

Howdy Computerized Phlebotomy Login Process

C3-C1 Conversion Project

Release Notes



Laboratory Patch LR*5.2*405

January 2012

Release Notes for Patch LR*5.2*405

Patch LR*5.2*405 introduces the Howdy Computerized Phlebotomy Login Process as an automated laboratory check-in application which can be used within the Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (Vista) Laboratory module. This software performs the following functions:

- Howdy automates laboratory check-in, accessioning of orders, and printing of specimen labels
- Howdy captures collection process times and provides the information required to create phlebotomy performance reports
- Howdy eliminates the need for a hand-written log book for sign-in where the patient's name and SSN can be compromised
- Howdy can utilize bar code technology to assist in the process of patient and specimen identification

Blood Bank Clearance

Vista Laboratory Package Patch LR*5.2*405 contains changes to software controlled by VHA.

EFFECT ON BLOOD BANK FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS: Patch LR*5.2*405 does not contain any changes to the VISTA BLOOD BANK Software as defined by VHA DIRECTIVE 2004-058 titled VISTA BLOOD BANK SOFTWARE VERSION 5.2.

EFFECT ON BLOOD BANK FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS: Patch LR*5.2*405 does not alter or modify any software design safeguards or safety critical elements functions.

RISK ANALYSIS: Changes made by patch LR*5.2*405 have no effect on Blood Bank software functionality, therefore RISK is none.

VALIDATION REQUIREMENTS BY OPTION: Because of the nature of the changes made, no specific validation requirements exist as a result of installation of this patch.

Features in Patch LR*5.2*405

HOWDY SITE FILE (#69.86)

This file is used to run the Howdy software and to reflect the site's business rules.

File Name (Number)	Field Name (Number)	New/Modified/Deleted
HOWDY SITE FILE (#69.86)	NAME (#.01)	NEW
	LAB TEST (TO EXCLUDE) (#2)	NEW
	COLLECTION SAMPLE (TO EXCLUDE) (#4)	NEW
	SITE SPECIMEN (TO EXCLUDE) (#6)	NEW
	COLLECTION TYPES (TO EXCLUDE) (#8)	NEW
	LABEL PRINTERS (#10)	NEW
	ORDER LABEL ROUTINE (#11)	NEW
	EXCLUDE CLINICS (#16)	NEW
	CHECK FOR FUTURE ORDERS (DAYS) (#18)	NEW
	CHECK FOR PAST ORDERS (DAYS) (#20)	NEW
	ORDER LABEL TESTS (#25)	NEW
	EXCLUDE URGENCY (#30)	NEW
	GREETING (#32)	NEW
	WELCOME TO (#40)	NEW
	YOUR HOST IS (#42)	NEW
	HOST TITLE (#44)	NEW
	SPACER LABEL PRINTER (#45)	NEW
	DELETE SAME DAY DUPLICATES (#52)	NEW
	BINGO BOARD DEVICE (#54)	NEW
	HOWDY BOT (#56)	NEW

Notes:

Bingo Board

The bingo board process was validated using a printer to verify functionality. Using a display monitor for the bingo board functionality was not tested, but may be included in a future release.

Exclude Clinics

If an order for the *excluded clinic* is for **today**, the order will accession. If an order for the *excluded clinic* is for **tomorrow**, and you run the program, the order will be ignored.

HOWDY SPECIMEN TIMES BY UID FILE (#69.87)

This file is used to capture and retain the specimen demographics.

File Name (Number)	Field Name (Number)	New/Modified/Deleted
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HOWDY SPECIMEN TIMES		
BY UID FILE (#69.87)	SPECIMEN UID (#.01)	NEW
	INITIAL SCAN TIME (#2)	NEW
	TIME LABELS PRINTED (#4)	NEW
	COLLECTOR (#6)	NEW
	COLLECTION TIME (#8)	NEW
	LAB ARRIVAL TIME (#10)	NEW
	RECEIVER (#12)	NEW

Associated Options

Option Name	Type	New/Modified
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LRHY HOWDY PPOC MAIN MENU	menu	NEW
LRHY HOWDY MAIN MENU	menu	NEW
LRHY PPOC LABEL PRINT	action	NEW
LRHY PATIENT CARD SCAN	run routine	NEW
LRHY PATIENT CARD SCAN (PPOC)	run routine	NEW
LRHY PATIENT WAIT TIME	run routine	NEW
LRHY PHLEBOTOMY LOG	run routine	NEW
LRHY SCAN SPECIMENS INTO LAB	action	NEW
LRHY SITE FILE EDIT	run routine	NEW
LRHY TRACK COLLECTION	run routine	NEW
LRHY HOWDY BOT	action	NEW

Summary of New Entries in the OPTIONS file (#19)

1. SCAN PATIENT CARD [LRHY PATIENT CARD SCAN]
This option initiates the Howdy process using the greeting from Howdy site file & prints labels.
2. PHLEBOTOMY LOG [LRHY PHLEBOTOMY LOG]
This is the log used to track the collector's phlebotomy performance times.

3. SCAN SPECIMENS INTO LAB [LRHY SCAN SPECIMENS INTO LAB]

This option allows the Receiver to scan collected specimen labels to capture Lab Receipt Time.

4. TRACK COLLECTION [LRHY TRACK COLLECTION]

This option is used to display patient specimen collection demographics.

5. PATIENT WAIT TIME [LRHY PATIENT WAIT TIME]

This option displays how long a Patient waits to have a sample drawn.

6. EDIT HOWDY SITE FILE [LRHY SITE FILE EDIT]

This option enables the Keyholder to edit the Howdy site file.

7. SCAN PATIENT CARD (PPOC) [LRHY PATIENT CARD SCAN (PPOC)]

This option enables Howdy to scan the Patient's VIC card when the Patient arrives at the phlebotomy area.

8. PRINT PPOC LABEL [LRHY PPOC LABEL PRINT]

This is the menu option the collector uses when verifying Patient Identification at time of collection. Each collecting station will have a dedicated PC, scanner and bar code label printer. Howdy will recognize this person as the collector and date and time of collection. The collector will scan the patient's VIC card, armband or can type their SSN on their keyboard. The patient's demographics appear on the screen with the current accessioned orders. The collector then verifies patient identification. The labels then print and specimens are labeled accordingly.

9. HOWDY MAIN MENU [LRHY HOWDY MAIN MENU]

This option provides access to the traditional Howdy Main Menu.

10. HOWDY PPOC MAIN MENU [LRHY HOWDY PPOC MAIN MENU]

This option provides access to the Howdy PPOC Main Menu.

11. LRHY HOWDY BOT [LRHY SET HOWDY USER]

This option sets the Howdy user that will run the Howdy scan option.

Installation and Configuration Notes

If Howdy was previously installed as Class 3 software, your Howdy site file will not merge with the new Class 1 software. Your site will need to repopulate the new Howdy site file with your site-specific parameters.

1. Sites will be required to install Patch LR*5.2*405, but implementation is optional.
2. The install time for this patch is less than 5 minutes and it is best if the patch is installed outside of normal working hours.
3. MailMan and Kernel patches must be current on the target system to avoid problems loading and installing the patch.
4. Prior to installing VistA Howdy Computerized Phlebotomy Login Process, the following required software applications must be installed:

Kernel	8.0
VistA Laboratory	5.2
VA FileMan	22.0
VA MailMan	7.1 or greater
Kernel Toolkit	7.3

Additional Information

Software Changes

- This is a Laboratory patch with no changes to existing software
- Howdy uses the new LRHY* namespace
- Sites will be required to install Patch LR*5.2*405, but implementation is optional

A new Item was created in Remedy for Howdy, Patch LR*5.2*405.

If you have any questions concerning the implementation of this application **REDACTED** log a Remedy ticket via Remedy Requester using

Category: Applications/VistA

Type: Lab 5.2

Item: Howdy

Documentation

Documentation was written for Howdy, Patch LR*5.2*405.

Document File Description	File Names	FTP Mode
<i>Howdy Computerized Phlebotomy Login Process User Manual</i>	LR_5.2_405_UM.doc LR_5.2_405_UM.pdf	Binary
<i>Howdy Computerized Phlebotomy Login Process Technical Manual</i>	LR_5.2_405_TM.doc LR_5.2_405_TM.pdf	Binary
<i>Howdy Computerized Phlebotomy Login Process Installation Guide</i>	LR_5.2_405_IG.doc LR_5.2_405_IG.pdf	Binary
<i>Howdy Computerized Phlebotomy Login Process Release Notes</i>	LR_5.2_405_RN.doc LR_5.2_405_RN.pdf	Binary

VistA Howdy Laboratory Patch LR*5.2*405 manuals are available in MS Word (.doc) format and the Portable Document Format (.pdf) on the VA Software Documentation Library in the Clinical Section, Laboratory: Howdy Computerized Phlebotomy Login Process
<http://www4.va.gov/vdl/>

To assist the local IT staff in setting up Howdy, the *Howdy Reference Manual for Local IT Staff* is also available on the VDL.