

Veteran's Affairs Indian Health Service (IHS) Bar Code Medication Administration (BCMA) Collaboration Effort

IHS' Office of Information & Technology (OIT) Electronic Health Record (EHR) Deployment Team, Veterans Health Administration's (VHA) Bar Code Resource Office (BCRO), VHA's Employee Education System (EES), VA's OIT, and facility VHA Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) continue discussions to plan for BCMA implementations within the IHS System in Fiscal Year (FY) 14. The implementation will assist IHS in obtaining Electronic Medication Administration Record Certification Requirements – Meaningful Use Stage 2 Certification.

During the week of June 24-28, 2013 VA/VHA representatives from BCRO, EES, VA OIT, and facility VHA SMEs, as well as IHS team members provided remote support at the Cherokee Indian Hospital for configuration and test activities for their BCMA upgrade. VA/VHA representatives and IHS team members also provided onsite support for Cherokee's BCMA upgrade to their production environment the week of July 14-18, 2013. Additionally, VA/VHA representatives provided BCMA Super-user/BCMA Coordinator/ and Pharmacy training, as well as Go-Live support. A total of 35 Cherokee Indian Hospital Nursing and Pharmacy staff attended training sessions as well as 57 remote VA and IHS attendees that received BCMA training. A number of "Lessons Learned, Findings, and Recommendations" were identified and shared with Cherokee Indian Hospital's leadership. This information will be shared with other IHS sites as they implement BCMA, in the future.

VA/VHA representatives provided onsite support to the Choctaw Nation Health Services Authority in Oklahoma, during the week of September 16 to assist with configuration and test activities.

Work continues to finalize the FY14 Interagency Agreement (IAA) documents. IHS representatives held a "Workathon Meeting" June 27th with VA representatives from BCRO, EES, and VA OIT, to prepare draft FY14 IAA documents. The four draft IAA documents were reviewed, updated and handed off to the VHA-IHS Interagency Liaison for Health Information Technology (IT) Sharing to allow time for VHA management to process. In FY14, IHS will identify four sites that will implement BCMA and require VA onsite assistance for two weeks. BCMA support will include configuration and testing during the first week and Super-user training and Go-Live support the second week; site selection and dates have not yet been confirmed.

VA/VHA continues to assist IHS in their BCMA implementation, training and support activities. We are looking forward to participating with the service lines in both IHS and VA to expand the patient safety benefits of BCMA into IHS and tribal facilities through these partnering agreements.

Transfusion Verification (TV)

BCRO has finalized labor bargaining obligations. Our bargaining unit employees are extremely important to the success of the Bar Code Enhancement - Positive Patient Identification (BCE-PPI) Transfusion Verification (TV) Project. The BCE-PPI TV Project team is finalizing preparation for national implementation. BCRO, OIT and others from the project team are working to complete all documentation required for successful implementation.

Specimen Collection Verification (SCV)

Specimen Collection Verification (SCV) will support best practice and patient safety guidelines at the time and point of collection by ensuring the patient is positively linked to the correct order and correct specimen. In preparation and support of this development activity, BCRO previously led cross-functional teams of SMEs to gather business requirements related to specimen collection and labeling in 2008-2009. The BCE-PPI Project Team is now actively engaged in activities to further elaborate those requirements. Patricia M. Halliburton, Health Systems Specialist with the BCRO, provided training to project staff on current workflow processes associated with the collection of all types of specimens for submission to Clinical Laboratories. Additional understanding of related “As Is” and “To Be” processes is occurring through the development of epic and user stories, as well as business process modeling. BCRO staff will continue to engage with project team staff and various program office and field stakeholders to support BCE-PPI Project efforts for SCV.

Equipment

In an effort to support national implementation of the Pyxis® TV software application, BCRO is distributing Motorola MC75AO handheld devices (also referred to as Enterprise Digital Assistants or EDA) to facilities.



The rollout of the BCE-PPI suite of applications will be by Region in the following order (actual dates to be determined by completion of Initial Operating Capability testing):

- Region 2
- Region 3
- Region 4
- Region 1

The reason for this strategy is the availability of the server architecture and wireless access point upgrades providing the ability to use the hand held devices.

As a reminder, it is important for Coordinators to ensure their [facility demographic](#) information within the Strategic Guide is up-to-date, as this will be the source to identify facility points of contact regarding equipment shipment, facility implementation status and preparedness, etc.

Field staff are encouraged to attend our monthly [Bar Code National Calls](#) (1st & 3rd Monday at 1pm ET – VANTS #21295) for more updates as they become available.

Training

Each facility will have on-site training coordinated by VHA EES and provided by the software vendor. The facility training events will include the following:

- **Facility kick-off** calls for the first thirty facilities will start early in FY14 approximately 30 days prior to the scheduled IT Visit. These kick off calls include facility BCMA and BCE Coordinators, Laboratory Information Managers, Medical Technologists, Nursing Super-users, Information Resource Management, and any other interested facility personnel.
- Thirty days following the kick-off call, on-site **IT Training** will be held. The software vendor Technical Engineer will conduct the training for BCMA and BCE Coordinators, facility IT staff, and any other technical staff who would benefit from the training. The training will include in-depth information on the management and maintenance of the handheld devices, as well as software and software support requirements.
- Two weeks after the IT Training, each facility will be provided on-site **Super-user Training**. This training will be provided by the CareFusion vendor in collaboration with EES and the facility BCMA and BCE Coordinators. It will consist of eight train-the-trainer sessions in a classroom environment; classes will be scheduled during all shifts, to ensure facility designated Super-users have the opportunity to attend. Staff participating in this training will include BCMA and BCE Coordinators, Laboratory Information Managers, Medical Technologists, Nursing Super-users, and any other interested staff designated by the facility. Super-user class size should be no more than ten staff, dependent upon the number of CareFusion users specified at the facility. Three train-the-trainer sessions will likely be provided for each facility. An additional train-the-trainer session can be scheduled if there is a large number of resource staff and multiple ancillary department representatives. In this situation, additional train-the-trainer sessions can be discussed with the CareFusion Clinical Consultant and the MicroTech Program Manager.
- **End-user Training** from the three identified “Go-Live Areas” will be the responsibility of the individual facilities and must be completed before facility Go-Live date. In addition to the End-user training, a web-based training module will be available through the VA Talent Management System for any users wanting to refresh or augment the classroom training provided.
Three weeks after the on-site Super-user Training, on-site **Go-Live** support will be provided by CareFusion. The Go-Live activities will also be supported by EES and staff from BCRO.

The BCRO had included all documents relating to implementation of BCE-PPI project in the [BCE Strategic Guide](#).

The BCRO will be providing overviews and tours of the new site on future Bar Code National calls.

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