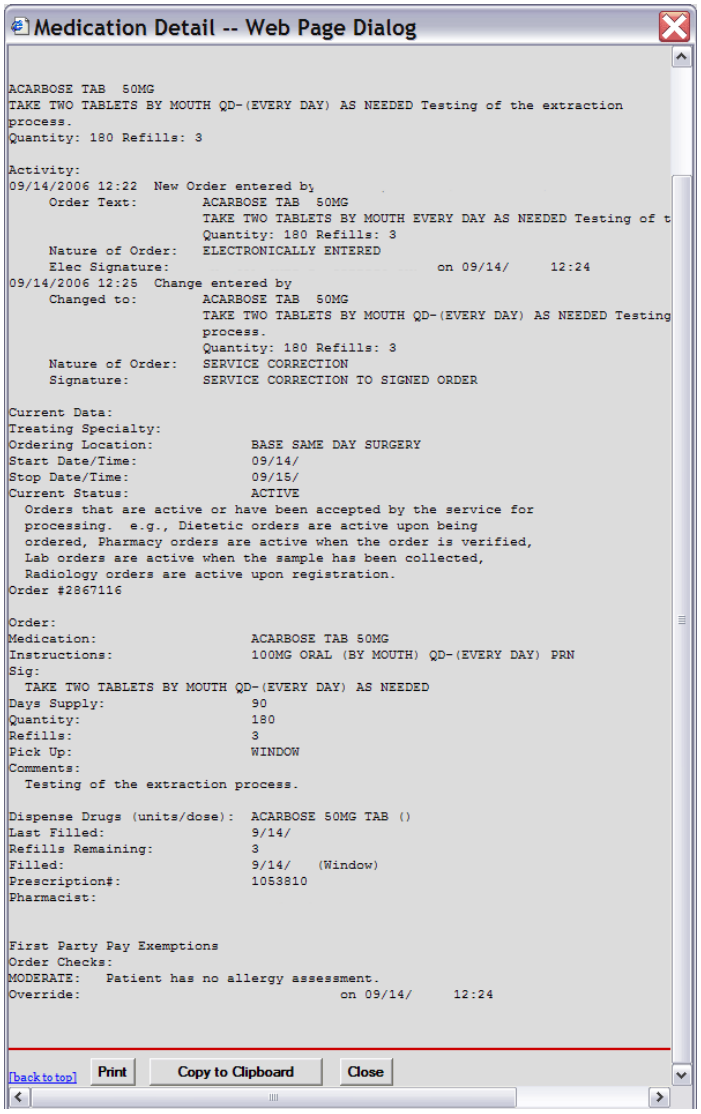


View Detail Display

The details displayed in the View Detail reports have been enhanced for Allergies, Orders – Current Orders, Surgery, and Outpatient Pharmacy. An example of the Current Orders

Medications Detail is shown in Figure 10. Lists delineating the View Detail enhancements follow the Medication Detail example.

Figure 10: Example Medication Detail



```
Medication Detail -- Web Page Dialog

ACARBOSE TAB  50MG
TAKE TWO TABLETS BY MOUTH QD-(EVERY DAY) AS NEEDED Testing of the extraction
process.
Quantity: 180 Refills: 3

Activity:
09/14/2006 12:22  New Order entered by
     Order Text:        ACARBOSE TAB  50MG
                        TAKE TWO TABLETS BY MOUTH EVERY DAY AS NEEDED Testing of t
                        Quantity: 180 Refills: 3
     Nature of Order:   ELECTRONICALLY ENTERED
     Elec Signature:                                  on 09/14/     12:24
09/14/2006 12:25  Change entered by
     Changed to:        ACARBOSE TAB  50MG
                        TAKE TWO TABLETS BY MOUTH QD-(EVERY DAY) AS NEEDED Testing
                        process.
                        Quantity: 180 Refills: 3
     Nature of Order:   SERVICE CORRECTION
     Signature:         SERVICE CORRECTION TO SIGNED ORDER

Current Data:
Treating Specialty:
Ordering Location:            BASE SAME DAY SURGERY
Start Date/Time:              09/14/
Stop Date/Time:               09/15/
Current Status:               ACTIVE
  Orders that are active or have been accepted by the service for
  processing.  e.g., Dietetic orders are active upon being
  ordered, Pharmacy orders are active when the order is verified,
  Lab orders are active when the sample has been collected,
  Radiology orders are active upon registration.
Order #2867116

Order:
Medication:                   ACARBOSE TAB 50MG
Instructions:                 100MG ORAL (BY MOUTH) QD-(EVERY DAY) PRN
Sig:
  TAKE TWO TABLETS BY MOUTH QD-(EVERY DAY) AS NEEDED
Days Supply:                  90
Quantity:                     180
Refills:                      3
Pick Up:                      WINDOW
Comments:
  Testing of the extraction process.

Dispense Drugs (units/dose):  ACARBOSE 50MG TAB ()
Last Filled:                  9/14/
Refills Remaining:            3
Filled:                       9/14/   (Window)
Prescription#:                1053810
Pharmacist:


First Party Pay Exemptions
Order Checks:
MODERATE:   Patient has no allergy assessment.
Override:                                 on 09/14/     12:24

[back to top]   Print   Copy to Clipboard   Close
```

- **Allergies**
  The following fields are displayed if data is available in the View Detail report for drug allergies:
  - Causative agent
  - Nature of reaction
  - Signs/Symptoms
  - Drug classes
  - Originator
  - Originated
  - Verified

- Observed/Historical

The following fields are displayed if data is available in the View Detail report for food allergies:

- Causative agent
- Nature of reaction
- Signs/Symptoms
- Originator
- Originated
- Verified
- Observed/Historical

- **Orders - Current Orders**

  The following fields are displayed if data is available in the View Detail report for Current Orders:

  - **Dietetics Order**
    - Order Text:
    - Nature of Order:
    - Ordered by:
    - Signature**:**
    - Current Data:
    - Current Primary Provider:
    - Current Attending Physician:
    - Treating Specialty:
    - Ordering Location:
    - Start Date/Time:
    - Stop Date/Time:
    - Current Status:
    - Order:
    - Diet:
    - Effective Date/Time:
    - Delivery:
  - **Lab Order**
    - Order Text:
    - Nature of Order:
    - Ordered by:
    - Signature**:**
    - Current Data:
    - Current Primary Provider:
    - Current Attending Physician:
    - Treating Specialty:
    - Ordering Location:
    - Start Date/Time:
    - Stop Date/Time:
    - Current Status:
    - Order:

    - Lab Test:
    - Collected By:
    - Collection Sample:
    - Specimen:
    - Collection Date/Time:
    - Urgency:
    - How often:
- **Consults**
    - Order Text:
    - Nature of Order:
    - Ordered by:
    - Signature**:**
    - Current Data:
    - Current Primary Provider:
    - Current Attending Physician:
    - Treating Specialty:
    - Ordering Location:
    - Start Date/Time:
    - Stop Date/Time:
    - Current Status:
    - Order:
    - Consult to Service/Specialty:
    - Reason for Request:
    - Indication for anticoagulation:
    - Duration of therapy:
    - Desired intensity (INR):
    - Dosage patient started on:
    - Dosage patient discharged on:
    - Contact person once treatment completed:
    - Confirm patient phone number & address
    - For cardioversion
    - Cardiology follow-up scheduled
    - Where patient should be followed
    - Category:
    - Urgency:
    - Place of consultation:
- **Medication**
    - Stop Date/Time:
    - Current Status:
    - Order:
    - Medication**:**
    - Dispense Drug:
    - Instructions:
    - Text:

- Days Supply:
- Quantity:
- Refills:
- Pick Up:
- Priority:
- Comments:
- Order Checks:
- Medication History for:
- Run Date:
- Medication Search List:
- Patient: SSN: DOB:
- Sex: Ht/Wt: Ward:
- Dx: Last Mvmt: Type:
- ADRs:
- Allergies:
- Location:
- Administrative Date:
- By:
- Injection Site:
- Units:
- Units of:
- Medication & Dosage:
- Given:
- Administration:

- **Radiology (Imaging)**
  - Activity:
  - Order Text:
  - Nature of Order:
  - Elec Signature:
  - Current Data:
  - Current Primary Provider:
  - Current Attending Physician:
  - Treating Specialty:
  - Ordering Location:
  - Start Date/Time:
  - Stop Date/Time:
  - Current Status:
  - Order:
  - Procedure:
  - History and Reason for Exam:
  - Category:
  - Ordering Location:
  - Date Desired:
  - Mode of Transport:

    - Is patient on isolation procedures?:
    - Urgency:
    - Submit request to:
- **Surgery**
  The following fields are displayed if data is available in the View Detail report for Surgery:
  - Surgical Specialty
  - Status
  - Lab Work
  - Dictation Time
  - Transcription Time
  - In addition, the Surgery report grid headings now match the CPRS surgery table headings. Operative Procedure, Pre-op Diags, and Post-op Diags headings have been added.
- **Outpatient Pharmacy**
  - A View Detail link was added to the All Outpatient pharmacy grid. The detail is similar to the Medication Detail shown in Figure 10.

Broker Security Enhancement (BSE)

The Broker Security Enhancement (BSE) has been added to VistAWeb. BSE provides for improved security in site authentication. It is transparent to the user. The VistAWeb Technical Manual provides additional information about BSE.

Grid View of Surgical Pathology and Cytology Reports

A grid view of surgical pathology reports, with View Detail providing the full text of the report is provided from the menu tree under the Laboratory – Surgical Pathology report selection. However, the surgical pathologist's name no longer appears as a column in the grid. This is the result of a change to the remote procedure call (RPC) on the VistA side. The Laboratory – Cytology report likewise presents a summary in a grid, with View Detail for the full-text report, but the cytotechnologist or pathologist name no longer appears as a column in the grid. All of the Lab Summary reports and all of the Anatomic Pathology reports only display full-text reports. They are not supplied in a grid in summary form.

Accessing VistAWeb

There are three methods of accessing VistAWeb.

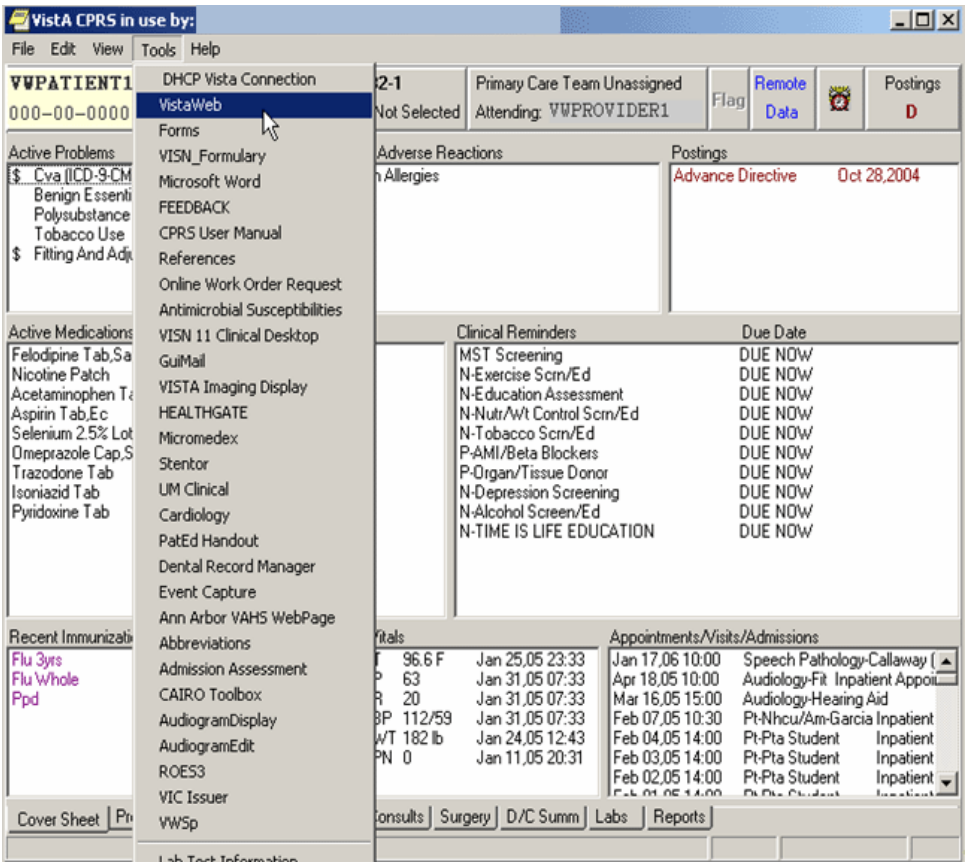
- Through CPRS under the Tools menu
- Through the Remote Data Available button in CPRS
- Directly from Microsoft's Internet Explorer (IE)

The first two are referred to as CPRS-spawned versions, which maintain context between the patient selected in CPRS and VistAWeb patient, i.e., they are the same patient. The third method is referred to as standalone VistAWeb. It does not maintain context with CPRS.

VistAWeb under the CPRS Tools Menu

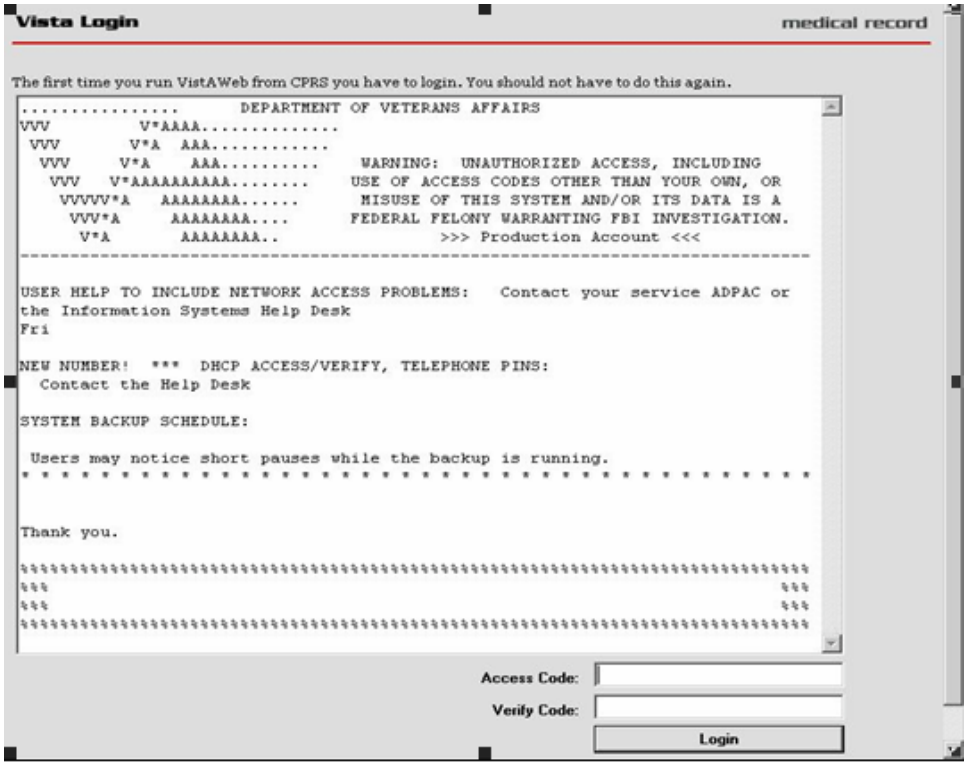
To access VistAWeb, you must first log into CPRS using your access/verify codes, select a patient, and select VistAWeb from the Tools menu (Figure 11). VistAWeb will maintain context with the selected patient and retrieve data for that patient from all sites where the patient has records. When you select a different patient from the CPRS File menu, VistAWeb will maintain context with the new selection. This is described in Patient Context in CPRS-Spawned VistAWeb.

Figure 11: VistAWeb Access from the CPRS Tools Menu



The very first time you launch VistAWeb from CPRS, a login (using the same access and verify codes as for CPRS) is required (Figure 12). Subsequent uses of VistAWeb do not require a second login.

Figure 12: Initial Launch Using CPRS Access and Verify Codes



Access to VistAWeb from CPRS Remote Data Available Button

The Remote Data Available button in CPRS provides you with the option of selecting VistAWeb as your default method of accessing remote data. If you set **Use VistAWeb from now on** (Figure 13), CPRS will launch VistAWeb for you. Additionally, CPRS will automatically launch VistAWeb the next time you log into CPRS and click on the Remote Data Available button.

To return to the use of classic Remote Data View, select Options from the CPRS Tools menu. Go to the Reports tab and select the RDV (Classic) radio button (Figure 14).

Figure 13: VistAWeb from the Remote Data Available Button

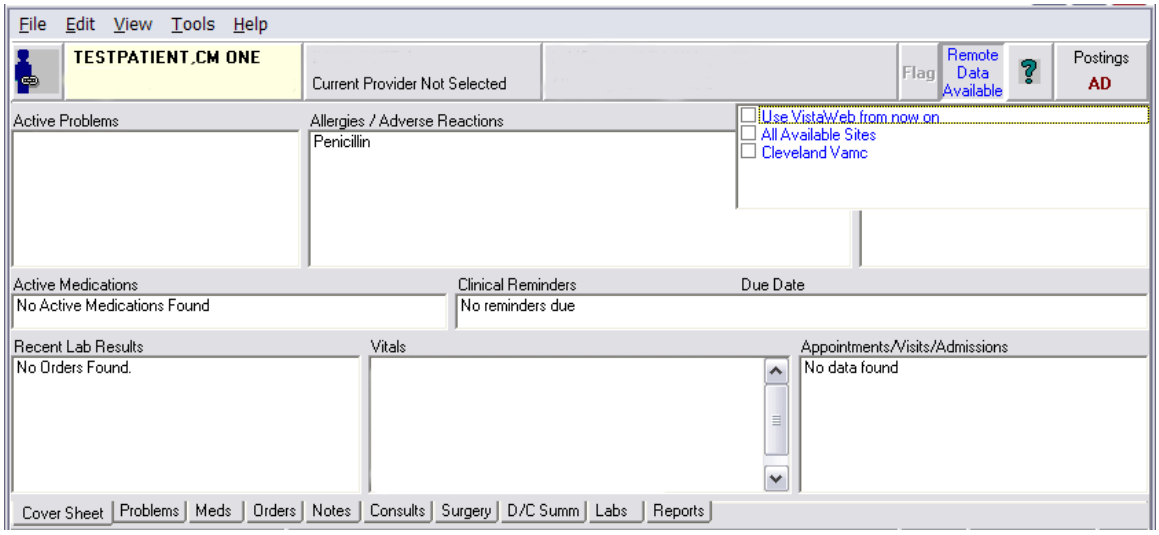
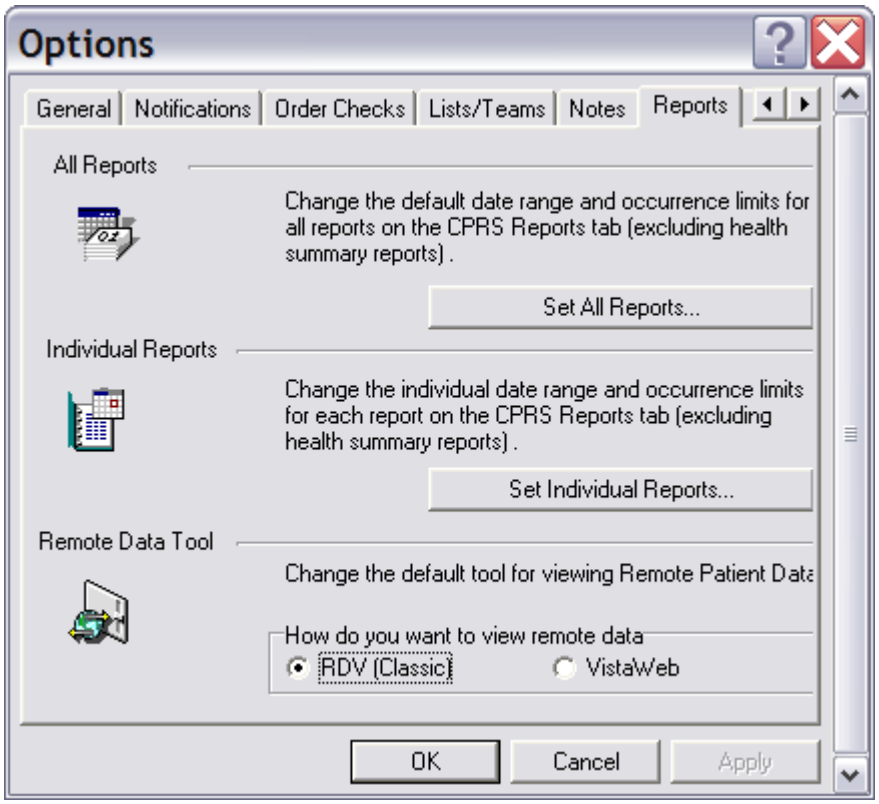


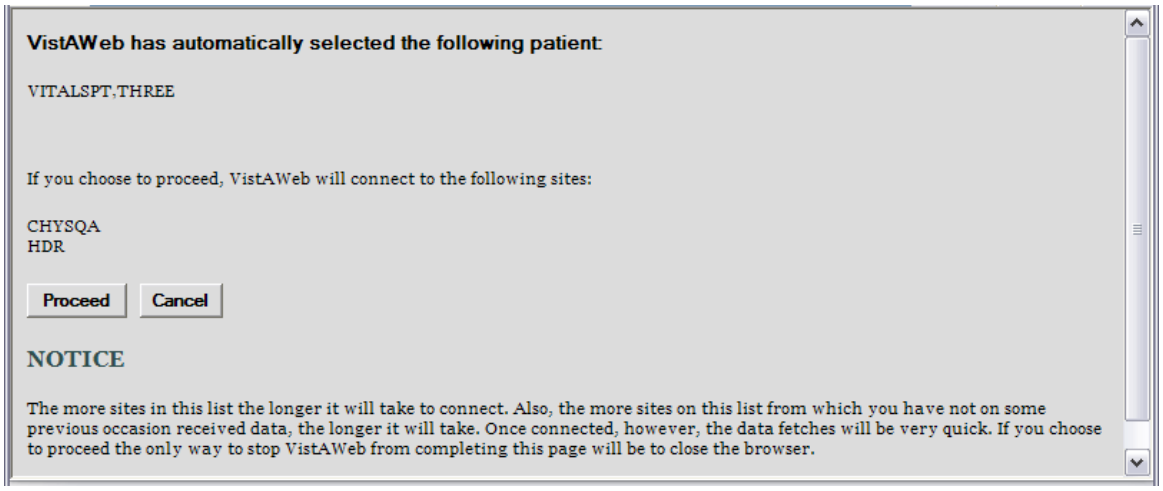
Figure 14: Change the Remote Data Tool to RDV Classic



Patient Context in CPRS-Spawned VistAWeb

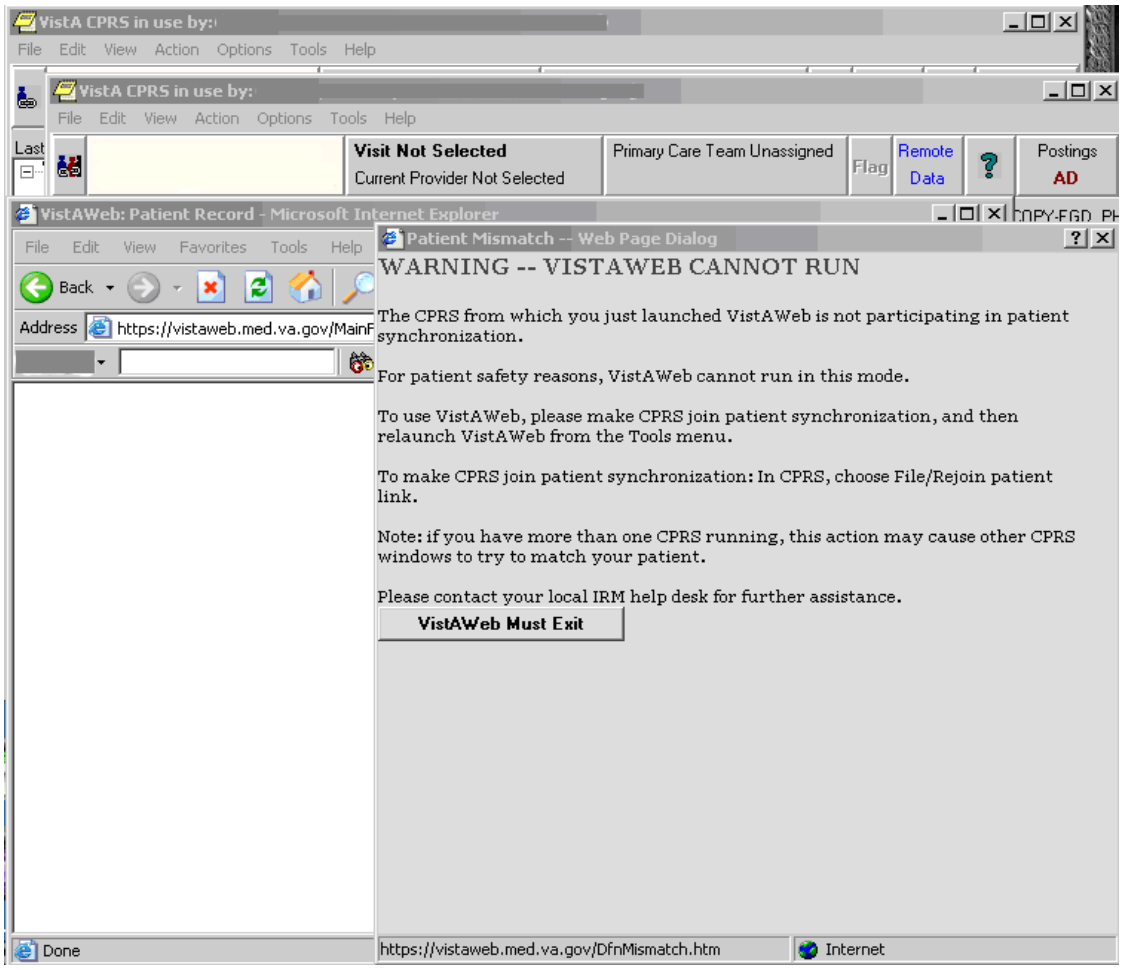
VistAWeb is a CCOW compliant application and, therefore, maintains context with the patient who was selected in CPRS. When you spawn VistAWeb from CPRS, VistAWeb presents you with a screen that confirms the patient identity, the sites where there is patient data, and gives you the option to proceed or cancel (Figure 15). If you select Proceed, VistAWeb displays the Sites & Notices screen for the new patient along with a menu of reports that are available in VistAWeb. If you select Cancel, VistAWeb forces you to close the session. When using VistAWeb through the CPRS Tools menu, you won't be able to select a new patient from within the VistAWeb application; however, you can return to CPRS to select a new patient and the VistAWeb connection process will begin again.

Figure 15: VistAWeb Maintains Context with the CPRS Patient



To avoid potential patient safety problems, VistAWeb will not open from a CPRS session that is not in context. This can occur when multiple CPRS sessions are open on the desktop. In the following example (Figure 16), two CPRS sessions are open. One session is in context, as indicated by the icon with a blue person and a connected chain link. The other CPRS session is not participating in patient context, as indicated by the icon with red and blue people and a broken chain. The VistAWeb warning message is the result of attempting to launch VistAWeb from the CPRS session that is not in context. VistAWeb forces the user to exit the attempted connection.

Figure 16: Two CPRS Sessions: One in Context, One Not in Context



VistAWeb Directly from IE ("Standalone" VistAWeb)

VistAWeb can also be accessed directly from IE by entering https://vistaweb.med.va.gov/ in the IE address bar. Users must select their local site for login, then log in using their CPRS/VistA access and verify code pair.

Note: *Some links found in this user manual go to sites or pages found on the VA intranet. These sites or pages are not accessible from outside the VA network.*

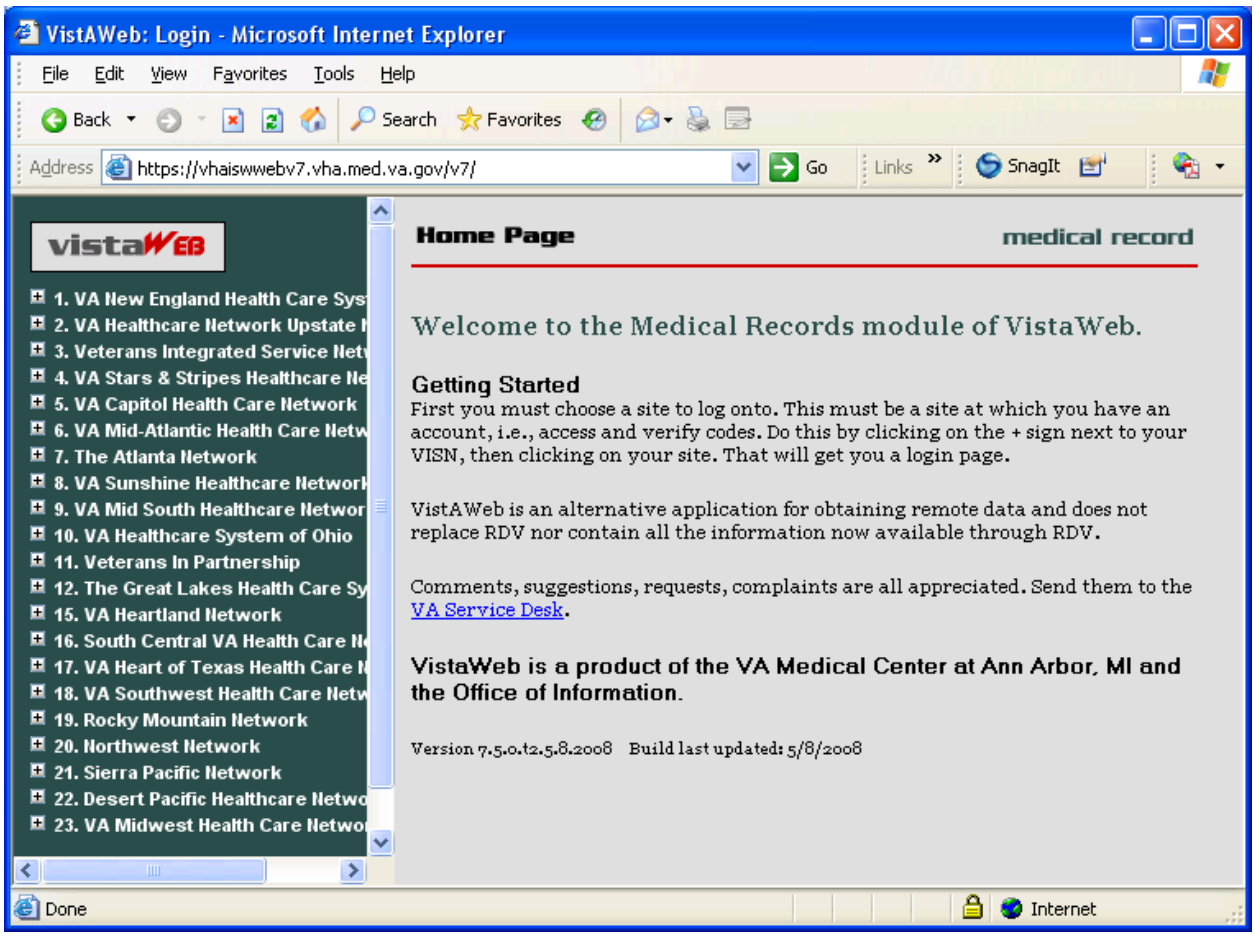
Once you have made your login site selection, you may want to save the URL in the IE "Favorites" menu for future ease of access.

Note: *Users who regularly only use the standalone version of VistAWeb will be required to update their verify codes periodically, just as they would if logging into CPRS. When this happens, the login screen will display the message, "User must enter a new Verify code at this time."*

By default, users will be able to look up only those patients who are in their local VistA site. Data for those patients will be retrieved from all other sites the patients have visited. Some users (researchers or referral coordinators, for example) may need to look up patients who are not in the local VistA. VistAWeb requires that these users be granted Special User access. *Special Users* and *Requesting Special User Access* are discussed in more detail later in this manual

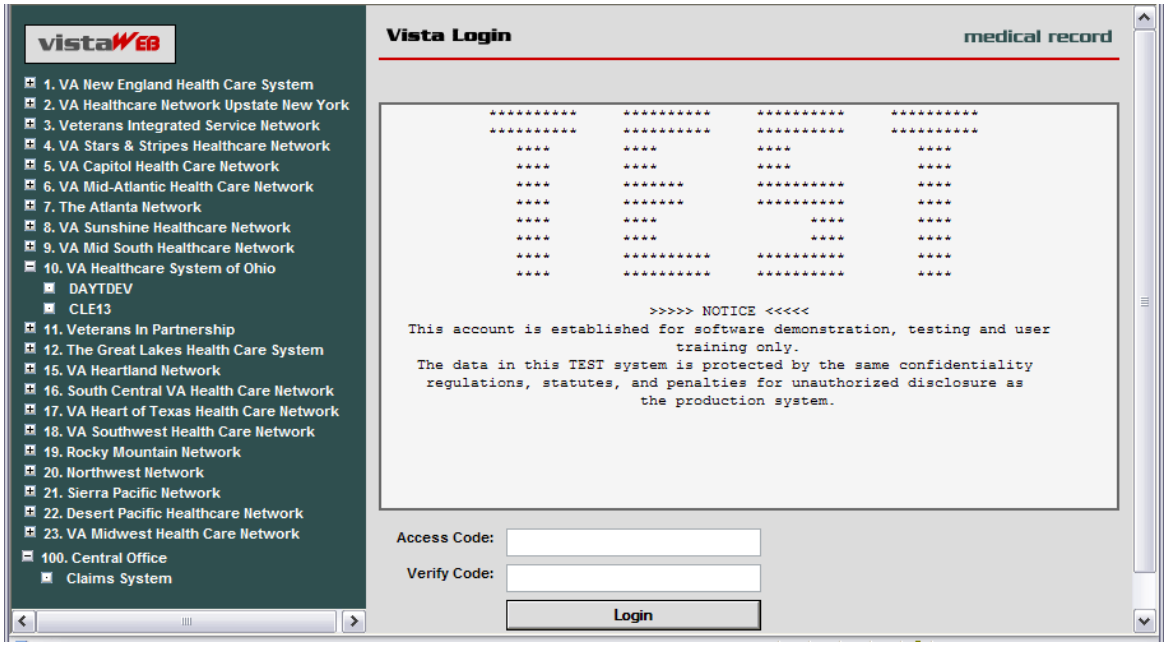
Note: *An exception to the VistA/CPRS account requirement is made for properly credentialed Special Users, who do not have clinical VistA accounts. For those users, access can be obtained by logging in through the "100. Central Office Claims System," as shown at the bottom of the sites menu in Figure 17.*

Figure 17: VistAWeb Home Page



To log into VistAWeb, select the site where you have an account from the list of sites on the left side of the page. The VistA login page for that site will appear (Figure 18). You should enter your access/verify codes the same way you would enter them in CPRS.

Figure 18: VistAWeb – VistA Site-Login Screen

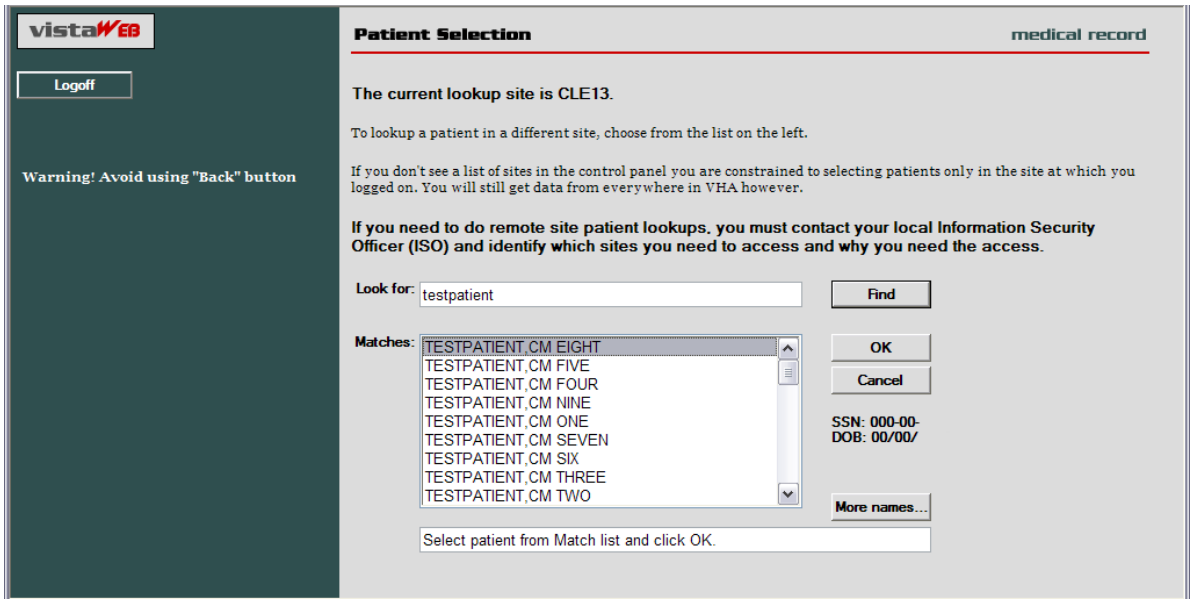


After you log into VistAWeb, the Patient Selection screen will appear. If you have Special User access, a list of sites for patient selection will be present on the left side of the screen. Special Users may select a site other than their login site for patient selection. All other users will be limited to patient selection from their login site only. **In either case, data for the selected patient will be automatically retrieved from all sites where that patient has data**.

Patient Selection

In standalone VistAWeb, patient selection can be performed in much the same way as in CPRS. You can enter the patient's name, part of the patient's last name, social security number, or the five-digit identifier (first letter of patient's last name plus the last four digits of the patient's social security number). After entering one of these identifiers, click your mouse button on the FIND button or press the Enter key on the keyboard. A list of potential matching patients appears in the box below (Figure 19). If there are more names available than shown in the scroll box, click the "More names…" button to see them. Once you have identified the desired patient, click your mouse button on the patient name, and click the mouse again on the OK button or press the Enter key on the keyboard.

Figure 19: Using the Patient Selection Screen to "Find" a Patient



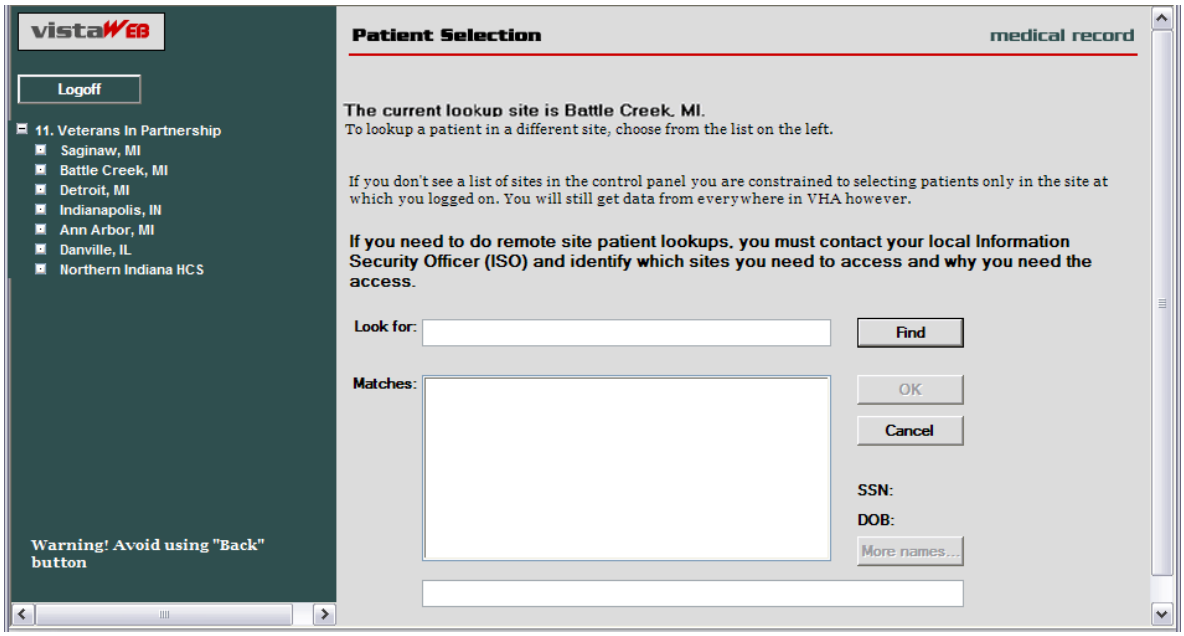
In the example above, the user does not have Special User access, so patient selection is limited to the local site where the user first logged in. There is no list of alternate patient selection sites on the left side of the VistAWeb Patient Selection screen.

Special Users

By default, users of VistAWeb are permitted to select patients that are in the local VistA system where the user logs in. VistAWeb will retrieve data for these patients from all sites where the patients have records. Some users (researchers or referral coordinators, for example) may need to select patients that are not in the local VistA. These users will require Special User access, which can be granted for one site in addition to the login site, several sites, an entire VISN, or all sites nationally.

After logging in to VistAWeb, Special Users will see the Patient Selection screen, with a list of sites accessible for patient selection (Figure 20).

Figure 20: Special User Multiple Site and Patient Selection



In the example above, the user is a Special User who has access to perform patient selection at all VISN 11 sites, which are listed on the left side of the screen. To select a patient from a site other than the login site, you must first click on the desired site on the left side of the screen and then perform patient selection.

Requesting Special User Access

Requests for Special User access fall into one of three categories:

- **National Programs** requiring "Special User" access, such as Blind Rehab, Transplant, War Related Illnesses, and so forth
- **VA Researchers** requiring "Special User" access for the purpose of approved research projects
- **All Others**, for example, local users, requiring "Special User" access to multiple VA sites for the purpose of clinical opinions, referral coordination, and so forth

All users requesting "Special User" access will be required to verify completion of the annual VHA Privacy Policy Training and VA Information Security Awareness Course and to sign the Rules of Behavior prior to approval of the request.

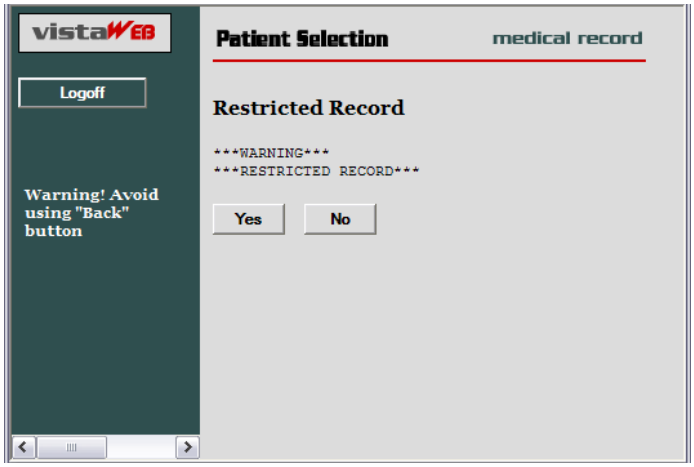
Individuals requesting Special User access to VistAWeb should contact vhacocapri@va.gov.

Sensitive Patient Warning

Similar to CPRS, standalone VistAWeb displays a warning to you if you select a patient who has been flagged or designated as a Sensitive Patient (Figure 21). VistAWeb differs from

CPRS in that it will display the warning message to you if the patient is sensitive in ANY of the sites from where the sensitive data will be retrieved. If you elect to proceed, notification will be sent to the Information Security Officer (ISO) at any and all sites where the patient data is marked sensitive. Both standalone and CPRS-spawned versions of VistAWeb also display the sensitivity status on the Sites & Notices screen.

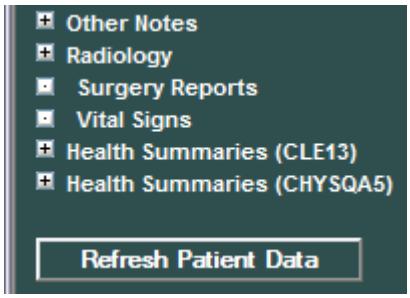
Figure 21: Restricted Record Warning



Refresh Patient Data

A *Refresh Patient Data* button has been added to VistAWeb that allows you to update reports without having to log off and back into a VistAWeb session (Figure 22) when new data is added to the patient's record in CPRS. Clicking on the Refresh Patient Data button returns you to the Sites & Notices screen from which you can navigate back to the appropriate report to see the new data.

Figure 22: Refresh Patient Data Button



Category 1 Patient Record Flags

Category I Patient Record Flags are now displayed in standalone sessions of VistAWeb before the user is permitted to "Continue to Patient Record" (Figure 23). The Category I flags are also displayed in both standalone and spawned versions of VistAWeb on the Sites & Notices screen (Figure 24).

Figure 23: Example Category I Patient Record Flag in Standalone VistAWeb

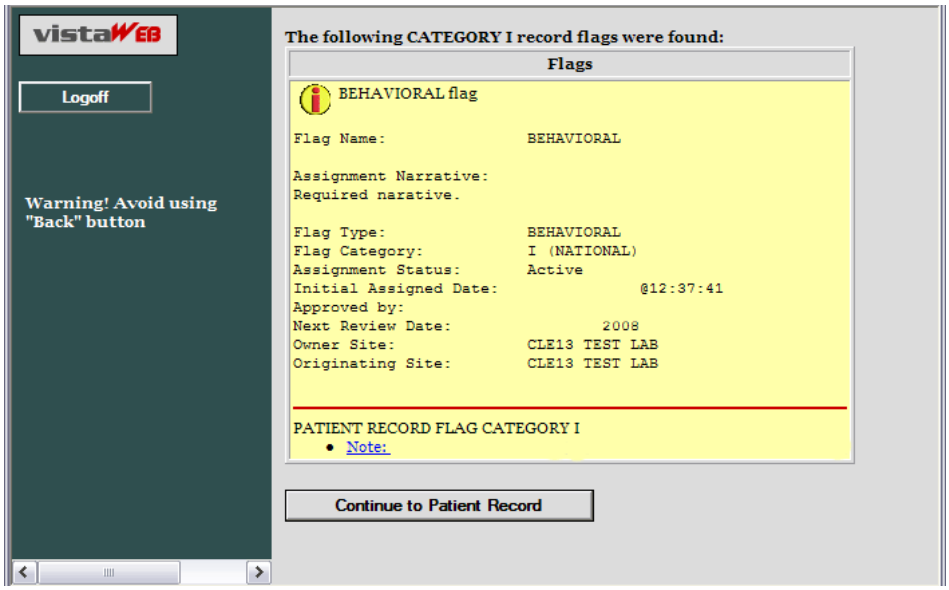
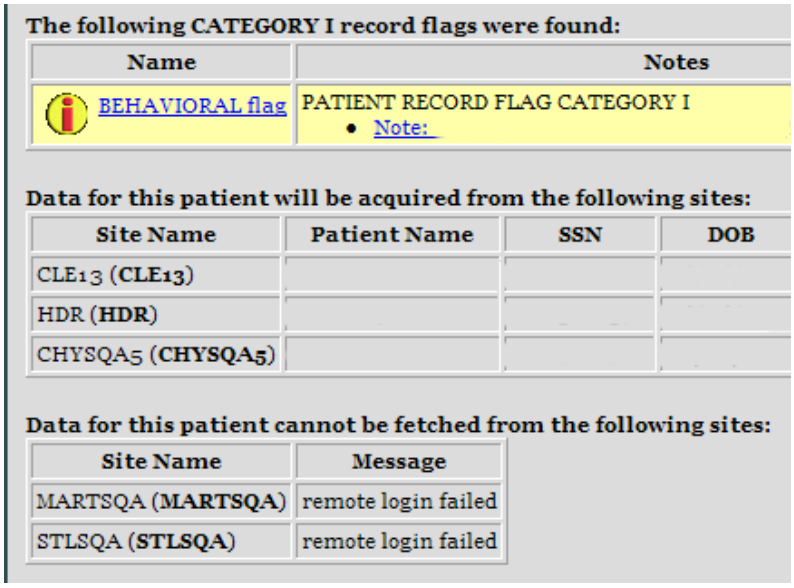


Figure 24: Example Category I Patient Record Flag on the Sites & Notices Screen



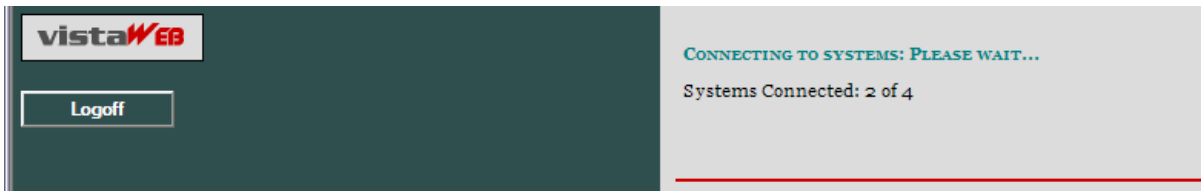
Using VistAWeb

After the Patient Selection page, all VistAWeb functionality for a Special User is the same as for other users, except that there is no clinical context management as described earlier in *Patient Context in CPRS-Spawned VistAWeb*.

Automatic Retrieval of Data from Multiple Sites

When the patient is first selected, VistAWeb determines how many sites the patient has visited and displays a message similar to the following to let you know that VistAWeb is establishing connections to those systems (Figure 25).

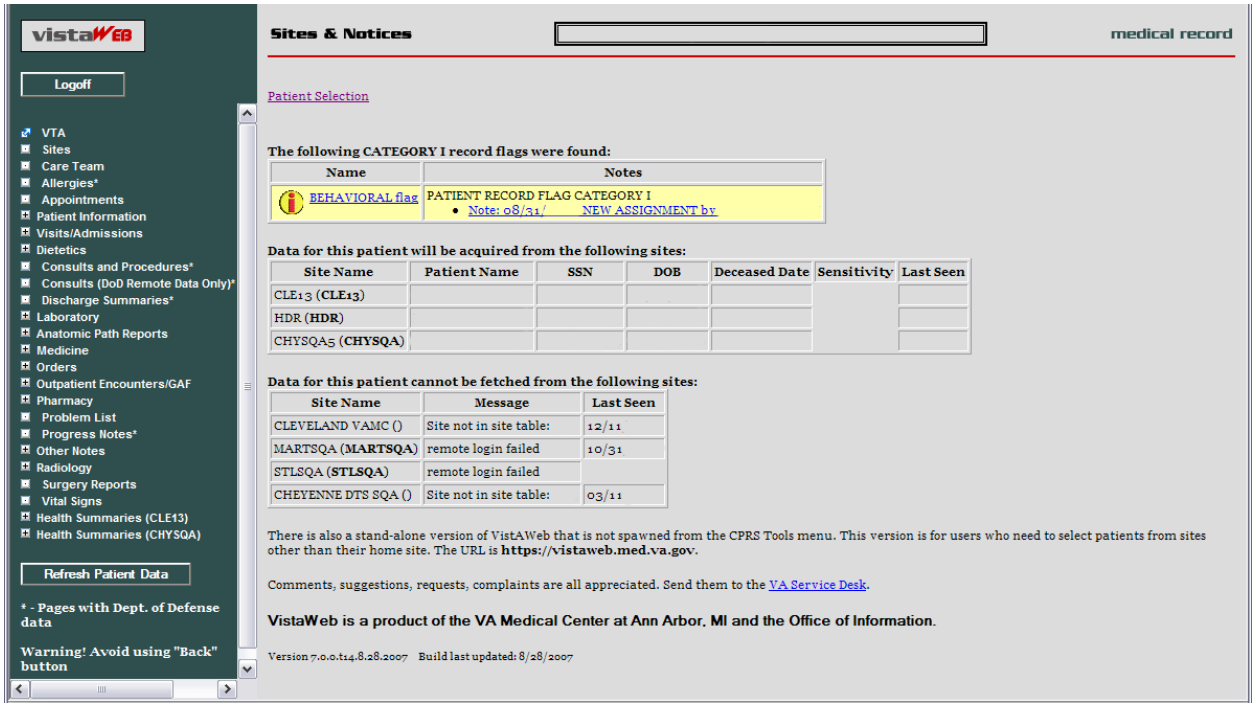
Figure 25: Please Wait…Message



The Sites and Notices page is then displayed, which includes a list of sites where data for that patient will be retrieved. In the following example (Figure 26), data will be retrieved from CLE13, HDR, and CHYSQA5. If VistAWeb cannot connect to some of the systems (sites) where the patient has been seen, that information is supplied in table format below the sites that are connected. The Last Seen field in the tables is only populated when the Master Patient Index (MPI) has that information to report.

On the left side of the screen, there is a list of reports for which VistAWeb is able to retrieve patient data. For more detail regarding the type of reports, refer to the *Expanded List of All Reports* section of this manual.

Figure 26: Patient Data Available at Multiple Sites



Expanded List of All Reports

Entries preceded by a plus sign (+) can be expanded to show sub-reports by clicking the mouse on the plus sign (+). Expanded lists can be collapsed by clicking the mouse on the minus sign (–).Example 1 is a fully expanded list of reports retrieved by VistAWeb, with the exception of the list of Health Summaries which has been truncated. In addition to National and local VistA health summaries, VISN level health summaries are available. Consequently, the list of available summaries can be quite long and will vary depending on the user's login site. The list of health summaries is similar to the Health Summary list available from the Reports tab in CPRS.

Items on the menu that are followed by this symbol (†) will include DoD data, if available.

Example 1: Expanded List of VistAWeb Reports

- VTA
- Sites
- Care Team
- Allergies † *
- Appointments
- Patient Information
  - Patient Inquiry
  - Demographics
  - Insurance
  - Disabilities
- Visits/Admissions
  - Adm./Discharge
  - Expanded ADT †
  - Discharge Diagnosis
  - Discharges
  - Future Clinic Visits
  - Past Clinic Visits
  - ICD Procedures
  - ICD Surgeries
  - Transfers
  - Treating Specialties
  - Comp and Pen
- Dietetics
  - Generic
  - Diet
  - Nutritional Status
  - Supp. Feedings
  - Tube Feedings
  - Dietetics Profile
  - Nutritional Assessments
- Consults and Procedures †
- Consults (DoD Remote Data Only) †
- Discharge Summaries †
- Laboratory
  - Autopsy
  - Blood Availability
  - Blood Transfusion
  - Blood Bank Report
  - Surgical Pathology †
  - Cytology †
  - Electron Microscopy
  - Lab Orders †
  - Chem & Hematology †
  - Microbiology †
  - Lab Summaries
- Anatomic Path Reports
  - Surgical Pathology
  - Cytopathology
- Medicine
  - Abnormal
  - Brief Report
  - Full Captioned
  - Full Reports
  - Medicine Procedures
- Orders
  - Current Orders
  - Daily Order Summaries
  - Order Summary
  - Chart Copy Summary
- Outpatient Encounters/GAF
  - Education
  - Education Latest
  - Exam Latest
  - Health Factors
  - Immunizations
  - Outpatient Diagnosis
  - Outpatient Encounters †
  - Skin Tests
  - Treatments Provided
- Pharmacy
  - Medications
  - All Outpatient † *
  - Outpatient Rx Profile
  - All IV
  - Unit Dose
  - Med Admin Hx (BCMA)
  - Med Admin Log (BCMA)
- Problem List
- Progress Notes †
- Other Notes
  - Advance Directives
  - Clinical Warnings
  - Crisis Notes
- Radiology
  - Radiology Reports †
  - Imaging
- Surgery Reports
- Vital Signs *

Refresh Patient Data

* - Pages with HDR data
† - Pages with FHIE data (Dept. of Defense)

Warning! Avoid using "Back" button

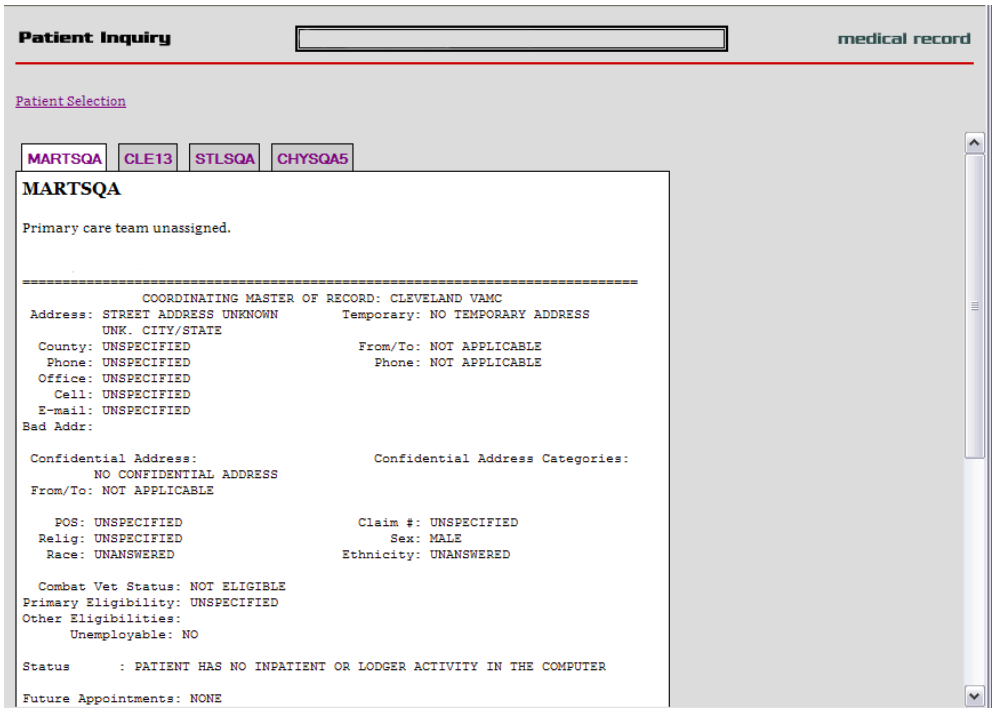
Report Examples

There are over 80 different reports available in VistAWeb. A representative sampling is presented here to demonstrate the different types of reports and formatting options.

Text Reports

Text reports are the most basic of all reports available to users. Text is displayed in a non-interactive mode and is very similar to the corresponding reports found in CPRS from the Reports tab. One example of a Text report is the Patient Inquiry report (Figure 27). All site data is retrieved for the selected report, and the patient's data for the associated site is placed within the tab from where the data was retrieved. In the example below, there are four tabs: MARTSQA, CLE13, STLSQA, and CHYSQA5. To view data retrieved from MARTSQA for the selected patient, click the mouse on the MARTSQA tab. If any particular report is not available from a site where the patient has been seen, or if there is no data for a specified date range, then that site's report tab will return the statement "No Data Found." See Figure 32.

Figure 27: Patient Inquiry Text Report

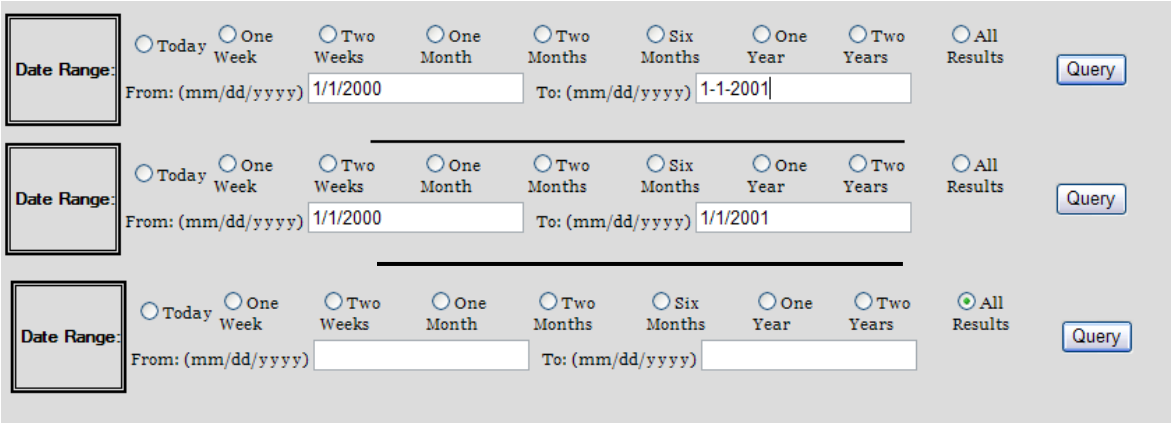


Text Report with Date Range Option

In report screens where date ranges can be typed, two digits can be entered for years, and dashes can be entered instead of slashes. VistAWeb will reformat to the dd/mm/yyyy format for the user, e.g., 12-11-05 will be reformatted to 12/11/2005 automatically. Typing in a date range clears any set radio button. Likewise, setting a radio button for one of the available time periods will clear dates previously typed into the From/To fields. The following

composed sequence demonstrates that VistAWeb corrects the date format and then shows that clicking the All Results button clears the To/From date fields (Figure 28).

Figure 28: Date Range Entry and Radio Button Selection



When these reports are generated they are presented in table format, which typically can be sorted and can contain data from multiple sites, as with Allergies, Outpatient Pharmacy, and Vital Signs reports. In the following example report of Progress Notes (Figure 29) or Chem & Hematology (Figure 29b), the initial default query is performed automatically for a one-year time period, and the maximum number of items per site to return is defaulted to 50. You can type in a different number or click in the All Data box to retrieve all the items for the specified period. You can select a different time period or enter a From/To date range, and you can specify a different maximum number of items to return. Click the mouse on the Query button to run the report for the new time period or date range and number of items. Note that, if the default number is deleted, either a minimum of 1 items must be requested or All Data must be checked for the specified time period. Otherwise, an error message is displayed.

Figure 29: Progress Notes Report with Date Range, Number, and Query

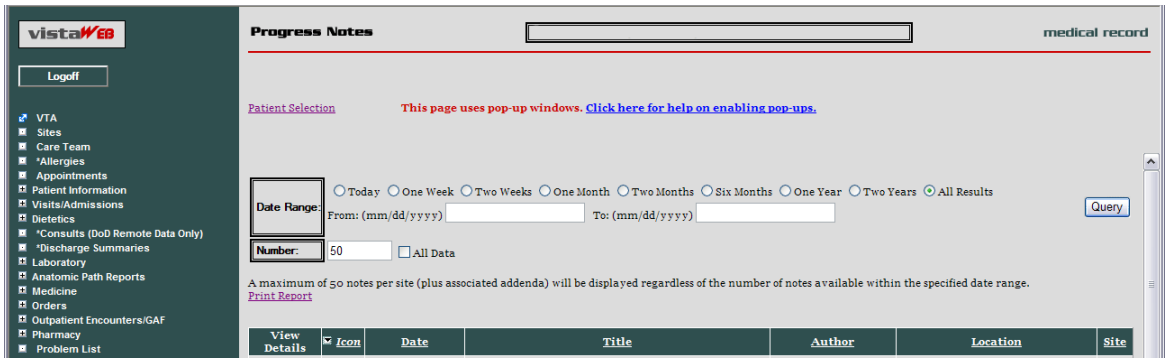
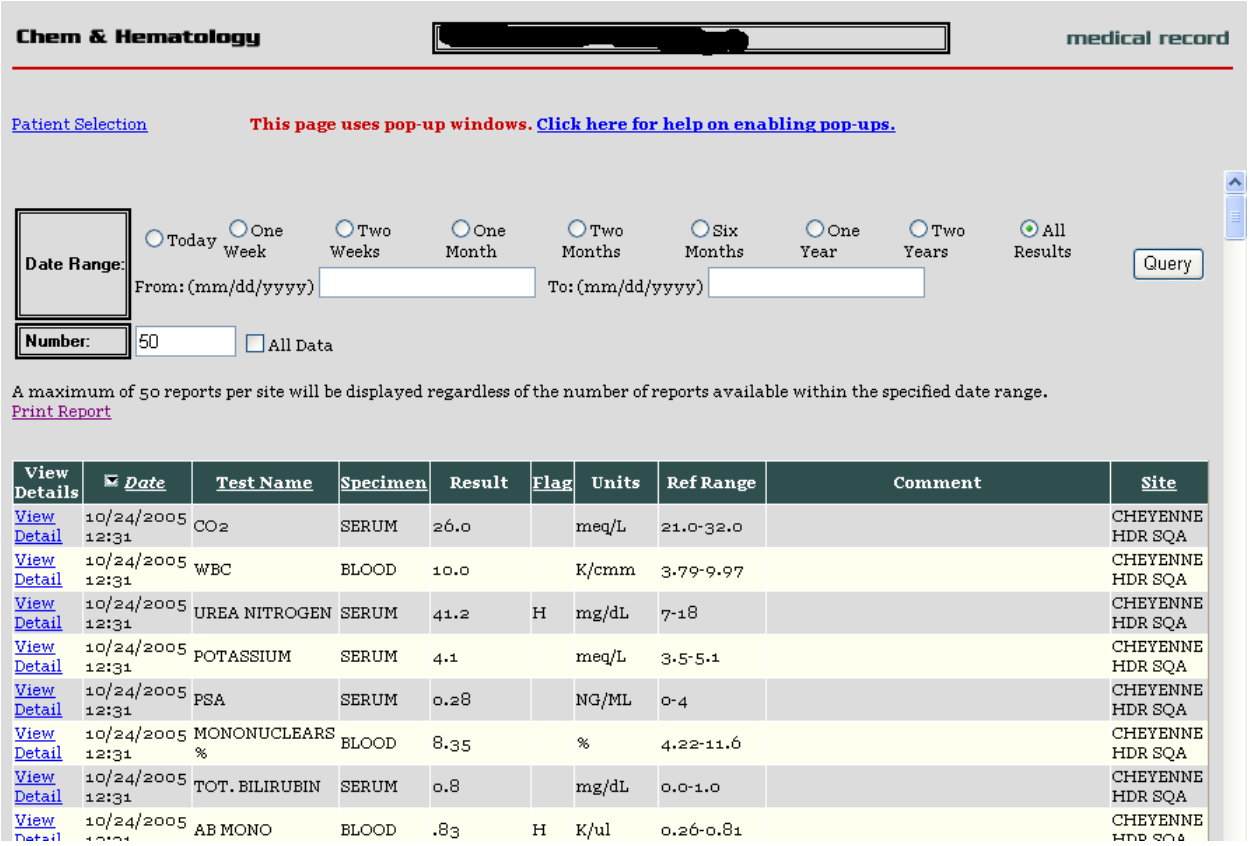


Figure 30b: Progress Notes Report with Chem & Hematology



Chem & Hematology [redacted] medical record

Patient Selection This page uses pop-up windows. Click here for help on enabling pop-ups.

Date Range: ○ Today ○ One Week ○ Two Weeks ○ One Month ○ Two Months ○ Six Months ○ One Year ○ Two Years ◉ All Results Query

From: (mm/dd/yyyy) To: (mm/dd/yyyy)

Number: 50 ☐ All Data

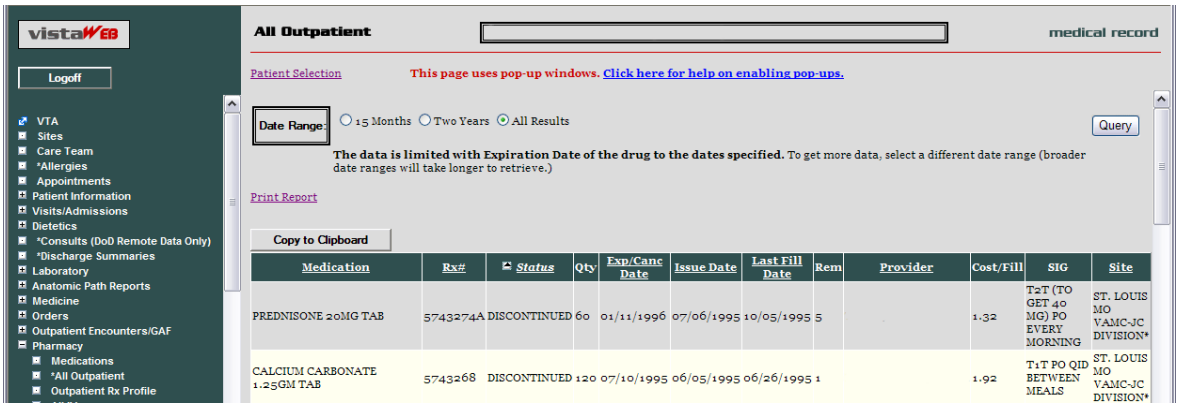
A maximum of 50 reports per site will be displayed regardless of the number of reports available within the specified date range.
Print Report

View Details	Date	Test Name	Specimen	Result	Flag	Units	Ref Range	Comment	Site
View Detail	10/24/2005 12:31	CO2	SERUM	26.0		meq/L	21.0-32.0		CHEYENNE HDR SQA
View Detail	10/24/2005 12:31	WBC	BLOOD	10.0		K/cmm	3.79-9.97		CHEYENNE HDR SQA
View Detail	10/24/2005 12:31	UREA NITROGEN	SERUM	41.2	H	mg/dL	7-18		CHEYENNE HDR SQA
View Detail	10/24/2005 12:31	POTASSIUM	SERUM	4.1		meq/L	3.5-5.1		CHEYENNE HDR SQA
View Detail	10/24/2005 12:31	PSA	SERUM	0.28		NG/ML	0-4		CHEYENNE HDR SQA
View Detail	10/24/2005 12:31	MONONUCLEARS %	BLOOD	8.35		%	4.22-11.6		CHEYENNE HDR SQA
View Detail	10/24/2005 12:31	TOT. BILIRUBIN	SERUM	0.8		mg/dL	0.0-1.0		CHEYENNE HDR SQA
View Detail	10/24/2005	AB MONO	BLOOD	.83	H	K/ul	0.26-0.81		CHEYENNE

Predefined Filtering and Date Range

The Pharmacy – All Outpatient report often contains a large number of entries, depending on the patient's history of outpatient prescriptions. Providing shorter date ranges allows for the quicker retrieval of data. For this report, the Date Range selection criteria defaults to *15 Months*. You can select *2 Years* or *All Results* by clicking on their radio buttons and then clicking the Query button (Figure 31). Note that the expired dates for the two medications shown are 1995 and 1996, and these would not have been retrieved by selecting 15 Months or Two Years.

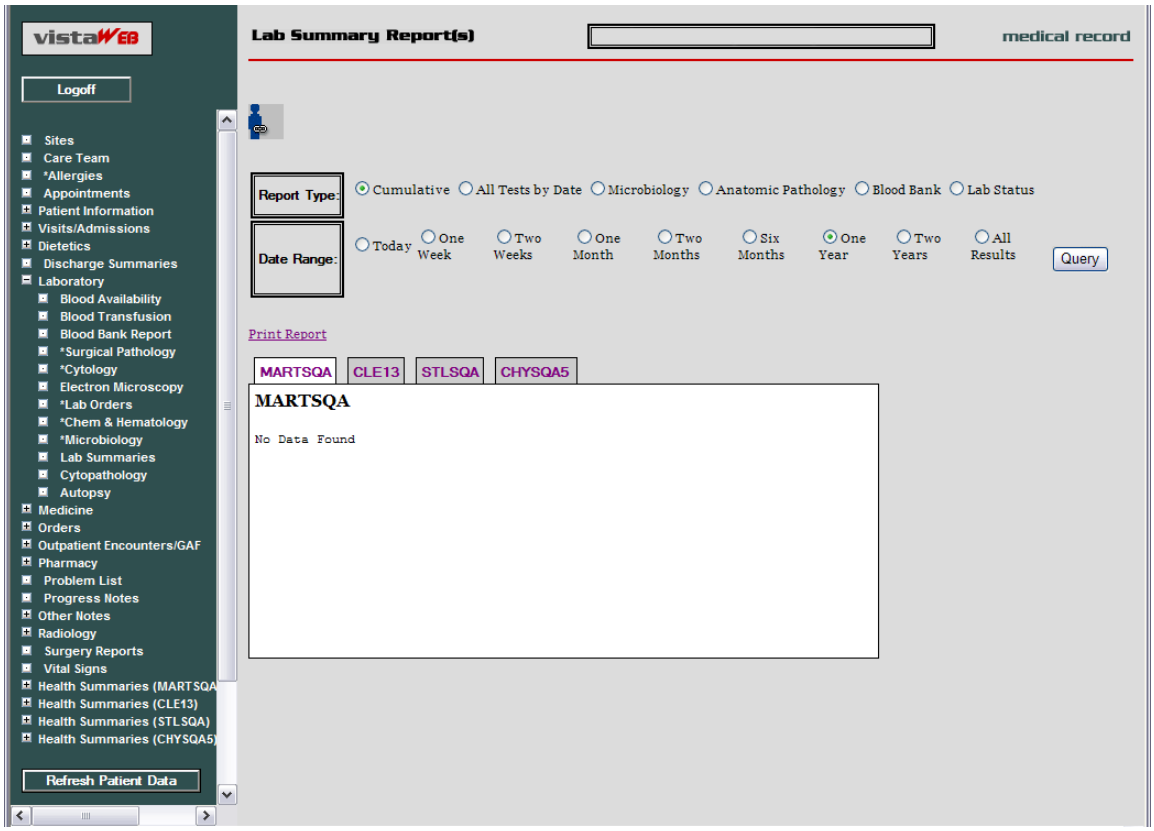
Figure 31: Date Range Selection Criteria for All Outpatient Pharmacy Report



Some reports require you to enter the date range before the report will appear (Figure 32). This is the case for queries that have the potential to return very large amounts of data or where filtering the data lends usability to the report. Summaries, such as Discharge, Lab, some Order summaries, and both of the Med Admin Hx and Med Admin Log reports, tend to generate large volumes of data. Narrowing the date range for a report for a patient's summary data may improve the speed of the data retrieval.

Some reports that do not require a date range include the following: Sites, Care Team, Allergies, Appointments, Patient Inquiry, Patient Demographics, Patient Insurance, Dietetics Profile, Blood Bank, Daily Order Summary, Medications, Outpatient Rx Profile, All IV, and Imaging.

Figure 32: Date Range for Lab and Other Large Volume Reports



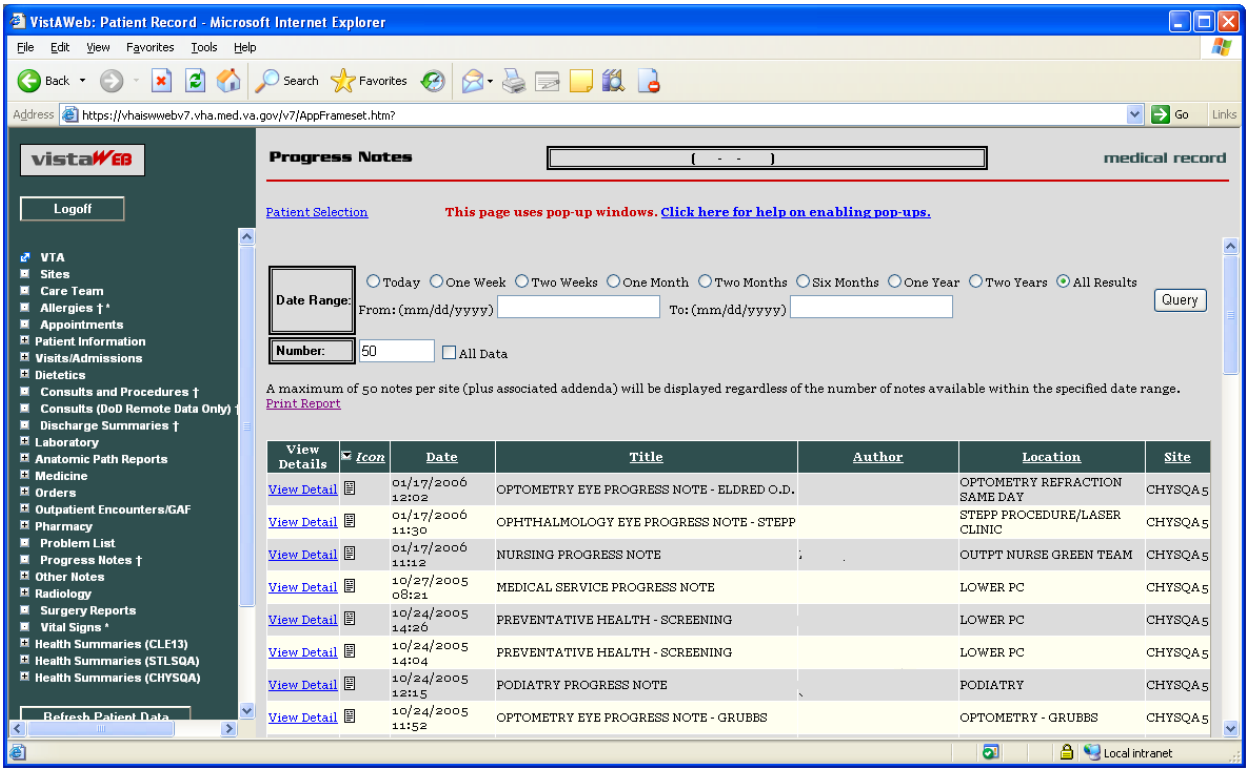
Data Grid Style of Report

The data grid style of report presents data in the form of a grid or table, with the data being retrieved and displayed according to a specified date range. The data for most of the tables can then be sorted in multiple ways. The underlined column headers indicate which columns may be used for sorting. Report data is generally retrieved and presented with the most recent date at the top, descending to the earliest date at the bottom. For some reports, Vitals for example, data from multiple sites is presented strictly by date, without consideration for the site. For some other reports, Problem List for example, the problems from multiple sites are displayed by status (active first) and then in descending date order for one site and then descending order for the next site, and so on. Then inactive problems are listed if there are any. In most of the reports that have a date column, clicking the date won't change the sorting of that column unless some other sort, alphabetical, for example, had been done which upset the descending date order.

Data Grid with View Detail

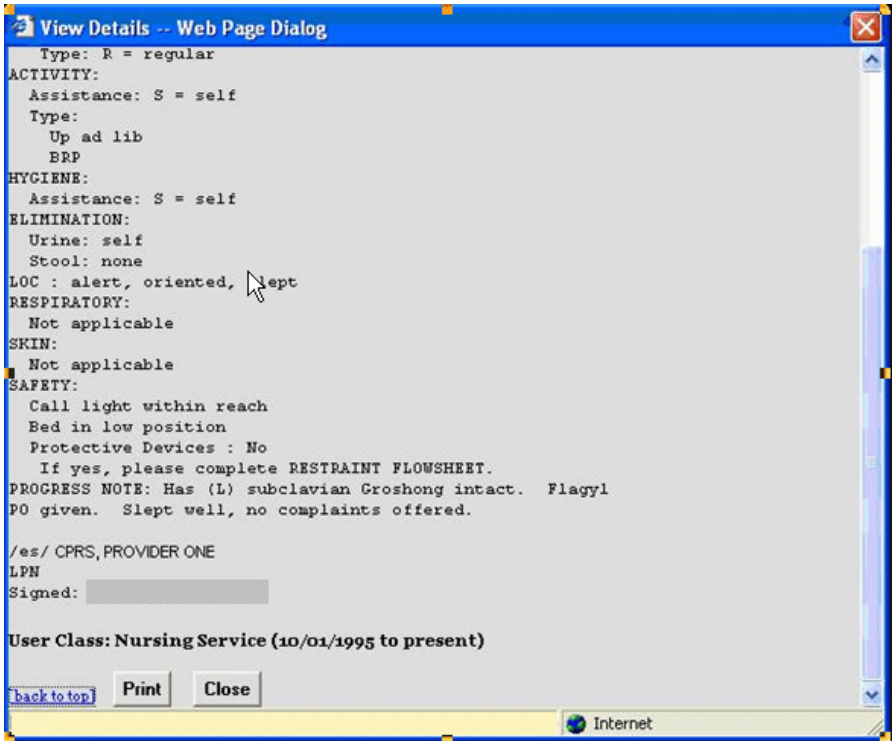
The data grid that contains a View Detail column permits you to view additional detail about a selected item in a row. In this example, Progress Notes titles are listed in VistAWeb (Figure 33). To view the actual text of the note, click on the View Detail link for the note of interest.

Figure 33: Progress Notes



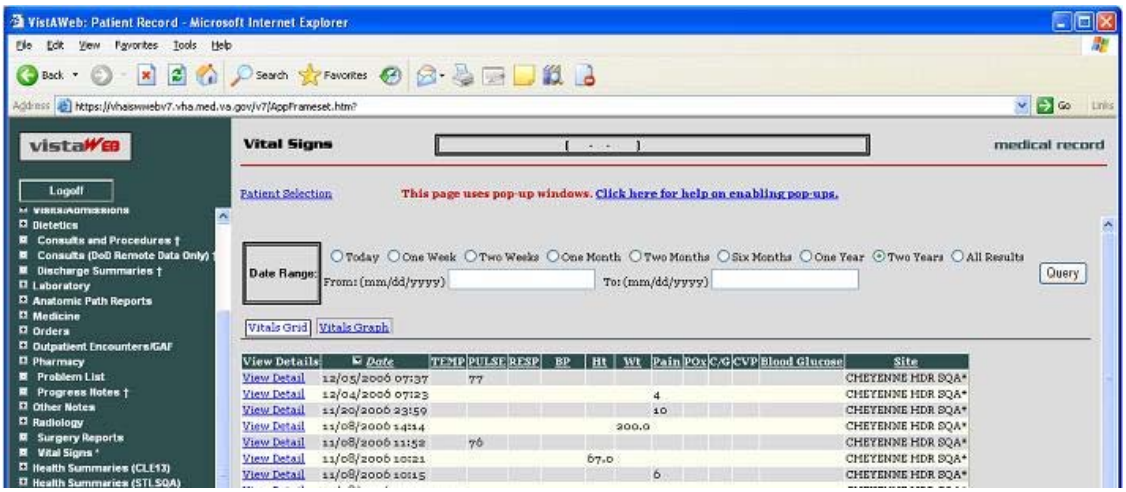
When you click on the View Detail link, the detail of the selected note appears in a pop-up box, represented in the example below (Figure 34). Click on the Print or Close buttons to effect the desired action.

Figure 34: View Details of Progress Note



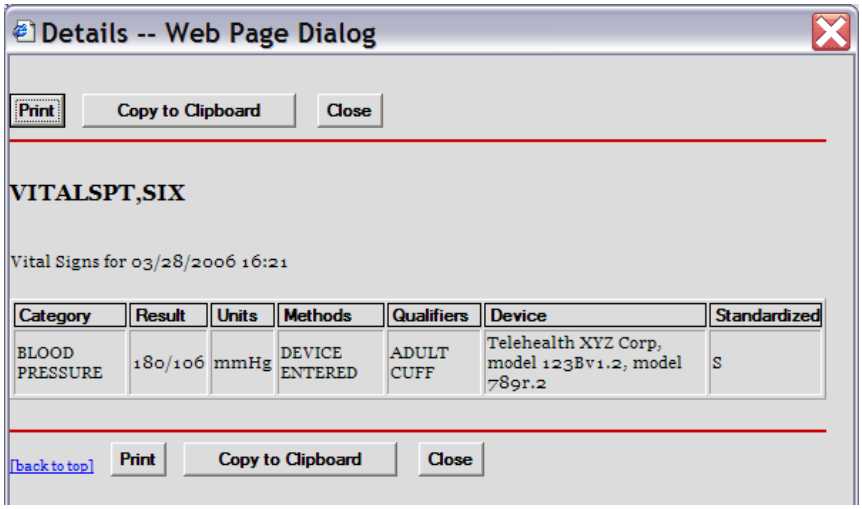
In the following Vital Signs example report, note that three of the Site column listings display HT as the site where the vitals were taken. The HT indicates the data was supplied through the Home Telehealth (HT) interface (Figure 35).

Figure 35: Vital Sign Report Presented as Table



When you select View Details of an HT site from the Vital Signs screen, additional information is provided about the method of data entry, qualifiers, vitals measuring devices, and that data standardization has been accomplished for this vital sign record (Figure 36).

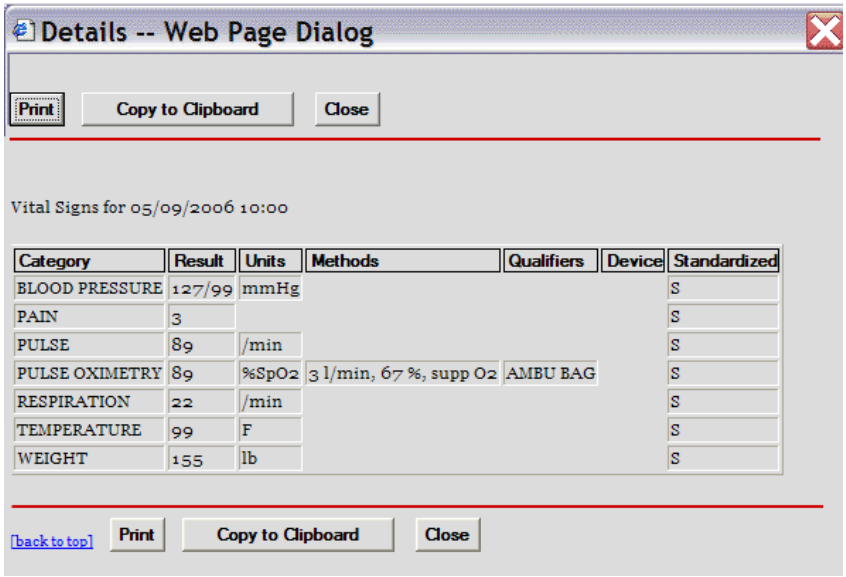
Figure 36: View Details of HT Standardized Vitals



Category	Result	Units	Methods	Qualifiers	Device	Standardized
BLOOD PRESSURE	180/106	mmHg	DEVICE ENTERED	ADULT CUFF	Telehealth XYZ Corp, model 123Bv1.2, model 789r.2	S

If the vitals data is coming from the HDR-IMS repository, but was not entered through the HT interface, the Details – Web Page Dialog will show the letter S in the Standardized column and any other data that was entered through the Vitals package that maps to other column headings. In the following example, the Methods and Qualifiers for supplemental oxygen that was delivered to the patient are shown (Figure 37).

Figure 37: View Details of Non-HT Standardized Vitals

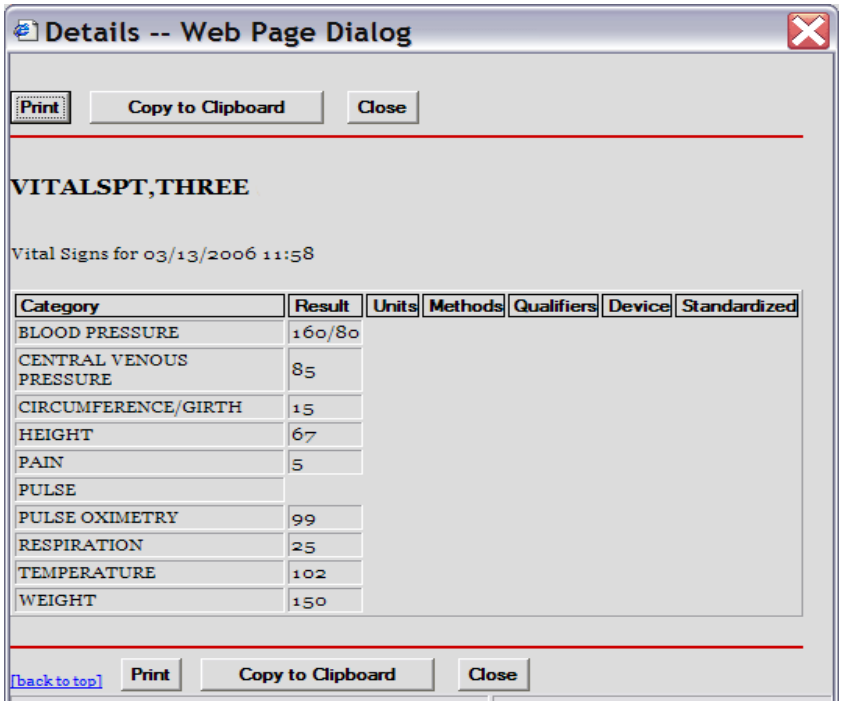


Category	Result	Units	Methods	Qualifiers	Device	Standardized
BLOOD PRESSURE	127/99	mmHg				S
PAIN	3					S
PULSE	89	/min				S
PULSE OXIMETRY	89	%SpO2	3 l/min, 67 %, supp O2	AMBU BAG		S
RESPIRATION	22	/min				S
TEMPERATURE	99	F				S
WEIGHT	155	lb				S

If the vitals data is coming from the HDR-Historical database or a VistA site, the Standardized column does not display the letter S and no data is supplied for Units, Methods,

Qualifiers, or Device (Figure 38). If for some reason the HDR databases are inaccessible, VistAWeb still polls the VistA sites where the patient has been seen and will return any available requested data for display.

Figure 38: View Details of Non-Standardized Vitals

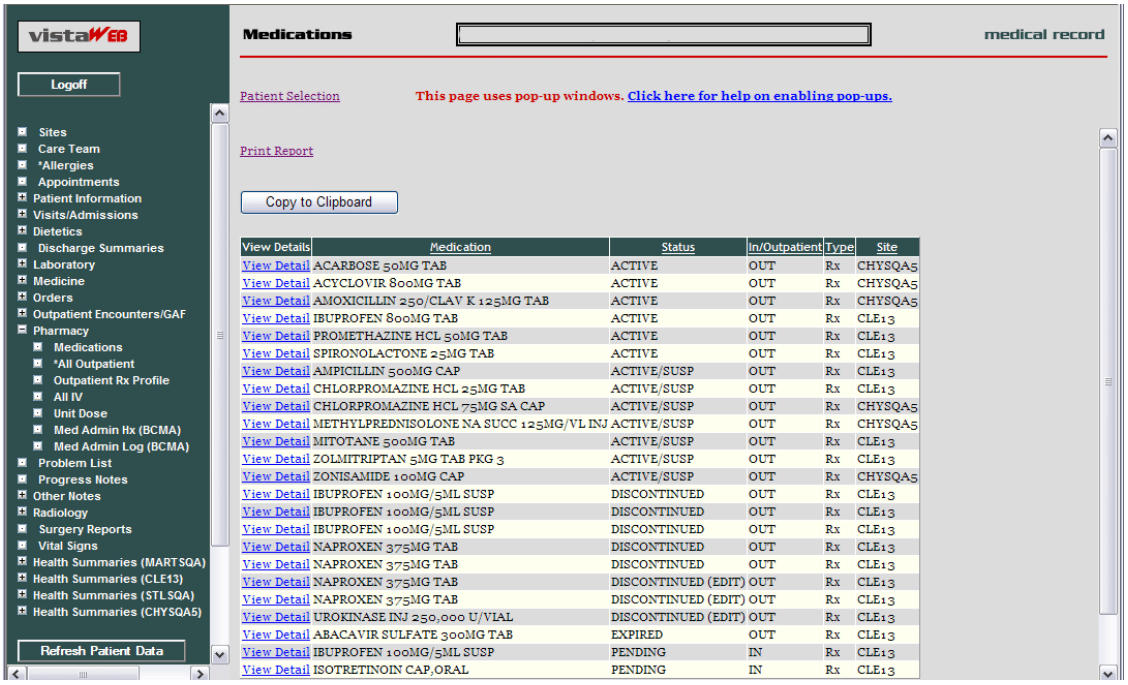


Category	Result	Units	Methods	Qualifiers	Device	Standardized
BLOOD PRESSURE	160/80					
CENTRAL VENOUS PRESSURE	85					
CIRCUMFERENCE/GIRTH	15					
HEIGHT	67					
PAIN	5					
PULSE						
PULSE OXIMETRY	99					
RESPIRATION	25					
TEMPERATURE	102					
WEIGHT	150					

Data Grid with Copy to Clipboard Option

The following example of a Medications report lists a variety of medications and their statuses, along with Copy to Clipboard button (Figure 39). Providers often find it useful to copy lists of active and suspended medications to a patient note. When you click the mouse on the Copy to Clipboard button, the list of Active and Suspended medications is automatically copied to the clipboard and grouped by Status. Discontinued and expired medications are not copied.

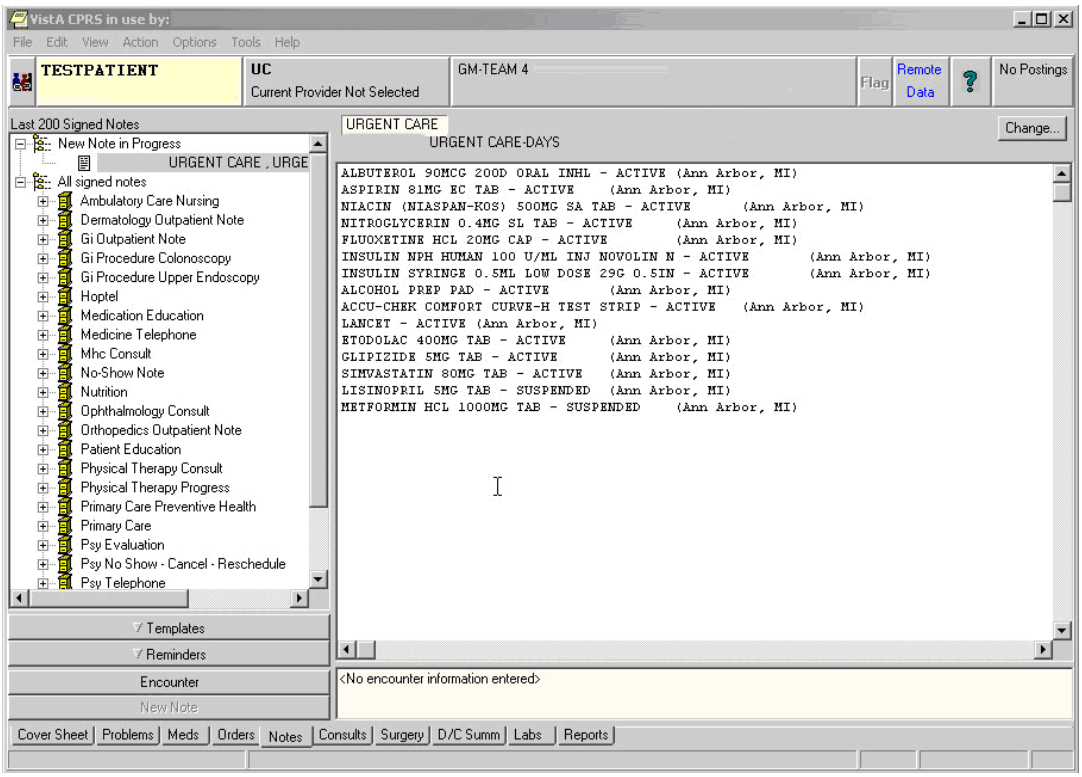
Figure 39: Copy to Clipboard



View Details	Medication	Status	In/Outpatient	Type	Site
View Detail	ACARBOSE 50MG TAB	ACTIVE	OUT	Rx	CHYSQA5
View Detail	ACYCLOVIR 800MG TAB	ACTIVE	OUT	Rx	CHYSQA5
View Detail	AMOXICILLIN 250/CLAV K 125MG TAB	ACTIVE	OUT	Rx	CHYSQA5
View Detail	IBUPROFEN 800MG TAB	ACTIVE	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	PROMETHAZINE HCL 50MG TAB	ACTIVE	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	SPIRONOLACTONE 25MG TAB	ACTIVE	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	AMPICILLIN 500MG CAP	ACTIVE/SUSP	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	CHLORPROMAZINE HCL 25MG TAB	ACTIVE/SUSP	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	CHLORPROMAZINE HCL 75MG SA CAP	ACTIVE/SUSP	OUT	Rx	CHYSQA5
View Detail	METHYLPREDNISOLONE NA SUCC 125MG/VL INJ	ACTIVE/SUSP	OUT	Rx	CHYSQA5
View Detail	MITOTANE 500MG TAB	ACTIVE/SUSP	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	ZOLMITRIPTAN 5MG TAB PKG 3	ACTIVE/SUSP	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	ZONISAMIDE 100MG CAP	ACTIVE/SUSP	OUT	Rx	CHYSQA5
View Detail	IBUPROFEN 100MG/5ML SUSP	DISCONTINUED	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	IBUPROFEN 100MG/5ML SUSP	DISCONTINUED	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	IBUPROFEN 100MG/5ML SUSP	DISCONTINUED	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	NAPROXEN 375MG TAB	DISCONTINUED	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	NAPROXEN 375MG TAB	DISCONTINUED	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	NAPROXEN 375MG TAB	DISCONTINUED (EDIT)	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	NAPROXEN 375MG TAB	DISCONTINUED (EDIT)	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	UROKINASE INJ 250,000 U/VIAL	DISCONTINUED (EDIT)	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	ABACAVIR SULFATE 300MG TAB	EXPIRED	OUT	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	IBUPROFEN 100MG/5ML SUSP	PENDING	IN	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	ISOTRETINOIN CAP,ORAL	PENDING	IN	Rx	CLE13

The list can be pasted into another document or a Progress Note within CPRS. The following screen capture shows active and suspended medications from a Medications report grouped by Status and pasted into a CPRS note (Figure 40).

Figure 40: Medications from VistAWeb Pasted into CPRS Progress Note



Note: *VistAWeb displays Non-VA and Herbal/OTC medications if applicable. In the following screen capture of a Medication report (Figure 41), the Type field has one medication listed as Non-VA. The View Detail for this medication provides details and states "Patient wants to buy from Non-VA pharmacy."*

Figure 41: Non-VA Medications

View Details	Medication	Status	In/Outpatient	Type	Site
View Detail	ABACAVIR SULFATE 300MG TAB	ACTIVE	OUT	Non-VA	CLE13
View Detail	DEXTROSE 5% IN LACTATED RINGER'S INJ,SOLN	NON-VERIFIED	IN	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	DIGOXIN TAB	NON-VERIFIED	IN	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	POTASSIUM CHLORIDE INJ,SOLN	NON-VERIFIED	IN	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	RABEPRAZOLE TAB,EC	PENDING	IN	Rx	CLE13
View Detail	RABEPRAZOLE TAB,EC	PENDING	IN	Rx	CLE13

VistAWeb Timeout

VistAWeb has a 15-minute inactivity timeout, which disconnects you from the current session if you don't respond to the 2-minute Web Page Dialog Countdown. Click the *Don't close VistAWeb* button to reset the timer to 15 minutes. Click the *Close VistAWeb* button to exit VistAWeb immediately (Figure 42).

Figure 42: VistAWeb Timeout Dialog Box

If you allow VistAWeb to timeout, the following Microsoft Internet Explorer dialog box is displayed telling you that VistAWeb is trying to close the window. If you click the No button, an empty Internet Explorer window will remain. If you want to continue to use VistAWeb, you will have to reestablish your connection, and since VistAWeb will bring up the new session in a new window anyway, you should click the Yes button to eliminate this empty window (Figure 43).

Figure 43: Internet Explorer Close Dialog

Under some circumstances, VistAWeb will cease operations. This is usually related to running a standalone session and a spawned session of VistAWeb at the same time. When this occurs, you will be presented one of the following messages indicating an appropriate course of action for you to pursue (Figure 44 and Figure 45).

Figure 44: Empty Session Message – Rerun VistAWeb

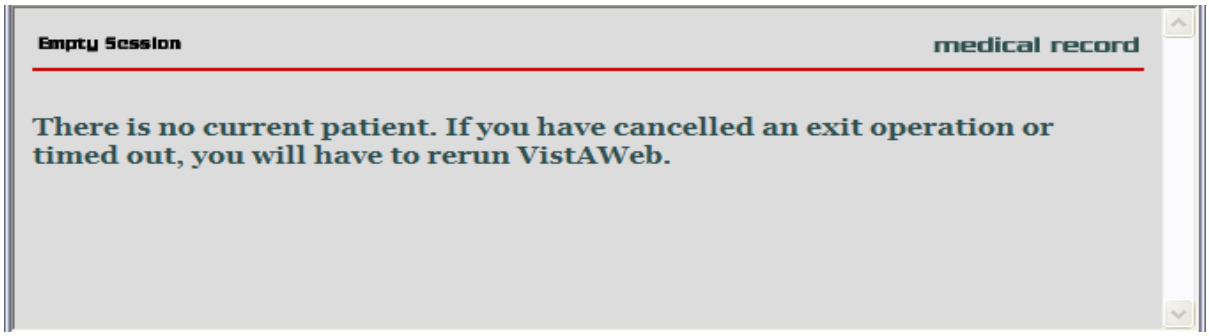
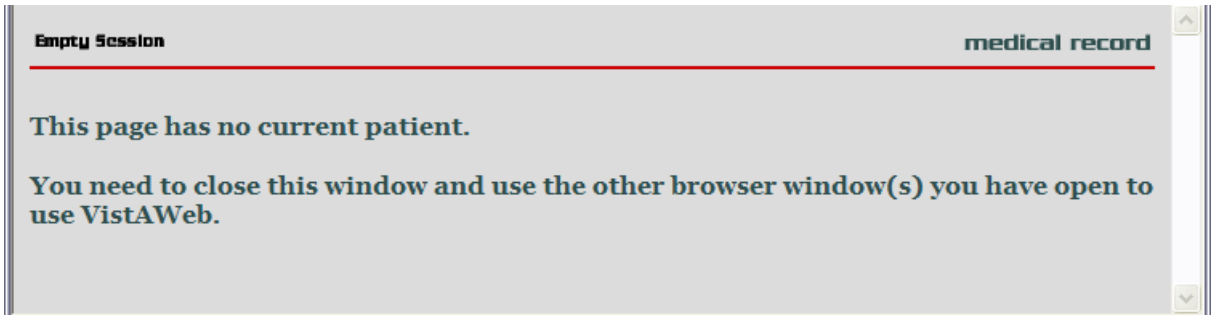


Figure 45: Empty Session Message – Use a Different Browser Window



Acronyms and Abbreviations

Term	Definition
2D	2 Dimensional
3D	3 Dimensional
BHIE	Bidirectional Health Information Exchange
CCOW	Clinical Context Object Workgroup
CDS	Clinical Data Service
CHDR	Clinical Data Repository (DoD) – Health Data Repository (VHA)
CPRS	Computerized Patient Record System
DoD	Department of Defense
FHIE	Federal Health Information Exchange
GUI	Graphical User Interface
HDR	Health Data Repository
HDR II	Health Data Repository II – final stage of project to develop and deploy an HDR
HDR-Hx	Health Data Repository-Historical
HDR-IMS	Health Data Repository-Interim Messaging Solution
HL7	Health Level 7
HT	Home Telehealth
IE	Internet Explorer (Microsoft)
IHS	Indian Health Service
IRM	Information Resource Management
ISO	Information Security Officer
JPTA	Joint Patient Tracking Application
LHR	Legal Health Record
MPI	Master Patient Index
RDV	Remote Data View
RPC	Remote Procedure Call
URL	Uniform Resource Locator (internet address)
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs
VAMC	Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center
VHA	Veterans Health Administration
VISN	Veterans Integrated Service Network
VistA	Veterans (Health) Information Systems and Technology Architecture
VTA	Veteran Tracking Application