

**Privacy Impact Assessment - 2009 (Form) / VistA-Application Development-2009 (Item)**

**Part I. Project Identification and Determination of PIA Requirement**

**1. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:**

**1.1) Project Basic Information:**

1.1.a) Project or Application Name:

VistA-Application Development-2009

1.1.b) OMB Unique Project Identifier:

029-00-01-11-01-1186-00

1.1.c) Project Description

*Project description is pre-populated from Exhibit 300 Part I.A.8. You will not be able to edit the description on this form.*

To support VHA's efforts of providing cost effective, world-class medical care to our veterans, address Presidential Management Agenda & congressional mandates, the transition of the VHA Health Care IT system is a necessity. Primary achievement will be through transition of VistA-Legacy (VistA) to VistA-Applications Development (VistA-AD) program. VistA-AD will focus on the software applications, while the infrastructure and architectural foundations take place in parallel in the VistA-Foundations Modernization program.

Over VistA's lifespan, it has grown to become the largest and best electronic medical record system in the world. VistA is growing more difficult to support due to: technological age, product maintenance costs and integration difficulties associated with mainstream software languages, tools, and processes. VistA software is written in MUMPS, a 20 year old technology, resulting in diminishing qualified MUMPS software developers. In addition, improvements are also needed such as data storage in veteran-centric format and standard data that is shareable across the enterprise to provide advanced clinical decision support. VistA stores data in a facility-centric format rather than the more useful veteran-centric format and the data is not standardized among facilities thus making decision support very difficult.

The VistA-AD effort is focused on clinical/administrative areas such as Radiology, Clinical Care Delivery Support System (CCDSS) and the effort to expand bar code technology into laboratory and other clinical areas to enhance patient safety. Administrative applications such as Decision Support and Electronic Wait List will also be addressed. In addition to developing new applications, the existing VistA applications will be re-hosted, re-engineered or retired over the life cycle of this program.

VistA-AD provides a means to deliver reliable, accessible, timely health care information in an efficient manner, meeting a stated objective in VA's strategic goal of Honor and Serve Veterans in Life and an Enabling strategic objective of implementing a One VA information technology framework that supports the integration of information across business lines, reliably, accurately, and securely. These provisions satisfies the PMA E-Gov initiative, that calls for the federal government to champion citizen-centered electronic processes that result in a major improvement in the government's value to the citizen.

1.1.d) Additional Project Information (Optional)

*The project description provided above should be a concise, stand-alone description of the project. Use this section to provide any important, supporting details.*

**1.2) Contact Information:**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1.2.a) Person completing this document:</b> |   |
| <b>Title:</b>                                  | Karen Hudgins, Project Manager, VistA-Application Development |
| <b>Organization:</b>                           | VHIT/PP&C   |
| <b>Telephone Number:</b>                       | (727)894-4105   |
| <b>Email Address:</b>                          | Karen.Hudgins@va.gov  |

|                                     |                                |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>1.2.b) Project Manager:</b>      |                                |
| <b>Title:</b>                       | Karen Hudgins, Project Manager |
| <b>Organization:</b>                | VHIT/PP&C                      |
| <b>Telephone Number:</b>            | (727) 894-4105                 |
| <b>Email Address:</b>               | Karen.Hudgins@va.gov           |
| <b>1.2.c) Staff Contact Person:</b> |                                |
| <b>Title:</b>                       | John Forbes, Senior Associate  |
| <b>Organization:</b>                | HPTI/CACI                      |
| <b>Telephone Number:</b>            | 703 707 2775                   |
| <b>Email Address:</b>               | John.Forbes@med.va.gov         |
|                                     |                                |

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: If appropriate, provide explanation for limited answers, such as the development stage of project.

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**2. DETERMINATION OF PIA REQUIREMENTS:**

A privacy impact assessment (PIA) is required for all VA projects with IT systems that collect, maintain, and/or disseminate personally identifiable information (PII) of the public, not including information of Federal employees and others performing work for VA (such as contractors, interns, volunteers, etc.), unless it is a PIV project. All PIV projects collecting any PII must complete a PIA. PII is any representation of information that permits the identity of an individual to be reasonably inferred by either direct or indirect means. Direct references include: name, address, social security number, telephone number, email address, financial information, or other identifying number or code. Indirect references are any information by which an agency intends to identify specific individuals in conjunction with other data elements. Examples of indirect references include a combination of gender, race, birth date, geographic indicator and other descriptors.

2.a) Will the project collect and/or maintain personally identifiable information of the public in IT systems?

Yes

2.b) Is this a PIV project collecting PII, including from Federal employees, contractors, and others performing work for VA?

No

If "YES" to either question then a PIA is required for this project. Complete the remaining questions on this form. If "NO" to both questions then no PIA is required for this project. Skip to section 14 and affirm.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)

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**Part II. Privacy Impact Assessment**

**3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Enter the information requested to describe the project.

3.a) Provide a concise description of why personal information is maintained for this project, such as determining eligibility for benefits or providing patient care.

All information is necessary in order to provide congressionally mandated health care for Veterans.

3.b) What specific legal authorities authorize this project, and the associated collection, use, and/or retention of personal information?

|   |
|---|
| Title 38, United States Code, section 7301(a).  |
| 3.c) Identify, by selecting the appropriate range from the list below, the approximate number of individuals that (will) have their personal information stored in project systems.                                   |
| 1,000,000 - 9,999,999   |
| 3.d) Identify what stage the project/system is in: (1) Design/Planning, (2) Development/Implementation, (3) Operation/Maintenance, (4) Disposal, or (5) Mixed Stages.   |
| (2) Development/Implementation  |
| 3.e) Identify either the approximate date (MM/YYYY) the project/system will be operational (if in the design or development stage), or the approximate number of years that the project/system has been in operation. |
| 09/2012   |
| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)  |
|   |
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|---|
| <b>4. SYSTEM OF RECORDS:</b>  |
| <i>The Privacy Act of 1974 (Section 552a of Title 5 of the United States Code) and VA policy provide privacy protections for employee or customer information that VA or its suppliers maintain in a System of Records (SOR). A SOR is a file or application from which personal information is retrieved by an identifier (e.g. name, unique number or symbol). Data maintained in a SOR must be managed in accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Act and the specific provisions of the applicable SOR Notice. Each SOR Notice is to be published in the Federal Register. See VA Handbook 6300.5 "Procedures for Establishing &amp; Managing Privacy Act Systems Of Records", for additional information regarding Systems of Records.</i> |
| 4.a) Will the project or application retrieve personal information on the basis of name, unique number, symbol, or other identifier assigned to the individual?   |
| If "No" then skip to section 5, 'Data Collection'.  |
| Yes   |
| 4.b) Are the project and/or system data maintained under one or more approved System(s) of Records?   |
| IF "No" then SKIP to question 4.c.  |
| Yes   |
| 4.b.1) For each applicable System of Records, list:   |
| (1) The System of Records identifier (number),  |
| 79VA19  |
| (2) The name of the System of Records, and  |
| Vista Records   |
| (3) Provide the location where the specific applicable System of Records Notice(s) may be accessed (include the URL).   |
| htm <a href="http://www.va.gov/privacy/SystemsOfRecords/2001_Privacy_Act_GPO_SOR_compilation.pdf">http://www.va.gov/privacy/SystemsOfRecords/2001_Privacy_Act_GPO_SOR_compilation.pdf</a>   |
| <i>IMPORTANT: For each applicable System of Records Notice that is not accessible via a URL: (1) Provide a concise explanation of why the System of Records Notice is not accessible via a URL in the "Additional Information" field at the end of this section, and (2) Send a copy of the System of Records Notice(s) to the Privacy Service.</i>   |
| 4.b.2) Have you read, and will the application comply with, all data management practices in the System of Records Notice(s)?   |
| Yes   |
| 4.b.3) Was the System(s) of Records created specifically for this project, or created for another project or system?  |
| Created for another project or system   |
| If created for another project or system, briefly identify the other project or system.   |
| VistA- Legacy   |
| 4.b.4) Does the System of Records Notice require modification?  |
| If "No" then skip to section 5, 'Data Collection'.  |
| Modification of the System of Records is NOT Required.  |
| 4.b.5) Describe the required modifications.   |

4.c) If the project and/or system data are not maintained under one or more approved System(s) of Records, select one of the following and provide a concise explanation.

Explanation:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)

## PIA SECTION 5

### Project Name

Vista-Application Development-2009

### 5. DATA COLLECTION:

#### 5.1 Data Types and Data Uses

Identify the types of personal information collected and the intended use(s) of that data:

a) Select all applicable data types below. If the provided data types do not adequately describe a specific data collection, select the "Other Personal Information" field and provide a description of the information.

b) For each selected data type, concisely describe how that data will be used.

*Important Note: Please be specific. If different data types or data groups will be used for different purposes or multiple purposes, specify. For example: "Name and address information will be used to communicate with individuals about their benefits, while Name, Service, and Dependent's information will be used to determine which benefits individuals will be eligible to receive. Email address will be used to inform individuals about new services as they become available."*

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| Yes | <b>Veteran's or Primary Subject's Personal Contact Information (name, address, telephone, etc.)</b> |
|-----|---|

Specifically identify the personal information collected, and describe the intended use of the information.

The most common data types that are captured and accessed on a regular basis by authorized individuals are first and last name, middle initial, DOB, SSN, and address. This patient information falls into two classes: administrative and clinical. Clinical information is used to diagnose, prescribe treatment and follow clinically the patient through his/her health care encounters. Administrative data is used to identify the veteran (SSN), correspond to/from (name and address), and determine eligibility (patient administrative info + SSA and IRS data).

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| Yes | <b>Other Personal Information of the Veteran or Primary Subject</b> |
|-----|---|

Specifically identify the personal information collected, and describe the intended use of the information.

Mother's Maiden Name, Date and Place of Birth, Gender, Race, Religion, Marital Status, Employment, Health Insurance, and Financial data.  
To determine eligibility and enroll veterans for health care services.

|     |                              |
|-----|------------------------------|
| Yes | <b>Dependent Information</b> |
|-----|------------------------------|

*Specifically identify the personal information collected, and describe the intended use of the information.*

Spouse and child data.  
To determine eligibility and enroll veterans for health care services.

|     |                            |
|-----|----------------------------|
| Yes | <b>Service Information</b> |
|-----|----------------------------|

*Specifically identify the personal information collected, and describe the intended use of the information.*

Identify eligibility for care.

|     |                            |
|-----|----------------------------|
| Yes | <b>Medical Information</b> |
|-----|----------------------------|

*Specifically identify the personal information collected, and describe the intended use of the information.*

Clinical information from VA and DoD is used in the diagnosis and treatment of the veteran.

|    |                                    |
|----|------------------------------------|
| No | <b>Criminal Record Information</b> |
|----|------------------------------------|

*Specifically identify the personal information collected, and describe the intended use of the information.*

|     |                             |
|-----|-----------------------------|
| Yes | <b>Guardian Information</b> |
|-----|-----------------------------|

*Specifically identify the personal information collected, and describe the intended use of the information.*

Used in the notification process and as required for medical decisions.

|    |                              |
|----|------------------------------|
| No | <b>Education Information</b> |
|----|------------------------------|

*Specifically identify the personal information collected, and describe the intended use of the information.*

|     |                                   |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| Yes | <b>Rehabilitation Information</b> |
|-----|-----------------------------------|

*Specifically identify the personal information collected, and describe the intended use of the information.*

Used in follow-up treatment and as part of the medical history

Yes

**Other Personal Information (specify):**

*The "Other Personal Information" field is intended to allow identification of collected personal information that does not fit the provided categories. If personal information is collected that does not fit one of the provided categories, specifically identify this information and describe the intended use of the information.*

Next-of-kin information and emergency contact information, such as name and telephone number, is collected from the veteran to use to contact other individuals in case of an emergency. In addition insurance and employment information is available on the veteran for use in billing for care.

*ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)*

Patient information falls into two classes: administrative and clinical. Clinical information is used to diagnose, prescribe treatment and follow clinically the patient through his/her health care encounters. Administrative data is used to identify the veteran (SSN), correspond to/from (name and address), and determine eligibility (patient administrative info + SSA and IRS data).

## 5.2 Data Sources

*Identify the source(s) of the collected information.*

*a) Select all applicable data source categories provided below.*

*b) For each category selected:*

*i) Specifically identify the source(s) - identify each specific organization, agency or other entity that is a source of personal information. ii) Provide a concise description of why information is collected from that source(s). iii) Provide any required additional clarifying information.*

*Your responses should clearly identify each source of personal information, and explain why information is obtained from each identified source. (Important Note: This section addresses sources of personal information; Section 6.1, "User Access and Data Sharing" addresses sharing of collected personal information.)*

*Note: PIV projects should use the "Other Source(s)" data source.*

Yes

**Veteran Source**

*Provide a concise description of why information is collected from Veterans. Provide any required additional, clarifying information.*

Data used to identify the veteran, determine eligibility for care, schedule treatment and manage the provided care

No

**Public Source(s)**

*i) Specifically identify the Public Source(s) - identify the specific organization(s) or other entity(ies) that supply personal information. ii) Provide a concise description of why information is collected from each identified source. iii) Provide any required additional, clarifying information.*

|     |                               |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| Yes | <b>VA Files and Databases</b> |
|-----|-------------------------------|

*i) Specifically identify each VA File and/or Database that is a source of personal information. ii) Provide a concise description of why information is collected from each identified source. iii) Provide any required additional, clarifying information.*

For VistA-Application Development, the Legacy Patient Treatment File is used to store and make inquiries of personally identifiable information about the veteran, previous clinical records, clinical information, drug information as needed to provide treatment and reimbursement.

|     |                                       |
|-----|---------------------------------------|
| Yes | <b>Other Federal Agency Source(s)</b> |
|-----|---------------------------------------|

*i) Specifically identify each Federal Agency that is a source of personal information. ii) Provide a concise description of why information is collected from each identified source. iii) Provide any required additional, clarifying information.*

IRS,SSA, DoD data used for income verification to determine if third party collection is possible. Also used in determining eligibility for care.

|    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| No | <b>State Agency Source(s)</b> |
|----|-------------------------------|

*i) Specifically identify each State Agency that is a source of personal information. ii) Provide a concise description of why information is collected from each identified source. iii) Provide any required additional, clarifying information.*

|    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| No | <b>Local Agency Source(s)</b> |
|----|-------------------------------|

*i) Specifically identify each Local Agency (Government agency other than a Federal or State agency) that is a source of personal information. ii) Provide a concise description of why information is collected from each identified source. iii) Provide any required additional, clarifying information.*

|     |                        |
|-----|------------------------|
| Yes | <b>Other Source(s)</b> |
|-----|------------------------|

*i) If the provided Data Source categories do not adequately describe a source of personal information, specifically identify and describe each additional source of personal information. ii) For each identified data source, provide a concise description of why information is collected from that source. iii) Provide any required additional, clarifying information.*

VHA contracts for various service relating to providing care for veterans which result with the creation of information that VistA collects( i.e transcription, coding, radiology, billing/collection data)

*ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)*

### 5.3 Collection Methods

Identify and describe how personal information is collected:

a) Select all applicable collection methods below. If the provided collection methods do not adequately describe a specific data collection, select the "Other Collection Method" field and provide a description of the collection method. b) For each collection method selected, briefly describe the collection method, and provide additional information as indicated.

|     |                   |  |
|-----|-------------------|--|
| Yes | <b>Web Forms:</b> | Information collected on Web Forms and sent electronically over the Internet to project systems. |
|-----|-------------------|--|

Identify the URL(s) of each Web site(s) from which information will be submitted, and the URL(s) of the associated privacy statement. (Note: This question only applies to Web forms that are submitted online. Forms that are accessed online, printed and then mailed or faxed are considered "Paper Forms.")

The web form is located at <https://www.1010EZ.med.va.gov/sec/vah/1010EZ>. This site from which this form is accessed (<http://www.va.gov/>) references the VA Privacy and Security site (<http://www.va.gov/privacy/>), as well as the VA Disclaimer site (<http://www.va.gov/disclaim.htm>) and the VA FOIA site (<http://vawww.va.gov/OIT/CIO/FOIA/default.asp>)

|     |                     |  |
|-----|---------------------|--|
| Yes | <b>Paper Forms:</b> | Information collected on Paper Forms and submitted personally, submitted via Postal Mail and/or submitted via Fax Machine. |
|-----|---------------------|--|

Identify and/or describe the paper forms by which data is collected. If applicable, identify standard VA forms by form number.

VA Form 1010EZ – see the VA 10-10EZ Form from the Website: <https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/>

|    |                                  |  |
|----|----------------------------------|--|
| No | <b>Electronic File Transfer:</b> | Information stored on one computer/system (not entered via a Web Form) and transferred electronically to project IT systems. |
|----|----------------------------------|--|

Describe the Electronic File Transfers used to collect information into project systems. (Note: This section addresses only data collection – how information stored in project systems is acquired. Sharing of information stored in project systems and data backups are addressed in subsequent sections.)

|    |                                  |  |
|----|----------------------------------|--|
| No | <b>Computer Transfer Device:</b> | Information that is entered and/or stored on one computer/ system and then transferred to project IT systems via an object |
|    |                                  | or device that is used to store data, such as a CD-ROM, floppy disk or tape.   |

Describe the type of computer transfer device, and the process used to collect information.

|     |                           |   |
|-----|---------------------------|---|
| Yes | <b>Telephone Contact:</b> | Information is collected via telephone. |
|-----|---------------------------|---|

Describe the process through which information is collected via telephone contacts.

Veterans answer questions posed over phone to collect Form 1010EZ data.

|    |                                 |  |
|----|---------------------------------|--|
| No | <b>Other Collection Method:</b> | Information is collected through a method other than those listed above. |
|----|---------------------------------|--|

If the provided collection method categories do not adequately describe a specific data collection, select the "Other Collection Method" field and specifically identify and describe the process used to collect information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)

Website URL: <https://www.1010EZ.med.va.gov/sec/vah/1010EZ>; paper form: 1010EZ; computer transfer media: electronic file transfer and query; telephone contact: patient telephones enrollment staff, provides personal data to fill out 1010EZ, verbally approves use of data.

#### 5.4 Notice

The Privacy Act of 1974 and VA policy requires that certain disclosures be made to data subjects when information in identifiable form is collected from them. The following questions are directed at notice to the individual of the scope of information collected, the right to consent to uses of said information, and the right to decline to provide information.

5.4.a) Is personally identifiable information collected directly from individual members of the public and maintained in the project's IT systems?

Yes

Note: If you have selected NO above, then SKIP to Section 5.5, 'Consent'.

5.4.b) Is the data collection mandatory or voluntary?

Mandatory

5.4.c) How are the individuals involved in the information collection notified of the Privacy Policy and whether provision of the information is mandatory or voluntary?

VA Form 1010EZ; VA Notice of Privacy Policies

5.4.d) Is the data collection new or ongoing?

Ongoing

5.4.e.1) If personally identifiable information is collected online, is a privacy notice provided that includes the following elements? (Select all applicable boxes.)

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| No  | <b>Not applicable</b>  |
| No  | <b>Privacy notice is provided on each page of the application.</b>   |
| Yes | <b>A link to the VA Website Privacy Policy is provided.</b>  |
| Yes | <b>Proximity and Timing: the notice is provided at the time and point of data collection.</b>                        |
| Yes | <b>Purpose: notice describes the principal purpose(s) for which the information will be used.</b>                    |
| Yes | <b>Authority: notice specifies the legal authority that allows the information to be collected.</b>                  |
| Yes | <b>Conditions: notice specifies if providing information is voluntary, and effects, if any, of not providing it.</b> |

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| Yes | <b>Disclosures: notice specifies routine use(s) that may be made of the information.</b> |
|-----|--|

5.4.e.2) If necessary, provide an explanation on privacy notices for your project:

This issue is under review and links to all web sites in the future will include a link to the VA Privacy Policy.

5.4.f) For each type of collection method used (identified in Section 5.3, "Collection Method"), explain:

a) What the subjects will be told about the information collection. b) How this message will be conveyed to them (e.g., written notice, electronic notice if a web-based collection, etc.). c) How a privacy notice is provided.

Note: if PII is transferred from other projects, explain any agreements or understandings regarding notification of subjects.

|     |                   |
|-----|-------------------|
| Yes | <b>Web Forms:</b> |
|-----|-------------------|

Explain:

a) What the subjects will be told about the information collection. b) How this message will be conveyed to them (e.g., written notice, electronic notice if a web-based collection, etc.). c) How a privacy notice is provided.

Patients are allowed to download Form 1010 which contains privacy information concerning each of the data fields they are required to enter.

|     |                     |
|-----|---------------------|
| Yes | <b>Paper Forms:</b> |
|-----|---------------------|

Explain:

a) What the subjects will be told about the information collection. b) How this message will be conveyed to them (e.g., written notice, electronic notice if a web-based collection, etc.). c) How a privacy notice is provided.

Patients fill out required fields of information on Form 1010 and an explanation of privacy policy is provided.

|    |                                  |
|----|----------------------------------|
| No | <b>Electronic File Transfer:</b> |
|----|----------------------------------|

For electronic transfers of information, where this system is receiving the information from another system and is not collected from the primary information source, please explain what agreements are in place that govern the responsibilities of the system collecting information from the primary information source to notify subjects regarding:

a) What they will be told about the information collection? b) How the message will be conveyed (e.g. written notice, electronic notice if web-based collection, etc.)? c)How a privacy notice is provided?

|    |                                  |
|----|----------------------------------|
| No | <b>Computer Transfer Device:</b> |
|----|----------------------------------|

For electronic transfers of information, where this system is receiving the information from another system and is not collected from the primary information source, please explain what agreements are in place that govern the responsibilities of the system collecting information from the primary information source to notify subjects regarding:

a) What they will be told about the information collection? b) How the message will be conveyed (e.g. written notice, electronic notice if web-based collection, etc.)? c)How a privacy notice is provided?

|     |                   |
|-----|-------------------|
| Yes | <b>Telephone:</b> |
|-----|-------------------|

Explain:

a) What the subjects will be told about the information collection. b) How this message will be conveyed to them (e.g., written notice, electronic notice if a web-based collection, etc.). c) How a privacy notice is provided.

Information is obtained over telephone interview and patients are provided with a consent form to sign and return.

|    |               |
|----|---------------|
| No | Other Method: |
|----|---------------|

Explain:

a) What the subjects will be told about the information collection. b) How this message will be conveyed to them (e.g., written notice, electronic notice if a web-based collection, etc.). c) How a privacy notice is provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)

### 5.5 Consent For Secondary Use of PII :

The Privacy Act and VA policy require that personally identifiable information only be used for the purpose(s) for which it was collected, unless consent (opt-in) is granted. Individuals must be provided an opportunity to provide consent for any secondary use of information, such as use of collected information for marketing.

5.5.a) Will personally identifiable information be used for any secondary purpose?

Note: If you have selected No above, then SKIP to question 5.6, "Data Quality."

No

5.5.b) Describe and justify any secondary uses of personal information.

5.5.c) For each collection method identified in question 5.3, "Collection Method," describe:

1) The opportunities individuals have to decline to provide information, for instances where providing information is voluntary. 2) The opportunities individuals have to grant consent for particular uses of the information. 3) How individuals may grant consent.

Some examples of consent methods are: (1) Approved OMB consent forms and (2) VA Consent Form (VA Form 1010EZ). Provide justification if no method of consent is provided.

|  |            |
|--|------------|
|  | Web Forms: |
|--|------------|

Describe:

1) The opportunities individuals have to decline to provide information, for instances where providing information is voluntary. 2) The opportunities individuals have to grant consent for particular uses of the information. 3) How individuals may grant consent.

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
|  | Paper Forms: |
|--|--------------|

Describe:

1) The opportunities individuals have to decline to provide information, for instances where providing information is voluntary. 2) The opportunities individuals have to grant consent for particular uses of the information. 3) How individuals may grant consent.

|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
|  | <b>Electronic File Transfer:</b> |
|--|----------------------------------|

*For electronic transfers of information, where this system is receiving the information from another system and is not collected from the primary information source, please explain what agreements are in place that govern the responsibilities of the system collecting information from the primary information source to provide the following:*

*a) The opportunities individuals have to decline to provide information, for instances where providing information is voluntary. b) The opportunities individuals have to grant consent for particular uses of the information. c) How individuals may grant consent.*

|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
|  | <b>Computer Transfer Device:</b> |
|--|----------------------------------|

*For electronic transfers of information, where this system is receiving the information from another system and is not collected from the primary information source, please explain what agreements are in place that govern the responsibilities of the system collecting information from the primary information source to provide the following:*

*a) The opportunities individuals have to decline to provide information, for instances where providing information is voluntary. b) The opportunities individuals have to grant consent for particular uses of the information. c) How individuals may grant consent.*

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
|  | <b>Telephone Contact Media:</b> |
|--|---------------------------------|

*Describe:*

*1) The opportunities individuals have to decline to provide information, for instances where providing information is voluntary. 2) The opportunities individuals have to grant consent for particular uses of the information. 3) How individuals may grant consent.*

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
|  | <b>Other Media</b> |
|--|--------------------|

*Describe:*

*1) The opportunities individuals have to decline to provide information, for instances where providing information is voluntary. 2) The opportunities individuals have to grant consent for particular uses of the information. 3) How individuals may grant consent.*

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)

## **5.6 Data Quality**

**5.6.a) Explain how collected data are limited to required elements:**

Individuals may either visit the VAMC where they receive their care and begin the process or may visit the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Website for VA at <http://www.va.gov/oit/cio/foia/guide.asp#how> or may go through VA Forms at <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/medical/pdf/vha-10-5345-fill.pdf> . Further information regarding the VA SOR is available at [http://www.va.gov/privacy/SystemsOfRecords/2001\\_Privacy\\_Act\\_GPO\\_SOR\\_compilation.pdf](http://www.va.gov/privacy/SystemsOfRecords/2001_Privacy_Act_GPO_SOR_compilation.pdf)

**5.6.b) How is data checked for completeness?**

Data is reviewed by staff and compared to paper forms.

**5.6.c) What steps or procedures are taken to ensure the data are current and not out of date?**

Clinical data is not removed. Administrative data is updated with each application for care.

5.6.d) How is new data verified for relevance, authenticity and accuracy?

New data is compared with printed form or via patient verification

*ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)*

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|  |
|  |

PIA SECTIONS 6 - 13

**Project Name**

VistA-Application Development-2009

**6. Use and Disclosure**

**6.1 User Access and Data Sharing**

Identify the individuals and organizations that have access to system data.

--> *Individuals* - Access granted to individuals should be limited to the data needed to perform their assigned duties. Individuals with access to personal information stored in project system must be identified, and documented assurance must be provided that appropriate policies and procedures are in place to prevent as well as detect unauthorized access and browsing.

--> *Other Agencies* – Any Federal, State or local agencies that have authorized access to collected personal information must be identified, and documented assurance must be provided that appropriate policies and procedures are in place to protect personal information.

--> *Other Systems* – Information systems of other programs or projects that interface with the information system(s) of this project must be identified and the transferred data must be defined. Also, the controls that are in place to ensure that only the defined data are transmitted must be defined.

6.1.a) Identify all individuals and organizations that will have access to collected information. Select all applicable items below.

|     |                     |
|-----|---------------------|
| Yes | <b>System Users</b> |
|-----|---------------------|

|     |                                      |
|-----|--------------------------------------|
| Yes | <b>System Owner, Project Manager</b> |
|-----|--------------------------------------|

|     |                             |
|-----|-----------------------------|
| Yes | <b>System Administrator</b> |
|-----|-----------------------------|

|     |                   |
|-----|-------------------|
| Yes | <b>Contractor</b> |
|-----|-------------------|

If contractors to VA have access to the system, describe their role and the extent of access that is granted to them. Also, identify the contract(s) that they operate under.

Contractors have the same accesses as employees they are required to take the privacy and security training.

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| Yes | <b>Internal Sharing: Veteran Organization</b> |
|-----|---|

If information is shared internally, with other VA organizations identify the organization(s). For each organization, identify the information that is shared and for what purpose.

The veteran's information is shared with VBA (Compensation and pension records).

|    |                                   |
|----|-----------------------------------|
| No | <b>Other Veteran Organization</b> |
|----|-----------------------------------|

If information is shared with a Veteran organization other than VA, identify the organization(s). For each organization, identify the information that is shared and for what purpose.

|     |                                 |
|-----|---------------------------------|
| Yes | Other Federal Government Agency |
|-----|---------------------------------|

If information is shared with another Federal government agency(ies), identify the agency(ies). For each organization, identify the information that is shared and for what purpose.

Name, Social Security Number, Date of Birth, and Sex are transmitted to SSA and the Social Security Number and first four characters of the surname are transmitted to IRS in order to verify certain veterans' self-reported income information with federal tax information to identify veterans' responsibility for making medical care co-payments and enhance revenue from first party collections. Also veteran information is shared with DoD.

|    |                         |
|----|-------------------------|
| No | State Government Agency |
|----|-------------------------|

If information is shared with a State government agency(ies), identify the agency(ies). For each organization, identify the information that is shared and for what purpose.

|    |                         |
|----|-------------------------|
| No | Local Government Agency |
|----|-------------------------|

If information is shared with a local government agency(ies), identify the agency(ies). For each organization, identify the information that is shared and for what purpose.

|    |                       |
|----|-----------------------|
| No | Other Project/ System |
|----|-----------------------|

If information is shared with other projects or systems:

1) Identify the other projects and/or systems, and briefly describe the data sharing. 2) For each project and/or system with which information will be shared, identify the information that will be shared with that project or system. 3) For each project and/or system with which information will be shared, describe why information is shared. 4) For each project and/or system with which information will be shared, describe who will be responsible for protecting the privacy rights of the individuals whose data will be shared across this interface.

|    |               |
|----|---------------|
| No | Other User(s) |
|----|---------------|

If information is shared with persons or organization(s) that are not described by the categories provided, use this field to identify and describe what other persons or organization(s) have access to personal information stored on project systems. Also, briefly describe the data sharing.

6.1.a.1) Describe here who has access to personal information maintained in project's IT systems:

Clinical and administrative staff involved in the provision of care.

6.1.b) How is access to the data determined?

|   |
|---|
| On a need to know basis   |
| 6.1.c) Are criteria, procedures, controls, and responsibilities regarding access documented? If so, identify the documents.   |
| Yes - VHA1605.1 and VHA 1605.2 VA HANDBOOKS   |
| 6.1.d) Will users have access to all data on the project systems or will user access be restricted? Explain.  |
| User will be restricted   |
| 6.1.e) What controls are in place to prevent the misuse (e.g. unauthorized browsing) of data by those having access? (Please list processes and training materials that specifically relate to unauthorized browsing)   |
| Processes and training materials specifically related to preventing misuse, including violation of unauthorized browsing are currently being developed and projected to be available next FY.   |
| 6.1.f) Is personal information shared (is access provided to anyone other than the system users, system owner, Project Manager, System Administrator)? (Yes/No)   |
| No  |
| Note: If you have selected No above, then SKIP to question 6.2, "Access to Records and Requests for Corrections".   |
| 6.1.g) Identify the measures taken to protect the privacy rights of the individuals whose data will be shared.  |
|   |
| 6.1.h) Identify who is responsible, once personal information leaves your project's IT system(s), for ensuring that the information is protected.   |
|   |
| 6.1.i) Describe how personal information that is shared is transmitted or disclosed.  |
|   |
| 6.1.j) Is a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), contract, or any other agreement in place with all external organizations with whom information is shared, and does the agreement reflect the scope of the information currently shared? If an MOU is not in place, is the sharing covered by a routine use in the System of Records Notice? If not, explain the steps being taken to address this omission. |
|   |
| 6.1.k) How is the shared information secured by the recipient?  |
|   |
| 6.1.l) What type of training is required for users from agencies outside VA prior to receiving access to the information?   |
|   |
| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)  |
|   |
|   |

## 6.2 Access to Records and Requests for Corrections

The Privacy Act and VA policy provide certain rights and mechanisms by which individuals may request access to and amendment of information relating to them that is retained in a System of Records.

6.2.a) How can individuals view instructions for accessing or amending data related to them that is maintained by VA? (Select all applicable options below.)

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| No  | The application will provide a link that leads to their information.  |
| No  | The application will provide, via link or where data is collected, written instructions on how to access/amend their information. |
| No  | The application will provide a phone number of a VA representative who will provide instructions.                                 |
| Yes | The application will use other method (explain below).  |
| No  | The application is exempt from needing to provide access.   |

6.2.b) What are the procedures that allow individuals to gain access to their own information?

Individuals may either visit the VAMC where they receive their care and begin the process or may visit the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Website for VA at <http://www.va.gov/oit/cio/foia/guide.asp#how> or may go through VA Forms at <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/medical/pdf/vha-10-5345-fill.pdf> . Further information regarding the VA SOR is available at [http://www.va.gov/privacy/SystemsOfRecords/2001\\_Privacy\\_Act\\_GPO\\_SOR\\_compilation.pdf](http://www.va.gov/privacy/SystemsOfRecords/2001_Privacy_Act_GPO_SOR_compilation.pdf)

6.2.c) What are the procedures for correcting erroneous information?

Same as above

6.2.d) If no redress is provided, are alternatives available?

Yes

6.2.e) Provide here any additional explanation; if exempt, explain why the application is exempt from providing access and amendment.

The patient is mailed a notice describing the process.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)

## 7 Retention and Disposal

By completing this section, you provide documented assurance that proper data retention and disposal practices are in place.

The "Retention and disposal" section of the applicable System of Records Notice(s) often provides appropriate and sufficiently detailed documented data retention and disposal practices specific to your project.

VA HBK 6300.1 Records Management Procedures explains the Records Control Schedule procedures.

### System of Records Notices may be accessed via:

<http://vaww.vhaco.va.gov/privacy/SystemofRecords.htm>

or

[http://vaww.va.gov/foia/err/enhanced/privacy\\_act/privacy\\_act.html](http://vaww.va.gov/foia/err/enhanced/privacy_act/privacy_act.html)

For VHA projects, VHA Handbook 1907.1 (Section 6j) and VHA Records Control Schedule 10-1 provide more general guidance.

### VHA Handbook 1907.1 may be accessed at:

[http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=434](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=434)

For VBA projects, Records Control Schedule (RCS) VB-1 provides more general guidance. VBA Records Control Schedule (RCS) VB-1 may be accessed via the URL listed below.

Start by looking at the <http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/20rcs.html>

7.a) What is the data retention period? Given the purpose of retaining the information, explain why the information is needed for the indicated period.

Clinical information is retained in accordance with VA Records Control Schedule 10-1. Demographic information is updated as applications for care are submitted and retained in accordance with VA Records Control Schedule 10-1.

7.b) What are the procedures for eliminating data at the end of the retention period?

Electronic Final Version of Patient Medical Record is destroyed/deleted 75 years after the last episode of patient care as instructed in VA Records Control Schedule 10-1, Item XLIII, 2.b. (Page 190). At the present time, VistA Imaging retains all images. We are performing a study to explore whether some images can be eliminated on an earlier schedule.

7.c) Where are procedures documented?

VA Handbook 6300; Record Control Schedule 10-1

7.d) How are data retention procedures enforced?

VA Records Control Schedule 10-1 (page 8):

**Records Management Responsibilities**

The Health Information Resources Service (HIRS) is responsible for developing policies and procedures for effective and efficient records management throughout VHA. In addition, HIRS acts as the liaison between VHA and National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) on issues pertaining to records management practices and procedures.

Field records officers are responsible for records management activities at their facilities.

Program officials are responsible for creating, maintaining, protecting, and disposing of records in their program area in accordance with NARA regulations and VA policy.

All VHA employees are responsible to ensure that records are created, maintained, protected, and disposed of in accordance with NARA regulations and VA policies and procedures.  
Disposition of Records

7.e) If applicable, has the retention schedule been approved by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)

PRIVACY SERVICE COMMENTS: (Include reviewers Name and Contact)

**8 SECURITY**

OMB Guidance for Implementing the Privacy Provisions of the E-Government Act of 2002, (OMB M-03-22) specifies that privacy impact assessments must address how collected information will be secured.

**8.1 General Security Measures**

8.1.a) Per OMB guidance, citing requirements of the Federal Information Security Management Act, address the following items (select all applicable boxes.):

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| Yes | The project is following IT security requirements and procedures required by federal law and policy to ensure that information is appropriately secured.       |
|     |  |
| Yes | The project has conducted a risk assessment, identified appropriate security controls to protect against that risk, and implemented those controls.            |
|     |  |
| Yes | Security monitoring, testing, and evaluating are conducted on a regular basis to ensure that controls continue to work properly, safeguarding the information. |

8.1.b) Describe the security monitoring, testing, and evaluating that is conducted on a regular basis:

Certification and Accreditation is ongoing in conjunction with local security staff

8.1.c) Is adequate physical security in place to protect against unauthorized access?

Yes

**8.2 Project-Specific Security Measures**

8.2.a) Provide a specific description of how collected information will be secured.

• A concise description of how data will be protected against unauthorized access, unauthorized modification, and how the availability of the

|   |
|---|
| system will be protected.   |
| • A concise description of the administrative controls (Security Plans, Rules of Behavior, Procedures for establishing user accounts, etc.).  |
| • A concise description of the technical controls (Access Controls, Intrusion Detection, etc.) that will be in place to safeguard the information.  |
| • Describe any types of controls that may be in place to ensure that information is used in accordance with the above described uses. For example, are audit logs regularly reviewed to ensure appropriate use of information? Are strict disciplinary programs in place if an individual is found to be inappropriately using the information?   |
| Note: Administrative and technical safeguards must be specific to the system covered by the PIA, rather than an overall description of how the VA's network is secured. Does the project/system have its own security controls, independent of the VA network? Is so, describe these controls.  |
| The agency is following IT security requirements as described in the FISMA. IT security is provided at the project and enterprise levels. IT security measures included the use of passwords, user authentication, physical security controls and configuration management. Enterprise level IT security includes firewalls for intrusion protection, virus protection software, and the implementation of authentication systems. Risk assessments are conducted. VistA last completed a FISMA survey in July 2003. The Office of Cyber and Information Security (OCIS) provides regular guidance on IT security issues and interpretation of rules and regulations set by legislation, policy or NIST guidelines. OCIS will serve as a point of contact for additional questions or specifics on implementation of security measures. |
| 8.2.b) Explain how the project meets IT security requirements and procedures required by federal law.   |
| FISMA   |
| <b>9. CHANGE RECORD</b>   |
| OMB Memorandum M-03-22, OMB Guidance for Implementing the Privacy Provisions of the E-Government Act of 2002, mandates that PIAs address any project/ system changes that potentially create new privacy risks. By completing this section, you provide documented assurance that significant project/ system modifications have been appropriately evaluated for privacy-related impacts.  |
| 9.a Since the last PIA submitted, have any significant changes been made to the system that might impact the privacy of people whose information is retained on project systems? (Yes, No, n/a: first PIA)  |
| No  |
| If no, then proceed to Section 10, "Children's Online Privacy Protection Act."  |
| If yes, then please complete the information in the table below. List each significant change on a separate row. 'Significant changes' may include:   |
| Conversions - when converting paper-based records to electronic systems;  |
| Anonymous to Non-Anonymous - when functions applied to an existing information collection change anonymous information into information in identifiable form;   |
| Significant System Management Changes - when new uses of an existing IT system, including application of new technologies, significantly change how information in identifiable form is managed in the system:  |
| • For example, when an agency employs new relational database technologies or web-based processing to access multiple data stores; such additions could create a more open environment and avenues for exposure of data that previously did not exist.  |
| Significant Merging - when agencies adopt or alter business processes so that government databases holding information in identifiable form are merged, centralized, matched with other databases or otherwise significantly manipulated:   |
| • For example, when databases are merged to create one central source of information; such a link may aggregate data in ways that create privacy concerns not previously at issue.  |
| New Public Access - when user-authenticating technology (e.g., password, digital certificate, biometric) is newly applied to an electronic information system accessed by members of the public;  |
| Commercial Sources - when agencies systematically incorporate into existing information systems databases of information in identifiable form purchased or obtained from commercial or public sources. (Merely querying such a source on an ad hoc basis using existing technology does not trigger the PIA requirement);   |
| New Interagency Uses - when agencies work together on shared functions involving significant new uses or exchanges of information in identifiable form, such as the cross-cutting E-Government initiatives; in such cases, the lead agency should prepare the PIA;  |
| Internal Flow or Collection - when alteration of a business process results in significant new uses or disclosures of information or incorporation into the system of additional items of information in identifiable form:   |
| • For example, agencies that participate in E-Gov initiatives could see major changes in how they conduct business internally or collect information, as a result of new business processes or E-Gov requirements. In most cases the focus will be on integration of common processes and supporting data. Any business change that results in substantial new requirements for information in identifiable form could warrant examination of privacy issues.   |
| Alteration in Character of Data - when new information in identifiable form added to a collection raises the risks to personal privacy (for example, the addition of health or financial information);  |

| List All Major Project/System Modification(s) | State Justification for Modification(s) | * Concisely describe: | Modification Approver | Date |
|---|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|------|
|   |   |                       |                       |      |
|   |   |                       |                       |      |
|   |   |                       |                       |      |
|   |   |                       |                       |      |
|   |   |                       |                       |      |

\* The effect of the modification on the privacy of collected personal information

### 10. CHILDREN'S ONLINE PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT

10.a) Will information be collected through the Internet from children under age 13?

No

If "No" then SKIP to Section 11, "PIA Considerations".

10.b) How will parental or guardian approval be obtained.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)

### 11. PIA CONSIDERATIONS

11) Identify what choices were made regarding the project/system or collection of information as a result of performing the PIA. Examples of choices made include reconsideration of: collection source, collection methods, controls to mitigate misuse of information, provision of consent and privacy notice, and security controls.

Vista-Application Development individual projects are governed by existing policies and procedures.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)

### 12. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY

The Electronic Government Act of 2002 requires that VA make this PIA available to the public. This section is intended to provide documented assurance that the PIA is reviewed for any potentially sensitive information that should be removed from the version of the PIA that is made available to the public.

The following guidance is excerpted from M-03-22, "OMB Guidance for Implementing the Privacy Provisions of the E-Government Act of 2002," Section II.C.3, "Review and Publication": iii. Agencies must ensure that the PIA document and, if prepared, summary, are made publicly available (consistent with executive branch policy on the release of information about systems for which funding is proposed).

1. Agencies may determine to not make the PIA document or summary publicly available to the extent that publication would raise security concerns, reveal classified (i.e., national security) information or sensitive information (e.g., potentially damaging to a national interest, law enforcement effort or competitive business interest) contained in an assessment<sup>9</sup>. Such information shall be protected and handled consistent with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

2. Agencies should not include information in identifiable form in their privacy impact assessments, as there is no need for the PIA to include such information. Thus, agencies may not seek to avoid making the PIA publicly available on these grounds.

12.a) Does this PIA contain any sensitive information that could cause harm to the Department of Veterans Affairs or any party if disclosed to the public?

No

12.b) If yes, specify:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)

| <b>13. ACCEPTANCE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ACCOUNTABILITY:</b>   |
|--|
| <i>13.1) I have carefully reviewed the responses to each of the questions in this PIA. I am responsible for funding and procuring, developing, and integrating privacy and security controls into the project. I understand that integrating privacy and security considerations into the project may affect the development time and cost of this project and must be planned for accordingly. I will ensure that VA privacy and information security policies, guidelines, and procedures are followed in the development, integration, and, if applicable, the operation and maintenance of this application.</i> |
| Yes  |
| <i>13.2) Project Manager/Owner Name and Date (mm/dd/yyyy)</i>  |
| Karen Hudgins 05/31/2007   |
| <i>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (Provide any necessary clarifying information or additional explanation for this section.)</i>  |
|  |
|  |