SPLASH PAGE LANGUAGE

The completion of Veterans Affairs Privacy Impact Assessments (PIAs) is mandated for any rulemaking, program, system, or practice that collects or uses PII under the authority of the E-government Act of 2002 (44 U.S.C. § 208(b)) and VA Directive 6508, Implementation of Privacy Threshold Analysis and Privacy Impact Assessment.

The PIA is designed to identify risk associated with the use of PII by a system, program, project or practice, and to ensure that vital data stewardship issues are addressed for all phases of the System Development Life Cycle (SDLC) of IT systems. It also ensures that privacy protections are built into an IT system during its development cycle. By regularly assessing privacy concerns during the development process, VA ensures that proponents of a program or technology have taken its potential privacy impact into account from the beginning. The PIA also serves to help identify what level of security risk is associated with a program or technology. In turn, this allows the Department to properly manage the security requirements
under the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA).

VA HANDBOOK 6508.1: "Implementation of Privacy Threshold Analysis and Privacy Impact Assessment," July 2015, https://www.va.gov/vapubs/viewPublication.asp?Pub_ID=810&FType=2

Please note that the E-government Act of 2002 requires that a PIA be made available to the public. In order to comply with this requirement PIA will be published online for the general public to view. When completing this document please use simple, straight-forward language, avoid overly technical terminology, and write out acronyms the first time you use them to ensure that the document can be read and understood by the general public.

Privacy Impact Assessment for the VA IT System called:

eScreening

VHA Veterans Health Administration

Date PIA submitted for review:

03/09/2022

System Contacts:

System Contacts

	Name	E-mail	Phone Number
Privacy Officer	Kamilah Jackson	kamilah.jackson@va.gov	513-288-6988
Information System Security Officer (ISSO)	Jerome Rabanal	jerome.rabanal@va.gov	858-642-1533
Information System Owner	Angela Gant-Curtis	angela.gant-curtis@va.gov	540-760-7222

Abstract

The abstract provides the simplest explanation for "what does the system do?" and will be published online to accompany the PIA link.

The eScreening software is designed to give a wide variety of clinical settings the ability to automate collection and scoring of screening instruments to improve efficiency in treating patients. The eScreening system accelerates the process of documenting Veteran's self-assessments by using technology. This effort will implement web-based forms for completing mental health assessments and other patient forms. The system has 2-way VistA/CPRS communication which assigns needed health screens and submits Veteran responses into CPRS to satisfy clinical reminders and generate a clinical note for review and signature. VAPALS-ELCAP Lung Cancer Screening Management System is a minor application of eScreening (MHE) (Cloud) Assessing hosted within the VA Enterprise Cloud (VAEC); Amazon Web Services (AWS).

Overview

The overview is the most important section of the PIA. A thorough and clear overview gives the reader the appropriate context to understand the responses in the PIA. The overview should contain the following elements:

- *The IT system name and the name of the program office that owns the IT system.*
- *The business purpose of the program, IT system, or technology and how it relates to the program office and agency mission.*
- *Indicate the ownership or control of the IT system or project.*
- *The expected number of individuals whose information is stored in the system and a brief description of the typical client or affected individual.*
- *A general description of the information in the IT system and the purpose for collecting this information.*
- *Any information sharing conducted by the IT system. A general description of the modules and subsystems, where relevant, and their functions.*
- *Whether the system is operated in more than one site, and if so, a description of how use of the system and PII is maintained consistently in all sites and if the same controls are used across sites.*
- *A citation of the legal authority to operate the IT system.*
- *Whether the completion of this PIA will result in circumstances that require changes to business processes*
- *Whether the completion of this PIA could potentially result in technology changes*
- *If the system is in the process of being modified and a SORN exists, will the SORN require amendment or revision and approval? If the system is using cloud technology, does the SORN for the system cover cloud usage or storage?*

eScreening is a software system developed by Center of Excellence for Stress and Mental Health (CESAMH) in conjunction with VA Center for Innovation, sponsored by VHA (Veterans' Health Administration). eScreening allows Veterans to provide information in response to a set of questions for use with determining the areas of focus for the medical

appointment and accelerate the process of documenting their assessment by using this technology. The expected number of individuals whose information is stored in the system is approximately 100,000. Information gathered from the Veteran's input would be their name, last four of social security number, date of birth, current address, employment, education, income, psychological health, military service history, presenting health issues/symptoms. The system has 2-way VistA/CPRS communication which assigns needed health screens and submits the information to CPRS to satisfy clinical reminders and generate a clinical note for review and signature. Data that is gathered from the Veteran is only transiently stored in eScreening while all data is permanently stored in VistA

The current eScreening version is currently running locally at the following test VA facilities: Fresno, San Francisco, Lebanon, Bedford, and Long Beach. Once hosted in the AWS (Amazon Web Service) environment (Cloud Technology Services) all VA facilities will be able to utilize the eScreening process. Authority to operate: Title 38 of U.S. Code section 201. Veteran Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture, better known as VistA, 79VA10. The change in the business process will be that Veterans will be able to complete and submit their responses to questions using the eScreening application instead of the use of paper. VA caregivers will be able to use information in the system instead of manually entering the responses. There are no SORN modifications or approvals necessary.

eScreening will be hosted using cloud technology, does not hold a FedRAMP status, and is in the process of obtaining an ATO. The Department of Veteran Affairs maintains ownership and rights over all data. The VA Enterprise Cloud contract includes language and processes for security and privacy of data. The security characterization for eScreening has been scored as a MODERATE impact system.

Section 1. Characterization of the Information

The following questions are intended to define the scope of the information requested and collected as well as the reasons for its collection as part of the program, IT system, or technology being developed.

1.1 What information is collected, used, disseminated, created, or maintained in the system?

Identify and list all Sensitive Personal Information (SPI) that is collected and stored in the system, including Individually Identifiable Information (III), Individually Identifiable Health Information (IIHI), Protected Health Information (PHI), and Privacy- Protected Information. For additional information on these information types and definitions, please see VA Directives and Handbooks in the 6500 series (https://vaww.va.gov/vapubs/). If the system creates information (for example, a score, analysis, or report), list the information the system is responsible for creating.

If a requesting system receives information from another system, such as a response to a background check, describe what information is returned to the requesting system.
This question is related to privacy control AP-1, Authority To Collect, and AP-2, Purpose Specification.

The information selected below must match the information provided in question 2.1 as well as the data elements columns in 4.1 and 5.1.

Please check any information listed below that your system collects, uses, disseminates, creates, or maintains. If additional SPI is collected, used, disseminated, created, or maintained, please list those in the text box below:

- ☒ Name
- ☒ Social Security Number
- ☒ Date of Birth
- ☐ Mother's Maiden Name
- ☒ Personal Mailing Address
- ☒ Personal Phone Number(s)
- ☐ Personal Fax Number
- ☒ Personal Email Address
- ☐ Emergency Contact Information (Name, Phone Number, etc. of a different individual)
- ☐ Financial Account Information
- ☐ Health Insurance Beneficiary Numbers Account numbers
- ☐ Certificate/License numbers
- ☐ Vehicle License Plate Number
- ☐ Internet Protocol (IP) Address Numbers
- ☒ Current Medications
- ☐ Previous Medical Records
- ☐ Race/Ethnicity
- ☐ Tax Identification Number
- ☐ Medical Record Number
- ☐ Gender
- ☐ Integration Control Number (ICN)
- ☐ Military History/Service Connection
- ☐ Next of Kin
- ☒ Other Unique Identifying Information (list below)

Education, Employment, and Income, Presenting Health Issues, Symptoms, Habits, and Psychological Health, Military Service History

PII Mapping of Components

eScreening consists of (two) key components. Each component has been analyzed to determine if any elements of that component collect PII. The type of PII collected by eScreening and the reasons for the collection of the PII are in the table below.

PII Mapped to Components

Note: Due to the PIA being a public facing document, please do not include the server names in the table. The first table of 3.9 in the PTA should be used to answer this question.

PII Mapped to Components

Database Name of the information system collecting/storing PII	Does this system collect PII? (Yes/No)	Does this system store PII? (Yes/No)	Type of PII (SSN, DOB, etc.)	Reason for Collection/ Storage of PII	Safeguards
eScreening App	**Yes (transiently)**	**No**	Full Name, Last 4 of social	To perform pre-assessment in advance of	Transiently stored before being

			security number, Date of Birth, Current Address, E-mail address, Phone Number, Education, Employment, and Income, Presenting Health Issues, Symptoms, Habits, and Psychological Health, Military Service History	conducting medical examination.	Hosted in private VA Enterprise Cloud (Amazon Web Service), controlled physical and logical access, only approved and authorized users granted access to application.
AWS	**Yes**	**No**	Full Name, Last 4 of social security number, Date of Birth, Current Address, E-mail address, Phone Number, Education, Employment, and Income, Presenting Health Issues, Symptoms, Habits, and Psychological Health, Military Service History	To perform pre-assessment in advance of conducting medical examination	Hosted in private VA Enterprise Cloud (Amazon Web Service), controlled physical and logical access, only approved and authorized users granted access to database.

1.2 What are the sources of the information in the system?

List the individual, entity, or entities providing the specific information identified above. For example, is the information collected directly from the individual as part of an application for a benefit, or is it collected from other sources such as commercial data aggregators?

Describe why information from sources other than the individual is required. For example, if a program's system is using data from a commercial aggregator of information or data taken from public Web sites, state the fact that this is where the information is coming from and then in question 1.3 indicate why the system is using this source of data.

If the system creates information (for example, a score, analysis, or report), list the system as a source of information.
This question is related to privacy controls DI-1, Data Quality, and IP-1, Consent.

Information is being retrieved from the internal VistA/ CPRS system.

1.3 How is the information collected?

This question is directed at the means of collection from the sources listed in question 1.2. Information may be collected directly from an individual, received via electronic transmission from another system, or created by the system itself. Specifically, is information collected through technologies or other technologies used in the storage or transmission of information in identifiable form?

If the information is collected on a form and is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, give the form's OMB control number and the agency form number.
This question is related to privacy controls DI-1, Data Quality, and IP-1, Consent.

The eScreening system is linked to VistA/CPRS.

1.4 How will the information be checked for accuracy? How often will it be checked?

Discuss whether and how often information stored in the system is checked for accuracy. Is information in the system checked against any other source of information (within or outside your organization) before the information is used to make decisions about an individual? For example, is there a computer matching agreement in place with another government agency? For systems that receive data from internal data sources or VA IT systems, describe the system checks to ensure that data corruption has not occurred during transmission.

If the system checks for accuracy by accessing a commercial aggregator of information, describe this process and the levels of accuracy required by the contract.

This question is related to privacy controls DI-1, Data Quality, and DI-2, Data Integrity and Integrity Board.

The user must validate that the information provided is accurate. At the completion of the questionnaire the eScreening information will be reviewed by a VA staff member with the Veteran.

1.5 What specific legal authorities, arrangements, and agreements defined the collection of information?

List the full legal authority for operating the system, specifically the authority to collect the information listed in question 1.1. Provide the authorities in a manner understandable to any potential reader, i.e., do not simply provide a legal citation; use statute names or regulations in addition to citations. Legal authorities include Federal laws, regulations, statutes, and Executive Orders.
This question is related to privacy control AP-1, Authority to Collect

Title 38 of U.S. Code section 201. Veteran Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture, better known as VistA, 79VA10.

1.6 <u>PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Characterization of the information</u>

Consider the specific data elements collected and discuss the potential privacy risks and what steps, if any are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks.

Consider the following Fair Information Practice Principles (FIPPs) when assessing the risk to individual privacy:

<u>Principle of Purpose Specification:</u> Explain how the collection ties with the purpose of the underlying mission of the organization and its enabling authority.

<u>Principle of Minimization:</u> Is the information directly relevant and necessary to accomplish the specific purposes of the program?

<u>Principle of Individual Participation:</u> Does the program, to the extent possible and practical, collect information directly from the individual?

<u>Principle of Data Quality and Integrity:</u> Are there policies and procedures for VA to ensure that personally identifiable information is accurate, complete, and current?
This question is related to privacy control AR-1, Governance and Privacy Program, and AR-2, Privacy Impact and Risk Assessment.

Follow the format below when entering your risk assessment:

<u>Privacy Risk:</u> VistA System contains sensitive personal information – including social security numbers, names, and protected health information – on Veterans, VA, and contractor employees.

Due to the highly sensitive nature of this data, there is a risk that, if the data were accessed by an unauthorized individual or otherwise breached, serious harm or even identity theft may result.

Mitigation: Veterans Health Administration (VHA), facilities deploy extensive security measures to protect the information from inappropriate use and/or disclosure through both access controls and training of all employees and contractors. Security measures include access control, configuration management, media protection, system and service acquisition, audit and accountability measures, contingency planning, personnel security, system and communication protection, awareness and training, identification authentication, physical and environmental protection, system information integrity, security assessment and authorization, incident response, risk assessment, planning and maintenance.

Section 2. Uses of the Information

The following questions are intended to clearly delineate the use of information and the accuracy of the data being used.

2.1 Describe how the information in the system will be used in support of the program's business purpose.

Identify and list each use (both internal and external to VA) of the information collected or maintained.
This question is related to privacy control AP-2, Purpose Specification.

eScreening is a software system developed by the Center of Excellence for Stress and Mental Health (CESAMH). eScreening will allows Veterans to provide information in response to a set of questions for use with determining the areas of focus for the providers and accelerate the process of documenting their assessment by using this technology.

2.2 What types of tools are used to analyze data and what type of data may be produced?

Many systems sift through large amounts of information in response to a user inquiry or programmed functions. Systems may help identify areas that were previously not obvious and need additional research by agents, analysts, or other employees. Some systems perform complex analytical tasks resulting in, among other types of data, matching, relational analysis, scoring, reporting, or pattern analysis. Describe any type of analysis the system conducts and the data that is created from the analysis.

If the system creates or makes available new or previously unutilized information about an individual, explain what will be done with the newly derived information. Will it be placed in the individual's existing record? Will a new record be created? Will any action be taken against or for the individual identified because of the newly derived data? If a new record is created, will the newly created information be accessible to Government employees who make determinations about the individual? If so, explain fully under which circumstances and by whom that information will be used.

This question is related to privacy controls DI-1, Data Quality, DI-2, Data Integrity and Integrity Board, and SE-1, Inventory of Personally Identifiable Information

The Veteran will respond to questionnaires related to the purpose of their medical appointment in advance of the medical exam. The information gathered by the questionnaires will be reviewed and added to the Veterans medical record by the clinician. The medical record information will be used for future medical appointments and exams.

2.3 How is the information in the system secured?

2.3a What measures are in place to protect data in transit and at rest?

All data in transit over the wireless network is encrypted using WPA2 encryption per Datica iaaS policy documentation. VA TIC controls all connection rules through the approval of the VA Enterprise Security External Change Control. Transmission encryption keys use a minimum of 4096-bit RSA keys, or keys and ciphers of equivalent or higher cryptographic strength (e.g., 256-bit AES session keys in the case if IPsec encryption).

2.3b If the system is collecting, processing, or retaining Social Security Numbers, are there additional protections in place to protect SSNs?

SSNs are encrypted, only available to certain users and hidden from all users via a look-up table. SSNs are input only and in partial form.

2.3c How is PII/PHI safeguarded in accordance with OMB Memorandum M-06-15?

E-Screening defines and documents the information at rest that is to be protected. Controls implemented to protect data at rest are documented in the System Security Plan (SSP). Also VA has processes to protect information at rest or in storage that include but are not limited to:

• VA approved encryption such as FIPS 140-2 or current version, Full disk encryption (FDE) Virtual disk and volume encryption and File/folder encryption
• Intrusion Detection and Protection Systems (IDPS)
• Firewalls rulesets • Endpoint security to scan for malware other threats to confidentiality and integrity.
• Physical and logical access control mechanisms
• Change control possesses.

2.4 <u>PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Use of the information.</u> How is access to the PII determined? Are criteria, procedures, controls, and responsibilities regarding access documented? Does access require manager approval? Is access to the PII being monitored, tracked, or recorded? Who is responsible for assuring safeguards for the PII?

Describe any types of controls that may be in place to ensure that information is handled in accordance with the uses described above. <u>Example: Describe if training for users of the project covers how to appropriately use information. Describe the disciplinary programs or system controls (i.e. denial of access) that are in place if an individual is inappropriately using the information.</u>

Consider the following FIPPs below to assist in providing a response:

Principle of Transparency: Is the PIA and SORN, if applicable, clear about the uses of the information?

Principle of Use Limitation: Is the use of information contained in the system relevant to the mission of the project?
This question is related to privacy control AR-4, Privacy Monitoring and Auditing, AR-5, Privacy Awareness and Training, and SE-2, Privacy Incident response.

Users have access to the PII that is transiently stored in eScreening/VistA as a right of access outlined in the VHA Notice of Privacy Practices (NoPP). Access to PII is determined by the currently assigned VistA access level, contexts and roles. The application manager is responsible for assigning users to the appropriate user roles to limit access for different parts of the application and assuring PII safeguards as documented in the user manual, technical manual, and system design document.

Section 3. Retention of Information

The following questions are intended to outline how long information will be retained after the initial collection.

3.1 What information is retained?

Identify and list all information collected from question 1.1 that is retained by the system.
This question is related to privacy controls DM-1, Minimization of Personally Identifiable Information, and DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal

Data input from users is only transiently stored in eScreening while all data is permanently stored in VistA.

3.2 How long is information retained?

In some cases VA may choose to retain files in active status and archive them after a certain period of time. State active file retention periods, as well as archived records, in number of years, for the information and record types. For example, financial data held within your system may have a different retention period than medical records or education records held within your system, please be sure to list each of these retention periods. If the system is using cloud technology, will it be following the NARA approved retention length and schedule?

The VA records officer should be consulted early in the development process to ensure that appropriate retention and destruction schedules are implemented.
This question is related to privacy control DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal.

Application session information is stored until the user logs out of the application or after an inactive period of 10 minutes, whichever occurs first. Patient transitory data is only stored for the transaction time. eScreening is part of VistA, which has a 75-year record retention period. Records are maintained for 75 years after a patients last visit or episode of care in VA..

3.3 Has the retention schedule been approved by the VA records office and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)? If so please indicate the name of the records retention schedule.

An approved records schedule must be obtained for any IT system that allows the retrieval of a record via a personal identifier. The VA records officer will assist in providing a proposed schedule. The schedule must be formally offered to NARA for official approval. Once NARA approves the proposed schedule, the VA records officer will notify the system owner.
This question is related to privacy control DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal.

The Health Records Folder File or CHR (Consolidated Health Record) records series contains all professional and administrative material necessary to document the episodes of medical care and benefits provided to individuals by the VA health care system. The health records folder will be retained in the VA health care facility until 3 years after last episode of care, and then converted to an inactive medical record. Once designated an inactive medical record, it will be moved to a VA records storage facility. Patient health records are retained for a total of 75 years after the last episode of care. (Department of Veterans Affairs Record Control Schedule (RCS)-10, Chapter Six Healthcare Records, Item No. 6000.1 (January 2021).

3.4 What are the procedures for the elimination of SPI?

Explain how records are destroyed or eliminated at the end of the retention period. Please give the details of the process. For example, are paper records shredded on site, or by a shredding company and accompanied by a certificate of destruction, etc?
This question is related to privacy control DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal

No SPI data is retained within eScreening; transitory data is only stored for the transaction time but after each transaction, with VistA, data is purged from the cache.

3.5 Does the system, where feasible, use techniques to minimize the risk to privacy by using PII for research, testing, or training?

Organizations often use PII for testing new applications or information systems prior to deployment. Organizations also use PII for research purposes and for training. These uses of PII increase the risks associated with the unauthorized disclosure or misuse of the information. Please explain what controls have been implemented to protect PII used for testing, training and research. Have policies and procedures been developed to minimize the use of PII for testing, training, and research?
This question is related to privacy control DM-3, Minimization of PII Used in Testing, Training and Research

In non-production environments, no PII or actual patient/user information is used for simulating specific transactions in the application. In production, no PII is permanently stored, however PII is consumed and displayed within the eScreening application user interface (UI)

3.6 <u>PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Retention of information</u>

Discuss the risks associated with the length of time data is retained and what steps, if any, are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks.

While we understand that establishing retention periods for records is a formal process, there are policy considerations behind how long a project keeps information. The longer a project retains information, the longer it needs to secure the information and assure its accuracy and integrity. The proposed schedule should match the requirements of the Privacy Act to keep the minimum amount of PII for the minimum amount of time, while meeting the Federal Records Act. The schedule should align with the stated purpose and mission of the system.

Consider the following FIPPs below to assist in providing a response:

Principle of Minimization: Does the project retain only the information necessary for its purpose? Is the PII retained only for as long as necessary and relevant to fulfill the specified purposes?

Principle of Data Quality and Integrity: Has the PIA described policies and procedures for how PII that is no longer relevant and necessary is purged?
This question is related to privacy controls DM-1, Minimization of Personally Identifiable Information, and DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal.

Follow the format below:

Privacy Risk: There is a risk that the information contained in the VistA System will be retained for longer than is necessary to fulfill the VA mission. Records held longer than required are at greater risk of being unintentionally released or breached.

Mitigation: In addition to collecting and retaining only information necessary for fulfilling the VA mission, the disposition of data housed is based on standards developed by the National Archives Records Administration (NARA). This ensures that data is held for only as long as necessary

Section 4. Internal Sharing/Receiving/Transmitting and Disclosure

The following questions are intended to define the scope of information sharing/receiving/transmitting within VA.

4.1 With which internal organizations is information shared/received/transmitted? What information is shared/received/transmitted, and for what purpose? How is the information transmitted?

NOTE: Question 3.9 (second table) on Privacy Threshold Analysis should be used to answer this question.

Identify and list the names of any program offices, contractor-supported IT systems, and any other organization or IT system within VA with which information is shared.

State the purpose for the internal sharing. If you have specific authority to share the information, provide a citation to the authority.

For each interface with a system outside your program office, state what specific data elements (PII/PHI) are shared with the specific program office, contractor-supported IT system, and any other organization or IT system within VA.

Describe how the information is transmitted. For example, is the information transmitted electronically, by paper, or by some other means? Is the information shared in bulk, on a case-by-case basis, or does the sharing partner have direct access to the information?
This question is related to privacy controls AP-2, Purpose Specification, AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers, AR-8, Accounting of Disclosures, TR-1, Privacy Notice, and UL-1, Internal Use.

Data Shared with Internal Organizations

List the Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with	***List the purpose of the information being shared /received with the specified program office or IT system***	***List the specific PII/PHI data elements that are processed (shared/received/transmitted) with the Program Office or IT system***	***Describe the method of transmittal***
VistA/CPRS	Information being pulled from VistA/CPRS	Name, SSN, Date of Birth, Presenting Health Issues	Secure VA network

4.2 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Internal sharing and disclosure

Discuss the privacy risks associated with the sharing of information within the Department and what steps, if any, are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks.
This question is related to privacy control UL-1, Internal Use.

Follow the format below:
Privacy Risk: The sharing of data is necessary for the medical care of individuals eligible to receive care at a VHA facility. However, there is a risk that the data could be shared with an inappropriate VA organization or institution which would have a potentially catastrophic impact on privacy.

Mitigation: Profile-based permissions will govern what participant information the data users will be able to access. The profiles will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that appropriate information is shared with appropriate users. All employees with access to participant's information are required to complete the VA Privacy, Information Security Awareness training and Rules of Behavior annually.

Section 5. External Sharing/Receiving and Disclosure

The following questions are intended to define the content, scope, and authority for information sharing external to VA, which includes Federal, State, and local governments, and the private sector.

5.1 With which external organizations (outside VA) is information shared/received? What information is shared/received, and for what purpose? How is the information transmitted and what measures are taken to ensure it is secure?

Is the sharing of information outside the agency compatible with the original collection? If so, is it covered by an appropriate routine use in a SORN? If not, please describe under what legal mechanism the IT system is allowed to share the information in identifiable form or personally identifiable information outside of VA.

NOTE: Question 3.10 on Privacy Threshold Analysis should be used to answer this question.

Identify and list the names of any Federal, State, or local government agency or private sector organization with which information is shared.

For each interface with a system outside VA, state what specific data elements (PII/PHI) are shared with each specific partner.

What legal mechanisms, authoritative agreements, documentation, or policies are in place detailing the extent of the sharing and the duties of each party? For example, is the sharing of data compatible with your SORN? Then list the SORN and the applicable routine use from the SORN. Is there a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Computer Matching Agreement (CMA), or law that mandates the sharing of this information?

Describe how the information is transmitted to entities external to VA and what security measures have been taken to protect it during transmission.
This question is related to privacy control UL-2, Information Sharing with Third Parties

Data Shared with External Organizations

List External Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with	***List the purpose of information being shared / received / transmitted with the specified***	***List the specific PII/PHI data elements that are processed (shared/received/transmitted) with the Program or IT system***	***List the legal authority, binding agreement, SORN routine use, etc. that permit***	***List the method of transmission and the measures in place to secure data***

	program office or IT system		***external sharing (can be more than one)***	
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

5.2 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: External sharing and disclosure

Discuss the privacy risks associated with the sharing of information outside the Department and what steps, if any, are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks.

Discuss whether access controls have been implemented and whether audit logs are regularly reviewed to ensure appropriate sharing outside of the Department. For example, is there a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU), contract, or agreement in place with outside agencies or foreign governments.
Discuss how the sharing of information outside of the Department is compatible with the stated purpose and use of the original collection.
This question is related to privacy control AR-2, Privacy Impact and Risk Assessment, AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers, and AR-4, Privacy Monitoring and Auditing

Follow the format below:
Privacy Risk: eScreening does not connect, receive or share information in identifiable form or Personally Identifiable Information (PII) with any other external organization, IT system, website or application.

Mitigation: N/A

Section 6. Notice

The following questions are directed at providing notice to the individual of the scope of information collected, the right to consent to uses of the information, and the right to decline to provide information.

6.1 Was notice provided to the individual before collection of the information? If yes, please provide a copy of the notice as an appendix. (A notice may include a posted privacy policy, a Privacy Act notice on forms, or a system of records notice published in the Federal Register.) If notice was not provided, why not?

This question is directed at the notice provided before collection of the information. This refers to whether the person is aware that his or her information is going to be collected. A notice may include

a posted privacy policy, a Privacy Act statement on forms, or a SORN published in the Federal Register. If notice was provided in the Federal Register, provide the citation.

If notice was not provided, explain why. If it was provided, attach a copy of the current notice.

Describe how the notice provided for the collection of information is adequate to inform those affected by the system that their information has been collected and is being used appropriately. Provide information on any notice provided on forms or on Web sites associated with the collection. This question is related to privacy control TR-1, Privacy Notice, and TR-2, System of Records Notices and Privacy Act Statements, and TR-3, Dissemination of Privacy Program Information.

The VHA Notice of Privacy Practice (NOPP) is a document which explains the collection and use of protected information to individuals applying for VHA benefits. The NOPP is given out when the Veteran enrolls in care at VA or when updates are made to the NOPP copies are mailed to all VHA beneficiaries. Employees and contractors are required to review, sign, and abide by the National Rules of Behavior on an annual basis.

The Department of Veterans Affairs provides additional notice of this system by publishing 2 System of Record Notices (SORNs):

1) The VA System of Record Notice (VA SORN) Patient Medical Records-VA, SORN 24VA10A7, in the Federal Register and online. An online copy of the SORN can be found at: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-10-02/pdf/2020-21426.pdf

2) The VA System of Record Notice (VA SORN) Veterans Health Information System and Technology Architecture (VISTA) - VA, SORN 79VA10, in the Federal Register and online. An online copy of the SORN can be found at: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-12-23/pdf/2020-28340.pdf

6.2 Do individuals have the opportunity and right to decline to provide information? If so, is a penalty or denial of service attached?

This question is directed at whether the person from or about whom information is collected can decline to provide the information and if so, whether a penalty or denial of service is attached. This question is related to privacy control IP-1, Consent, IP-2, Individual Access, and IP-3, Redress

The Veterans' Health Administration (VHA) facilities request only information necessary to administer benefits to Veterans and other potential beneficiaries. While an individual may choose not to provide information to the VHA, this will prevent them from obtaining the benefits necessary to them. Employees and VA contractors are also required to provide the requested information to maintain employment or their contract with the VA.

6.3 Do individuals have the right to consent to particular uses of the information? If so, how does the individual exercise the right?

This question is directed at whether an individual may provide consent for specific uses or the consent is given to cover all uses (current or potential) of his or her information. If specific consent is required, how would the individual consent to each use?
This question is related to privacy control IP-1, Consent

VHA permits individuals to agree to the collection of their personally identifiable information (PII) using paper and electronic forms that include Privacy Act Statements outlining why the information is being collected, how it will be used and what Privacy Act system of records the information will be stored. In addition, information is collected verbally from individuals. These individuals are made aware of why data is collected through the VHA Notice of Privacy Practices and conversations with VHA employees. VA Forms are reviewed by (VHACO)Veterans Health Administration Central Office periodically to ensure compliance with various requirements including that Privacy Act Statements are on forms collecting personal information from Veterans or individuals. VHA uses PII and PHI only as legally permitted including obtaining authorizations were required. Where legally required VHA obtains signed, written authorizations from individuals prior to releasing, disclosing or sharing PII and PHI. Individuals have a right to restrict the disclosure and use of their health information. Individuals who want to restrict the use of their information should submit a written restriction request to the facility Privacy Officer where they are receiving their care.

6.4 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Notice
Describe the potential risks associated with potentially insufficient notice and what steps, if any, are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks.

Consider the following FIPPs below to assist in providing a response:

Principle of Transparency: Has sufficient notice been provided to the individual?

Principle of Use Limitation: Is the information used only for the purpose for which notice was provided either directly to the individual or through a public notice? What procedures are in place to ensure that information is used only for the purpose articulated in the notice?
This question is related to privacy control TR-1, Privacy Notice, AR-2, Privacy Impact and Risk Assessment, and UL-1, Internal Use

Follow the format below:
Privacy Risk: There is a risk that an individual may not understand why their information is being collected or maintained about them.

Mitigation: This risk is mitigated by the common practice of providing the NOPP when Veterans apply for benefits. Additionally, new NOPPs are mailed to beneficiaries when there is a change in regulation. Employees and contractors are required to review, sign and abide by the National Rules of Behavior on a yearly basis as required by VA Handbook 6500 as well as complete annual mandatory Information Security and Privacy Awareness training. Additional mitigation is provided by making the System of Record Notices (SORN) and Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) available for review online

Section 7. Access, Redress, and Correction

The following questions are directed at an individual's ability to ensure the accuracy of the information collected about him or her.

7.1 What are the procedures that allow individuals to gain access to their information?

Cite any procedures or regulations your program has in place that allow access to information. These procedures, at a minimum, should include the agency's FOIA/Privacy Act practices, but may also include additional access provisions. For example, if your program has a customer satisfaction unit, that information, along with phone and email contact information, should be listed in this section in addition to the agency's procedures. See 5 CFR 294 and the VA FOIA Web page at http://www.foia.va.gov/ to obtain information about FOIA points of contact and information about agency FOIA processes.

If the system is exempt from the access provisions of the Privacy Act, please explain the basis for the exemption or cite the source where this explanation may be found, for example, a Final Rule published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

If the system is not a Privacy Act system, please explain what procedures and regulations are in place that covers an individual gaining access to his or her information.
This question is related to privacy control IP-2, Individual Access, and AR-8, Accounting of Disclosures.

There are several ways a Veteran or other beneficiary may access information about them. The Department of Veterans' Affairs has created the MyHealtheVet program to allow online access to their health records. More information on this program and how to sign up to participate can be found online at https://www.myhealth.va.gov/index.html. Veterans and other individuals may also request copies of their health records and other records containing personal data from the health care facility's Release of Information (ROI) office. Employees should contact their immediate supervisor and Human Resources to obtain information from their official personnel folder (eOPF). Contractors should contact Contract Officer Representative to obtain information upon request.

7.2 What are the procedures for correcting inaccurate or erroneous information?

Describe the procedures and provide contact information for the appropriate person to whom such issues should be addressed. If the correction procedures are the same as those given in question 7.1, state as much.
This question is related to privacy control IP-3, Redress, and IP-4, Complaint Management.

Veterans and other individuals who wish to submit a correction to their health record must submit a formal amendment request to the facility Privacy Officer. The Veteran or individual must clearly describe the records and specific information they are requesting to be corrected. For health records, the documents in question are forwarded to the practitioner who entered the data by the facility Privacy Officer for a review and determination. The practitioner either grants or denies the request. The Veteran is notified of the decision via letter by the facility Privacy

Officer. Employees should contact their immediate supervisor and Human Resources to correct inaccurate or erroneous information. Contractors should contact Contract Officer Representative to correct inaccurate or erroneous information upon request.

7.3 How are individuals notified of the procedures for correcting their information?

How are individuals made aware of the procedures for correcting his or her information? This may be through notice at collection or other similar means. This question is meant to address the risk that even if procedures exist to correct information, if an individual is not made fully aware of the existence of those procedures, then the benefits of the procedures are significantly weakened. This question is related to privacy control IP-3, Redress, and IP-4, Complaint Management.

Veterans are informed of the amendment process in the VHA Notice of Privacy Practice (NOPP) and also in the SORN (e.g., 24VA10A7 and 79VA10). The specific language in the NOPP is found below:

Right to Request Amendment of Health Information.
You have the right to request an amendment (correction) to your health information in our records if you believe it is incomplete, inaccurate, untimely, or unrelated to your care. You must submit your request in writing, specify the information that you want corrected, and provide a reason to support your request for amendment. All amendment requests should be submitted to the facility Privacy Officer at the VHA health care facility that maintains your information. If your request for amendment is denied, you will be notified of this decision in writing and provided appeal rights. In response, you may do any of the following:

• File an appeal
• File a "Statement of Disagreement"
• Ask that your initial request for amendment accompany all future disclosures of the disputed health information

Information can also be obtained by contacting the facility ROI office.

7.4 If no formal redress is provided, what alternatives are available to the individual?

Redress is the process by which an individual gains access to his or her records and seeks corrections or amendments to those records. Redress may be provided through the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), and also by other processes specific to a program, system, or group of systems.
This question is related to privacy control IP-3, Redress, and IP-4, Complaint Management.

Example: Some projects allow users to directly access and correct/update their information online. This helps ensures data accuracy.

Veterans and individuals should use the formal redress procedures addressed above.

7.5 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Access, redress, and correction

Discuss what risks there currently are related to the Department's access, redress, and correction policies and procedures for this system and what, if any, steps have been taken to mitigate those risks. For example, if a project does not allow individual access, the risk of inaccurate data needs to be discussed in light of the purpose of the project. For example, providing access to ongoing law enforcement activities could negatively impact the program's effectiveness because the individuals involved might change their behavior.

Consider the following FIPPs below to assist in providing a response:
Principle of Individual Participation: Is the individual provided with the ability to find out whether a project maintains a record relating to him?

Principle of Individual Participation: If access and/or correction is denied, then is the individual provided notice as to why the denial was made and how to challenge such a denial?

Principle of Individual Participation: Is there a mechanism by which an individual is able to prevent information about him obtained for one purpose from being used for other purposes without his knowledge?
This question is related to privacy control IP-3, Redress.

Follow the format below:

Privacy Risk: There is a risk that a Veteran does not know how to obtain access to their records or how to request corrections to their records and that the health record could contain inaccurate information and subsequently effect the care the Veterans receive

Mitigation: As discussed in question 7.3, the VHA Notice of Privacy Practice (NOPP), which every patient receives when they enroll, discusses the process for requesting an amendment to one's records. The VHA staffs Release of Information (ROI) offices at facilities to assist Veterans with obtaining access to and copies of their health records and other records containing personal information. The Veterans' Health Administration (VHA) established My HealtheVet program to provide Veterans remote access to their health records. The Veteran must enroll to obtain access to all the available. In addition, Privacy and Release of Information Directive 1605.01 establishes procedures for Veterans to have their records amended where appropriate.

Section 8. Technical Access and Security

The following questions are intended to describe technical safeguards and security measures.

8.1 What procedures are in place to determine which users may access the system, and are they documented?

Describe the process by which an individual receives access to the system.

Identify users from other agencies who may have access to the system and under what roles these individuals have access to the system. Who establishes the criteria for what PII can be shared?

Describe the different roles in general terms that have been created to provide access to the system. For example, certain users may have "read-only" access while others may be permitted to make certain amendments or changes to the information.

This question is related to privacy control AR-7, Privacy-Enhanced System Design and Development.

VA employees who must complete both the HIPAA and Information Security training. Specified access is granted based on the employee's functional category. Role based training is required for individuals with significant information security responsibilities to include but not limited to Information System Security Officer (ISSO), local area managers. Access is requested per policies utilizing Electronic Permission Access System (ePAS). Users submit access requests based on need to know and job duties. Supervisor, ISSO and OI&T (Office of Information & Technology) approval must be obtained prior to access granted. These requests are submitted for VA employees, contractors and all outside agency requests and are processed through the appropriate approval processes. Once inside the system, individuals are authorized to access information on a need-to-know basis. Strict physical security control measures are enforced to ensure that disclosure to these individuals is also based on this same principle. Access to computer rooms at facilities and regional data processing centers is generally limited by appropriate locking devices and restricted to authorized VA employees and vendor personnel. Information in VistA may be accessed by authorized VA employees. Access to file information is controlled at two levels. The systems recognize authorized employees by series of individually unique passwords/codes as a part of each data message, and the employees are limited to only that information in the file which is needed in the performance of their official duties. Information that is downloaded from VistA and maintained on laptops and other approved government equipment is afforded similar storage and access protections as the data that is maintained in the original files. Paper documents are similarly secured. Access to paper documents and information on automated storage media is limited to employees who have a need for the information in the performance of their official duties. Access to information stored on automated storage media is controlled by individually unique passwords/codes.

Once inside the system, authorized individuals are allowed to access information on a need-to-know basis. Strict physical security control measures are enforced to ensure that disclosure to these individuals is also based on this same principle.

8.2 Will VA contractors have access to the system and the PII? If yes, what involvement will contractors have with the design and maintenance of the system? Has a contractor confidentiality agreement, Business Associate Agreement (BAA), or a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) been developed for contractors who work on the system?

If so, how frequently are contracts reviewed and by whom? Describe the necessity of the access provided to contractors to the system and whether clearance is required. If Privacy Roles and Responsibilities have been established to restrict certain users to different access levels, please describe the roles and associated access levels. Explain the need for VA contractors to have access to the PII.

This question is related to privacy control AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers.

Contracts are reviewed based on the contract guidelines by the appropriate contract authority (i.e., COR, Contracting Officer, Contract Review Committee). Per specific contract guidelines, contractors can have access to the system only after completing mandatory information security and privacy training, VHA Health Insurance Portability and Accountability (HIPAA) training as well as the appropriate background investigation to include fingerprinting. Certification that this training has been completed by all contractors must be provided to the VHA employee who is responsible for the contract in question. In addition, all contracts by which contractors might access sensitive patient information must include in the contract clarification of the mandatory nature of the training and the potential penalties for violating patient privacy. Contractors must have an approved ePAS request on file and access reviewed with the same requirements as VHA employees.

8.3 Describe what privacy training is provided to users either generally or specifically relevant to the program or system?

VA offers privacy and security training. Each program or system may offer training specific to the program or system that touches on information handling procedures and sensitivity of information. Please describe how individuals who have access to PII are trained to handle it appropriately. This question is related to privacy control AR-5, Privacy Awareness and Training.

All VA employees who have access to VA computers must complete the onboarding and annual mandatory privacy and information security training. In addition, all employees who have access to Protected health information or access to VHA computer systems must complete the VHA mandated Privacy and HIPAA Focused raining. Finally, all new employees receive face-to-face training by the facility Privacy Officer and Information Security Officer during new employee orientation. The Privacy and Information Security Officer also perform subject specific trainings on an as needed basis.

8.4 Has Authorization and Accreditation (A&A) been completed for the system?

If Yes, provide:

1. *The Security Plan Status,*
2. *The Security Plan Status Date,*
3. *The Authorization Status,*
4. *The Authorization Date,*
5. *The Authorization Termination Date,*
6. *The Risk Review Completion Date,*
7. *The FIPS 199 classification of the system (LOW/MODERATE/HIGH).*

Please note that all systems containing SPI are categorized at a minimum level of "moderate" under Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 199.

If No or In Process, provide your ***Initial Operating Capability (IOC) date.***

1. Yes, system currently has a 6-month ATO and currently progressing towards a longer term ATO.
2. System currently has a Security Plan in place signed on September 15, 2021.
3. System's authorizations status is Authorization to Operate (ATO)
4. System is authorized with a current ATD of August 9, 2022.
5. Last system risk review was completed on February 3, 2022.
6. The FIPS 199 classification for the system is overall moderate.

Section 9 – Technology Usage

The following questions are used to identify the technologies being used by the IT system or project.

9.1 Does the system use cloud technology? If so, what cloud model is being utilized?

If so, Does the system have a FedRAMP provisional or agency authorization? If the system does use cloud technology, but does not have FedRAMP authorization, explain how the Cloud Service Provider (CSP) solution was assessed and what FedRAMP documents and processes were used for the assessment in order to comply with VA Handbook 6517. Types of cloud models include: Software as a Service (SaaS), Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS), Platform as a Service (PaaS), Commercial off the Shelf (COTS).

This question is related to privacy control UL-1, Information Sharing with Third Parties.

Note: For systems utilizing the VA Enterprise Cloud (VAEC), no further responses are required after 9.1.

eScreening utilizes the VA Enterprise Cloud (VAEC).

9.2 Does the contract with the Cloud Service Provider, Contractors and VA customers establish who has ownership rights over data including PII? (Provide contract number and supporting information about PII/PHI from the contract)

This question is related to privacy control AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers.

No, eScreening management staff has established privacy responsibilities and access requirements for contractors and service providers and include privacy requirements in contracts and other acquisition-related documents. The e-Screening system follows the concept of Least Privilege, where e-Screening operations staff, and e-VA users have the minimum privilege to do their assigned work.

9.3 Will the CSP collect any ancillary data and if so, who has ownership over the ancillary data?

Per NIST 800-144, cloud providers hold significant details about the accounts of cloud consumers that could be compromised and used in subsequent attacks. Ancillary data also involves information the cloud provider collects or produces about customer-related activity in the cloud. It includes data collected to meter and charge for consumption of resources, logs and audit trails, and other such metadata that is generated and accumulated within the cloud environment.

This question is related to privacy control DI-1, Data Quality.

No

9.4 NIST 800-144 states, "Organizations are ultimately accountable for the security and privacy of data held by a cloud provider on their behalf." Is this principle described in contracts with customers? Why or why not?

What are the roles and responsibilities involved between the organization and cloud provider, particularly with respect to managing risks and ensuring organizational requirements are met?

This question is related to privacy control AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers.

Yes, The Information System Owner (ISO) in conjunction with the Information System Security Officer (ISSO), Privacy Officer (PO) and the Information/Data Owner identifies information security and privacy requirements during the requirements analysis based on a specific analysis of availability, integrity, and confidentiality and the technical requirements of the contract. This analysis determines whether contractors or third-party service providers require information access (documents or electronic) in the accomplishment of the VA mission and establishes the appropriate privacy roles responsibilities, privileges, and access rights based on job duties. VA Privacy Service coordinates with Office of Acquisition and Logistics (OAL) and Office of Operations, Security, and Preparedness (OSP) for establishing privacy roles, responsibilities, and access requirements for contractors and service providers and include privacy requirements in contracts and other acquisition related documents. Contractors take privacy and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) training and sign the Rules of Behavior (ROB) before gaining access to VA networks and information in support of contracts.

9.5 If the system is utilizing Robotics Process Automation (RPA), please describe the role of the bots.

Robotic Process Automation is the use of software scripts to perform tasks as an automated process that executes in parallel with or in place of human input. For example, will the automation move or touch PII/PHI information. RPA may also be referred to as "Bots" or Artificial Intelligence (AI).

N/A

Section 10. References

Summary of Privacy Controls by Family

Summary of Privacy Controls by Family

ID	Privacy Controls
AP	**Authority and Purpose**
AP-1	Authority to Collect
AP-2	Purpose Specification
AR	**Accountability, Audit, and Risk Management**
AR-1	Governance and Privacy Program
AR-2	Privacy Impact and Risk Assessment
AR-3	Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers
AR-4	Privacy Monitoring and Auditing
AR-5	Privacy Awareness and Training
AR-7	Privacy-Enhanced System Design and Development
AR-8	Accounting of Disclosures
DI	**Data Quality and Integrity**
DI-1	Data Quality
DI-2	Data Integrity and Data Integrity Board
DM	**Data Minimization and Retention**
DM-1	Minimization of Personally Identifiable Information
DM-2	Data Retention and Disposal
DM-3	Minimization of PII Used in Testing, Training, and Research
IP	**Individual Participation and Redress**
IP-1	Consent
IP-2	Individual Access
IP-3	Redress
IP-4	Complaint Management
SE	**Security**
SE-1	Inventory of Personally Identifiable Information
SE-2	Privacy Incident Response
TR	**Transparency**
TR-1	Privacy Notice
TR-2	System of Records Notices and Privacy Act Statements
TR-3	Dissemination of Privacy Program Information
UL	**Use Limitation**

ID	Privacy Controls
UL-1	Internal Use
UL-2	Information Sharing with Third Parties

Signature of Responsible Officials

The individuals below attest that the information provided in this Privacy Impact Assessment is true and accurate.

KAMILAH M. JACKSON 105810

Digitally signed by KAMILAH M. JACKSON 105810
Date: 2022.03.24 07:20:21 -04'00'

Privacy Officer, Kamilah Jackson

JEROME RABANAL

Digitally signed by JEROME RABANAL
Date: 2022.03.24 07:34:18 -07'00'

Information Systems Security Officer, Jerome Rabanal

Angela Gant-Curtis 105447

Digitally signed by Angela Gant-Curtis 105447
Date: 2022.03.23 19:58:57 -05'00'

Information System Owner, Angela Gant-Curtis

APPENDIX A-6.1

Please provide a link to the notice or verbiage referred to in Section 6 (a notice may include a posted privacy policy; a Privacy Act notice on forms).