



Department of Veterans Affairs Operational Management Review (OMR)

Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER)

January 25, 2012



Major Initiative Overview

- ❖ **Major Initiative Lead:** Arthur (Joe) Paiva, VLER Enterprise Program Management Office (EPMO)
- ❖ **Major Initiative Sponsor:** Roger W. Baker, Office of Information Technology (OIT)
- ❖ **Purpose:** The mission of the Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER) is to enable VA and its partners to proactively provide the full continuum of services and benefits to Veterans through Veteran-centric processes made possible by effective, efficient, and secure standards-based information sharing.
- ❖ **Intent:** The Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER) is an inter-agency, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Department of Defense (DoD) led transformation of business processes and information systems to be more Servicemember and Veteran-centric by providing standards-based information sharing and transparency.
- ❖ **Strategy:** VLER will exploit information exchange and eliminate barriers to information sharing, in order to engage, empower, and increase Veteran participation.



Request for DEPSECVA Action

Request Description	Requested DEPSECVA Actions
1. None at this time.	

DEPSECVA Action Items

Action Item / Source	Response / Status
1. FY12 Operating Plan / OMR	Executive Director VLER completed plan and submitted to Mr. Baker on Jan 13, 2012. Currently pending concurrence.



Recent Key Accomplishments

Key Accomplishments

- 1. Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs):** Continued developing framework for long-term solution to ensure clinical and rating efficiency, accessibility, and computability of DBQs in paperless disability claims process. Coordinated finalization of joint VBA/VHA Business Requirements Document (BRD) to address enterprise needs.
- 2. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)/ VA Information Sharing:** Initiated the collaboration between agencies and started discussion surrounding a Computer Matching Agreement (CMA) and IT strategies for information sharing. By sharing this data, HUD and VA will have an enhanced ability to be solutions driven and make evidentiary decisions regarding our most vulnerable population of Homeless Veterans.
- 3. eBenefits:** Update to eBenefits was deployed on December 11, 2011 and includes the implementation of several features designed to improve users' access to benefits, authorizations, and claims status. Through a single sign-on experience, new and updated capabilities include : Compensation & Pension (C&P) Claims Status; Post 9/11 GI Bill Enrollment Status; and Accredited Veteran Service Organization (VSO) representative search enhancement.
- 4. Clinical Health Data Repository (CHDR):** On December 3, 2011 CHDR deployed an enhancement that will allow VA to translate allergy and pharmacy data that DoD sends via the internet into a VA format. This enhancement allows filtering for clinically important information, making VistA Web information much more usable to clinicians.
- 5. Bidirectional Health Exchange (BHIE):** On December 1, 2011 customers accepted the core common components of the VLER Data Access Service. This will enable VA and DoD software applications (VTA & DESITI or AWCTS) to share care coordinator information.



90-Day Look Ahead

Planned Key Accomplishments Within Next 90 Days

1. Brief VA leadership regarding VLER strategic direction to ensure alignment and full integration across the enterprise. Publish EDM to institutionalize VLER and a VLER Operating Plan based upon the confirmed strategic direction.
2. Publish joint BRD for an initial DBQ capability that will improve access, usability, and computability of DBQs for Veterans, VBA and VHA providers, and private clinicians in paperless disability claims process.
3. Deliver an enhanced Veterans Authorization and Preferences (VAP) v1.0 opt-in/opt-out solution which automates the authorization process for sharing of health information with NWHIN partners and sets the foundation for additional Release of Information (ROI) enterprise services for all Veteran information sharing.
4. Continue architecture development for VLER Data Access Service (DAS) which will support the efficient exchange of VLER health, benefits and personnel data securely and accurately between all data producers and consumers that exist among DoD, VA, and external partners thereby enhancing Veterans' rapid access to benefits.
5. Deliver Memorial Affairs Performance and Usability (MAPUE) improvements in the Management and Decision Support System (MADSS) that will indirectly shorten benefits delivery time and automate the notification of the next of kin that headstone is set. Implement Memorial Affairs Letters Enhancements (MALE) capability improvements by automating Resolution Letter production to improve responsiveness to the Veteran families while ordering grave marker.
6. Develop Business Requirements Document (BRD), functional models, Requirements Specification Documents (RSD), and the draft System Design Document (SDD) to support strategic planning for Memorial Affairs Redesign (MAR).
7. Facilitate VA and Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) efforts to share information.
8. Support Veteran outreach by deploying a VLER public-facing homepage that will provide robust information regarding the VLER initiative and delivering informational presentations to VSO conferences.



Key Issues and Corrective Action Plans

Key Issues	Corrective Action Plans
1. Utilizing the new T4 acquisition vehicle could result in a gap in contractor services for VLER.	VLER staff are working closely with the TAC.

Major Risks and Mitigation Plans

Major Risks	Mitigation Plans
1. Important VLER projects may not be fully funded.	Develop value statements and business cases for UFRs in order to secure funding.
2. Inability to meet established milestones for projects with external dependencies, based on different priorities, funding, and schedules.	Develop funding strategy, and ensure VLER funding profile includes other project dependencies.
3. Availability of business and technical SMEs when there are multiple competing projects.	Prioritize projects and consolidate meetings where appropriate.



MI Milestone and Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Milestone Performance as of December 31, 2011

Planned Milestones to Date	Of Planned Milestones, # Completed	% of Planned to Date	Total Milestones Completed to Date	Total Planned FY12	% Total FY12
0	0	-	0	4	0%

Legend (% of Planned to Date)



Strategic Performance Measures as of December 31, 2011

Measure	Start of FY 12 Value	End of FY12 Target	Forecast End of FY12 Value
Achieve bidirectional information exchange in at least three sites between VA, DOD and the private sector by end of FY12.	10	13	13+
Complete the prototyping and pilot phases by the end of FY 12.	Started	Complete	Completed



Additional MI Performance Measures *

Measure	Start of FY12 Value	End of FY12 Target	Forecast End of FY12 Value
Increase in number of all VA designated "Authoritative Sources" who have XML Schemas, Data Dictionaries and Business Rules published in accordance with established processes and formats	TBD – Baseline in FY12	TBD	TBD
Increase in number of new information services made available to VA enterprise	TBD – Baseline in FY12	TBD	TBD
Increase in number of new healthcare service provider partners with whom VA is able to share information (electronically, without human intervention)	10	13	13
Increase in number of new non-healthcare service provider partners with whom VA is able to share information (electronically, without human intervention)	0	2	2
Increase in number of manual VA business processes enabled by automated information sharing between systems	TBD	TBD	TBD

* These measures are in addition to Strategic Plan (Refresh) measures



Overall Status Summary

Fiscal Year-to-Date as of 3 January 2012

		Planned to Date (\$ in millions)	Actual (\$ in millions)	% Actual vs. Planned to Date	Remaining (\$ in millions)	Total FY12 (\$ in millions)	% Actual vs. Total FY12
Spend	Program	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	\$0	\$0
	IT	\$█	\$█	100%	\$█	\$█	2%
FTE	Program	█	█	83%	█	█	83%
	IT	█	█	100%	0	█	100%

Legend (% of Planned to Date)

> 90%	80-90%	<80%
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Contracts as of 3 January 2012

	Total Planned Contracts		Contracts Awarded		Contracts Not Awarded		"Actionable" Package Being Worked by Contracting Officer	Developing Acquisition Package	Developing BRD
	Number	Value (FY12, \$ in millions)	Number	Value (FY12, \$ in millions)	Number	Value (FY12, \$ in millions)			
IT	32	\$█	2	\$█	30	\$█	0	30	0
Program	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	0	0
Total	32	\$█	2	\$█	30	\$█	0	30	0