

24 July 2012

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA)
VIRTUAL LIFETIME ELECTRONIC RECORD (VLER)

Title: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)/ Department of Defense (DoD) Information Sharing

Discussion: Selected VLER Projects

VLER Data Access Services (DAS): The VLER Data Access Services provide standardized and secure access to health, benefits, memorials, and personnel data by brokering consumer requests for information with the authoritative producer sources of that information, whether they be within VA, DoD, or other external partner information sources.

- Placed DAS version 1.0 into production, which will support the initial exchanges for the Information Sharing Initiative (Care Coordinator Profiles).

Veteran Authorization and Preferences (VAP)/ Veterans Authorization and Preferences Interface Improvements (VAP II): The interaction between VAP and VAPII allows Veterans to securely and safely disclose their personal information, while simultaneously managing their privacy preferences.

- There are currently 51,537 Veteran electronic and paper signed authorizations in the VAP/ VAP II system. Moving forward, all eBenefits users (1.4 million) will have the ability to electronically authorize the sharing of their information via VAP/ VAP II.

Warrior Support Information Sharing Initiative (ISI): The goal of ISI is to meet the cross-Departmental information sharing needs of case/care management/coordination personnel on providing integrated care to Service members and Veterans. Integrated care seeks to close the traditional division between health and social care.

Warrior Support Veterans Tracking Application (VTA): Veterans Tracking Application (VTA) is a tool used to track the disability evaluation claims of a Service members and Veterans. DoD and VA personnel at 139 Military Treatment Facilities (MTF) utilize VTA, which is a critical enabler of the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) process.

- IDES currently has 27,621 active cases.
- On June 9, VLER released VTA 2.0 which expanded the amount of data shared between VA and DoD and will improve the ability of IDES case managers and staff in VA's Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) to verify facts that must be proven prior to issuance of VA benefits. These facts include separations, character of service, and severance, and other pay issues.

Warrior Support Federal Case Management Tool (FCMT): Federal Case Management Tool (FCMT) is used by Federal Recovery Care Coordinators to document and track healthcare, currently focused on severely wounded, ill, and injured Service members and Veterans.

- FCMT currently supports 865 severely wounded, ill and injured Service members, Veterans and their families, which is a subset of the total wounded, ill and injured population.

Electronic Case File Transfer (eCFT) in support of Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES): The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is working with its partners to deploy a paperless CFT capability for IDES. When delivered to the field, the capability will support the creation of a paperless, searchable IDES Case File transferred between the DoD and the VA.

- Executive Director VLER and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Warrior Care Policy (WCP) chair the VCA 2 Rapid Acceleration Integrated Project Team (IPT) responsible for selection and implementation of an electronic case file transfer solution.
- In June, the IPT (including membership from Military Services, VHA, and VBA) selected pilot sites, developed initiative success metrics, and released a Performance Work Statement (PWS) on June 17.

Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS) Program of Record Support: VBMS standardizes disability compensation claims processing through a Web-based paperless system. In order to ensure successful implementation, VLER has provided resources to assist with and lead the Electronic Information Sourcing Function.