

Date PIA submitted for review:

4/28/2023

Privacy Impact Assessment for the VA Boundary called¹:

Area Bedford

North Atlantic

Sites within Boundary:

Sites	Station Numbers
1) Bedford VA Healthcare System	518
2) Lynn CBOC	518GA
3) Haverhill CBOC	518GB
4) Crescent House	518
5) Gloucester CBOC	518GE
6) Lowell Vet Center	518GD

Boundary Contacts:

¹ The completion of Veterans Affairs Privacy Impact Assessments (PIAs) is mandated for any rulemaking, program, Boundary, 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.

Boundary Key Stakeholders

Name	Title (PO, ISSO, AM, MD/SPS Staff, Facility Director)	Phone Number	Email Address	Applicable Site (VBA, VHA, NCA, Program Office)
Penny Lashua	PO	781-687-3811	Penny.Lashua@va .gov	VHA
Charles (Skip) Williamson	PO	603-623-4204 ext 5453	<u>Charles.williamso</u> <u>n2@va.gov</u>	Lowell Vet Center
Charesse Blood	ISSO	781-687-4857	Charesse.Blood@ va.gov	VHA
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John Dubuc	Area Manager	781-687-4880	John.dubuc@va.g ov	VHA

Abstract

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

Area Bedford is an Information Boundary that consists of Bedford VA Healthcare System, Lynn CBOC, Haverhill CBOC, Crescent House, Gloucester CBOC and Lowell Vet Center. The Boundary environment consists of components such as workstations, laptops, portable computing devices, terminals, servers, printers, and IT enabled networked medical devices that are owned, managed, and maintained by the facilities. The Boundary provides operational connectivity services necessary to enable users' access to information technology resources throughout the enterprise including those within the facility, between facilities, resources hosted at data centers, and connectivity to other systems. Network connectivity rules are enforced by VA approved baselines for router and switch configurations. The Boundary system environment also includes as applicable, subsystem storage utilities such as tape drives, optical drives, disk drives, network area storage (NAS), storage access networks (SAN), archival appliances, special purpose systems, and tier 2 storage solutions. The Boundary encompasses the management, operational, and technical security controls associated with IT hardware, consisting of servers, routers, switches, hubs, gateways, peripheral devices, desktop/laptops, and OS software. The Boundary employs a myriad of routers and switches that connect to the VA network.

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 Boundary name and the name of the sites within it.
- The business purpose of the Boundary and how it relates to the program office and agency mission.
- Whether the Boundary is leveraging or accessing Enterprise repositories such as Veterans Benefits Management System, SharePoint, VistA, etc. and if so, a description of what PII/PHI from the Enterprise repositories is being used by the facilities in the Boundary.
- Documentation of any repository not maintained at the enterprise level, unlike Veterans Benefits Management System, SharePoint, VistA, etc. used by the facilities to collect, use, disseminate, maintain, or create PII/PHI.
- Any external information sharing conducted by the facilities within the Boundary.
- A citation of the legal authority to operate the Boundary.
- 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
- Does the Boundary host or maintain cloud technology? If so, does the Boundary have a FedRAMP provisional or agency authorization?

The Area Bedford itself does not collect, use, disseminate, maintain, or store PII/PHI. VHA, VBA and NCA Facilities located within the *Area Bedford* IT Boundary all access VA Enterprise IT systems respectively, hosted and maintained outside of this boundary. These are VISTA, VBMS, MEM, etc.

Only PII/PHI collected and used by the facilities within the Boundary will be referenced in this document since the Boundary does not maintain, disseminate, or store information accessed by each facility. PII/PHI.

The facilities within the Boundary collect, use, and/or disseminate PII/PHI that is maintained and stored within enterprise systems such as VistA, VBMS, BOSS/AMASS, etc. There are <u>individual PIAs</u> that contain detailed information on the maintenance, dissemination and sharing practices, and storage of the PII/PHI for each Enterprise system accessed by the facilities.

The Boundary is using the VA Enterprise Cloud (VAEC) which is at the enterprise level and is outside of the Boundary. Further information can be found in the VAEC PIA.

The applicable <u>SORs</u> for *Area Bedford* include:

Applicable SORs

Site Type:	Applicable SORs
VHA	 Accreditation Records-VA, VA SORN 01VA022 (May 18, 2009) Applicants for Employment under Title 38, USC-VA, VA SORN 02VA135 (approved prior to 1995) Blood Donor Information-VA, VA SORN 04VA115 (Dec. 12, 2008)

Site Type:	Applicable SORs
	 Individual Correspondence Records-VA, VA SORN 05VA026 (Nov. 26, 2008)
	 Employee Medical File System Records (Title 38)-VA, VA SORN 08VA05
	• Employee Unfair Labor Practice Charges and Complaints, Negotiated Agreement Grievances and
	Arbitrations-VA, VA SORN 09VA05 (approved prior to 1995)
	Criminal Investigations-VA, VA SORN 11VA51 (Aug. 8, 2011)
	 Individuals Submitting Invoices-Vouchers For Payment-VA, VA SORN 13VA047 (approved prior to 1995)
	 Individuals Serving on a Fee Basis or Without Compensation (Consultants, Attendings, and Others or Paid Indirectly), VA SORN 14VA05135 (November 18, 2010)
	• Litigation Files-VA, VA SORN 16VA026 (March 16, 2009)
	 Centralized Staffing Systems-VA, VA SORN 18VA05 (approved prior to 1995)
	 Motor Vehicle Operator Accident Records-VA, VA SORN 20VA138 (Oct. 19, 2009)
	• Non-VA Fee Basis Records-VA, VA SORN 23VA16 (Aug. 31, 2009)
	 Patient Medical Records-VA, VA SORN 24VA10P2 (March 22, 2013) Personnel and Accounting Integrated Data System-VA, VA SORN 27VA047 (July 02, 2012)
	 Personnel Registration under Controlled Substances Act-VA, VA SORN 28VA119 (Oct. 19, 2009)
	 Veterans, Employee and Citizen Health Care Facility Investigation Records-VA, VA SORN 32VA10Q (Aug. 31, 2009)
	 National Prosthetic Patient Database (NPPD)-VA, VA SORN 33VA113 (Oct. 19, 2009)
	• Veteran, Patient, Employee, and Volunteer Research and Development Project Records-VA, VA SORN 34VA12 (May 27, 2010)
	 VA Supervised Fiduciary/Beneficiary and General Investigative Records- VA, VA SORN 37VA27 (March 15, 2011)
	 Veterans and Beneficiaries Identification Records Location Subsystem- VA, VA SORN 38VA21 (June 4, 2001)
	 Veterans, Service Members, Family Members, and VA Beneficiary Survey Records-VA, VA SORN 43VA008 (April 06, 2007)
	 Health Administration Center Civilian Health and Medical Program Records-VA, VA SORN 54VA16 (July 15, 2009)
	 Voluntary Service Records-VA, VA SORN 57VA135 (April 15, 2009)

Site Type:	Applicable SORs
	 Compensation, Pension, Education, and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Records-VA, VA SORN 58VA21/22/28 (July 19, 2012) Repatriated American Prisoners of War-VA, VA SORN 60VA21 (Oct. 06, 2010) Grievance Records-VA, VA SORN 63VA05 (approved prior to 1995) Readjustment Counseling Program (RCS) Vet Center Program-VA, VA SORN 64VA15 (June 18, 2009) Community Placement Program-VA, VA SORN 65VA122 (July 9, 2009) PROS/KEYS, VA SORN 67VA30 (April 07, 2011) VA Employee Counseling Services Program Records-VA, VA SORN 68VA05 (approved prior to 1995) Ionizing Radiation Registry-VA, VA SORN 69VA131 (Dec. 08, 2008) Health Professional Scholarship-VA, VA SORN 73VA10A2 (May 10, 2013) General Personnel Records (Title 38)-VA, VA SORN 76VA05 (July 20, 2000) Health Care Provider Credentialing and Privileging Records-VA, VA SORN 77VA10Q (March 26, 2008) Veterans Health Information System and Technology Architecture (VistA)
	 VA, VA SORN 79VA10P2 (Oct. 31, 2012) VA Police Badge and Training Records System-VA, VA SORN 83VA07 (Dec. 08, 2008) National Chaplain Management Information System (NCMIS)-VA, VA SORN 84VA111 (May 08, 2009) Chief Financial Officer and Fiscal Officer Designation and Certification Records System-VA, VA SORN 85VA047 (April 09, 2009)
	 Workers' Compensation Occupational Safety and Health Management Information System –VA, VA SORN 86VA00S1 (Aug. 05, 2008) Customer User Provisioning System (CUPS)-VA, VA SORN 87VA005OP (Aug. 14, 2009) Accounts Receivable Records (Formally known as 88VA20A6)-VA, VA SORN 88VA244 (Formally known as 88VA20A6) (April 6, 1998) Income Verification Records-VA, VA SORN 89VA16 (May 08, 2008)
	 Call Detail Records-VA, VA SORN 90VA194 (April 14, 2009) Electronic Document Management System (EDMS)-VA, VA SORN 92VA045 (May 2, 2000) Gulf War Registry-VA, VA SORN 93VA131 (March 16, 2009) Consolidated Data Information System-VA , VA SORN 97VA105 (May 04, 2011)

Site Type:	Applicable SORs
Site Type:	 Applicable SORs Disaster Emergency Medical Personnel System (DEMPS)-VA, VA SORM 98VA104 (Jan. 27, 2010) Automated Safety Incident Surveillance and Tracking System-VA, VA SORN 99VA13 (March 31, 2009) Patient Advocate Tracking System (PATS)-VA, VA SORN 100VA10NS10 (June 03, 3009) Professional Standards Board Action and Proficiency Rating Folder (Title 38)-VA, VA SORN 101VA05 (July 20, 2000) Agency-Initiated Personnel Actions (Title 38)-VA, VA SORN 102VA05 (July 28, 2000) Police and Security Records-VA, VA SORN 103VA07B (Dec. 08, 2008) Agent Orange Registry-VA, VA SORN 103VA07B (Dec. 08, 2008) Agent Orange Registry-VA, VA SORN 105VA131 (March 16, 2009) Compliance Records, Response, and Resolution of Reports of Persons Allegedly Involved in Compliance Violations-VA, VA SORN 106VA17 (Aug. 17, 2009) Program Evaluation Research Data Records-VA, VA SORN 110VA10 (Jan. 25, 2010) Center for Acquisition and Material Management Education Online (CAMEO)-VA, VA SORN 111VA95E (Aug. 16, 2001) Telephone Service for Clinical Care Records-VA, VA SORN 113VA112 (May 08, 2009) The Revenue Program Billings and Collection Records-VA, VA SORN 114VA16 (Dec. 10, 2009) Historical Alternative Dispute Resolution Data-VA, VA SORN 116VA08 (Feb. 02, 2012) Veterans Canteen Service (VCS) Payroll Deduction System-VA, VA SORN 114VA16 (Dec. 10, 2009) Historical Alternative Dispute Resolution Data-VA, VA SORN 116VA08 (Feb. 02, 2012) Veterans Canteen Service (VCS) Payroll Deduction System-VA, VA SORN 119VA005R1C (Nov. 17, 2009) National Patient Databases-VA, VA SORN 121VA19 (May 11, 2012) Center for Veterans Enterprise-VA, VA SORN 123VA00VE (Feb. 21, 2008) MyHealtheVet Administrative Records-VA, VA SORN 130VA19 (Nov. 17, 2010)
	2008)MyHealtheVet Administrative Records-VA, VA SORN 130VA19 (Nov.
	 Purchase Credit Card Program-VA, VA SORN 131VA047 (March 31, 2009)
	 Library Network (VALNET)-VA, VA SORN 136VA19E (June 24, 2008) Veterans Information Solutions (VIS)-VA, VA SORN 137VA005Q (July 28, 2009)
	 Veterans Affairs/Department of Defense Identity Repository (VADIR)- VA, VA SORN 138VA005Q (July 27, 2009)

Site Type:	Applicable SORs
	 Community Residential Care and Medical Foster Home Programs – VA, VA SORN 142VA114 (Nov. 01, 2011) Department of Veterans Affairs Personnel Security File System (VAPSFS)-VA, VA SORN 145VA005Q3 (March 25, 2008) Department of Veterans Affairs Identity Management System (VAIDMS)- VA, VA SORN 146VA005Q3 (March 26, 2008) Enrollment and Eligibility Records-VA, VA SORN 147VA16 (Aug. 31, 2009) Non-Health Data Analysis and Projections for VA Policy and Planning- VA, VA SORN 149VA008A (April 13, 2007) Administrative Data Repository-VA, VA SORN 150VA19 (Nov. 26, 2011) Inquiry Routing & Information System (IRIS)–VA, VA SORN 151VA005N (March 12, 2008) Ethics Consultation Web-based Database (ECWeb)-VA, VA SORN 152VA10E (July 20, 2011) Customer Relationship Management System (CRMS)-VA, VA SORN 155VA16 (Nov. 26, 2008) Suicide Prevention Database-VA, VA SORN 158VA11 (Oct. 21, 2010) Veterans Tracking Application(VTA)/Federal Case Management Tool (FCMT)-VA, VA SORN 163VA005Q3 (April 19, 2012) Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER)-VA, VA SORN 168VA10P2 May 11, 2012)

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, Boundary, or technology being developed.

1.1 What information is collected, used, disseminated, or created, by the facilities within the Boundary?

Identify and list all PII/PHI that is collected and stored in the Boundary, including Individually Identifiable Health Information (IIHI), Protected Health Information (PHI), and Privacy- Protected Information. For additional information on these information types and definitions, please see <u>VA</u> <u>Directives and Handbooks in the 6500 series</u>. If the Boundary creates information (for example, a score, analysis, or report), list the information the Boundary is responsible for creating.

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

Version Date: October 1, 2022 Page **7** of **58** Please check any information listed below that the facilities within the boundary collects. If additional PII/PHI is collected, please list those in the text box below:

🛛 Name Social Security Number \boxtimes 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 X Tax Identification Number Medical Record Number \boxtimes Next of Kin Guardian Information Electronic Protected Health Information (ePHI) Military History/Service Connection Service-connected Disabilities

Employment
 Information
 Veteran Dependent
 Information
 Disclosure Requestor
 Information
 Death Certification
 Information
 Criminal Background
 Education Information
 Gender
 Tumor PHI Statistics
 Other Unique
 Identifying Information
 (list below)

<<Add Additional Information Collected but Not Listed Above Here (For Example, A Personal Phone Number That Is Used as A Business Number)>>

PII Mapping of Components (Servers/Database)

Area Bedford consists of 14 servers and 48 databases key components (servers/databases). Each component has been analyzed to determine if any elements of that component collect PII. The type of PII collected within Area Bedford and the reasons for the collection of the PII are in the **Mapping of Components Table in** <u>Appendix B</u> of this PIA.

1.2 What are the sources of the information for the facilities within the Boundary?

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 facility program within the Boundary 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 facility is using this source of data.

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

The information that resides within the facilities in the Boundary is collected, maintained, and/or disseminated comes from a variety of sources. The largest amount of data comes directly from individuals - including veterans and their dependents, volunteers and other members of the public, clinical trainees, and VA employees and contractors. For example: items such as names, social security numbers, dates of birth are collected from the individual on healthcare enrollment forms (VA Form 10-10EZ), or other paperwork the individual prepares. An application for employment contains the same, or similar, information about employees.

Depending on the type of information, it may also come from Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), the VA Health Eligibility Center (HEC), VA Network Authorization Office (NAO) for non-VA Care payments, and non-VA medical providers, Department of Defense (DOD), Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Office of Personnel Management (OPM), Social Security Administration (SSA), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

Criminal background information is obtained from Electronic Questionnaires for Investigations Processing (E-QIP) and National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and used to confirm employment and/or volunteer eligibility and to assist the VA Police Service while conducting internal investigations.

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 Boundary, or created by the boundary itself. Specifically, is information collected through technologies or other technology 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.

Site Type: VBA/VHA/NCA or Program Office	Means of Collection
*VHA	Information collected directly from patients, employees and/or other members of the public is collected using paper forms (such as the VA Form 10-10EZ enrollment form for VA health care), or interviews and assessments with the individual. Much of the information provided by veterans or other members of the public,
	such as address and phone number, next of kin and emergency

Means of Collection Table

Site Type: VBA/VHA/NCA or Program Office	Means of Collection
	contact information, and similar information are assumed to be accurate because it is provided directly by the individual. Additionally, information entered into an individual's medical record by a doctor or other medical staff is also assumed to be accurate.

Information related to an employee's employment application may be gathered from the applicant for employment, which is provided to an application processing website, <u>USA Jobs</u>.

Information from outside resources comes to the *Area Bedford* using several methods. *Some methods of transfer include encrypted electronic transmission and hardcopy format via fax.* Chief among these sources, are the DoD, SSA, and IRS. The DoD provides military records, including medical records compiled when the patient was a member of the US Military. Income information is verified using information from the Social Security Administration (SSA) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

These data collections may be done using secure web portals, VPN connection, secure e-mail, and facsimile

1.4 What is the purpose of the information being collected, used, disseminated, created, or maintained?

Include a statement of why the particular PII/PHI is collected, maintained, used, or disseminated in the Boundary is necessary to the program's or agency's mission. Merely stating the general purpose of the Boundary without explaining why this particular type of information should be collected and stored is not an adequate response to this question.

If the Boundary collects, uses, disseminates, or maintains publicly available or commercial data, include a discussion of why commercial data is relevant and necessary to the Boundary's purpose. This question is related to privacy control AP-2, Purpose Specification.

The purposes of the information from Veterans and other members of the public collected, maintained, and processed by *Area Bedford* are as varied as the types of information collected.

Much of the information collected is maintained, used, and disseminated to ensure that Veterans and other eligible individuals obtain the medical and mental health treatment they require. Additional information, such as bank account information and insurance information are used to process claims and requests for benefits. Other purposes include determination of legal authority for providers and other clinical staff to practice medicine and/or subject matter expertise, release of information request responses, and research/analysis of data.

Purpose of Information Collection Table

Site Type:	Purpose of Information Collection
VHA	• To determine eligibility for health care and continuity of care

Site Type:	Purpose of Information Collection
	 Emergency contact information is cases of emergency situations such as medical emergencies for Veterans and Employees Provide medical care Communication with Veterans/patients and their families/emergency contacts Determine legal authority for providers and health care workers to practice medicine and/or subject matter expertise Responding to release of information request Third party health care plan billing, e.g. private insurance Statistical analysis of patient treatment Contact for employment eligibility/verification Employees financial information is used to pay employees Research information allow for effective human resource management, i.e. employment eligibility/verification

1.5 How will the information collected and used by the facilities be checked for accuracy? How often will it be checked?

Discuss whether and how often information stored in a facility within the Boundary is checked for accuracy. Is information within the facility 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 a facility within the Boundaries that receives data from internal data sources or VA IT systems, describe the checks to ensure that data corruption has not occurred during transmission.

If the Boundary 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.

Information that is collected and used directly from enterprise systems have additional details regarding checks for accuracy in their own enterprise level PIAs.

Much of the information provided by veterans or other members of the public, such as address and phone number, next of kin and emergency contact information, and similar information are assumed to be accurate because it is provided directly by the individual. Additionally, information entered an individual's medical record by a doctor or other medical staff is also assumed to be accurate and is not verified.

Information is checked through the VBA to verify eligibility for VA benefits. Information about military service history is verified against official DoD military records and income information is

verified using information from the Social Security Administration (SSA) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Employee, contractor, student, and volunteer information is obtained by automated tools as well as obtained directly by the individuals. The Federal Bureau of Investigation and Office of Personnel Management are contacted to obtain background reviews. Provider credentialing information is obtained from a variety of education resources.

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

List the full legal authority for operating the Boundary, 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

Legal Authority Table

Туре:	Legal Authority
VHA VHA	 Veterans Health Administration – Organization and Functions, Title 38, U.S.C., Chapter 73, § 7301(a) Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy Act of 1974 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 5 USC 552 VHA Directive 1605.01 Privacy & Release of Information VA Directive 6500 Managing Information Security Risk: VA Information Security Program. Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, Title XIII of Division A and Title IV of Division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Action of 2009 ARRA, Pub. L. No. 111-5, 123 Stat. 226 (Feb.17, 2009), codified at 42 U.S.C. §§300jj et seq.; §§17901 et seq. Title 38, United States Code (U.S.C.), Sections 501(b) and 304 for medical records; 40 Federal Register (FR) 38095 & 66 FR 20860 for Blood Donor Information and Ionizing Radiation Registry-VA; 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 for Medicine, Surgery Engineering Employee Management Information and Motor Vehicle Operator Accident Records, Personnel Registration Under Controlled Substance Act-VA, Physician/Dentist & Supervisory Nurse Professional Standards Board Action File- VA, and National Prosthetics Patient Database-VA; 67 FR 61205, Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a(e) for Non- VA Fee Basis Records;
Туре:	Legal Authority

VHA	•	58 FR 40852 Veteran, Employee, and Citizen Health Care
		Facility Investigation Records-VA;
	•	Executive Order 12564; Urgent Relief for the Homeless
		Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1987, Pub. L. No. 100-71,
		Section 503, 101 Stat. 468 (1987); and Title 38, United States
		Code, Chapter 3, Section $210(c)(1,)$;
	•	Chapter 73, Section 4108 and Chapter 75, Section 4202
		Employee Medical File System Records (Title 38)-VA; 38
		U.S.C., Sections 501 & 901-905.
	•	40 FR 38095 & 59 FR 16705 Veteran, Employee and Volunteer
		Research and Development Project Records-VA;
	•	38 U.S.C., Sections 501(a), 501(b), 1703, 1724, 1725, 1728,
		1802, 1803, 1813, and Public Law 103-446, Section 107 Health
		Administration Center Civilian Health and Medical Program
		Records-VA; 38 U.S.C, Section 513 Voluntary Service
		Records-VA;
	•	38 U.S.C., Section 1712a Readjustment Counseling Service-
		VA; 38 U.S.C., Sections 210(c), 610, and 4101 Community
		Placement Program-VA;
	•	38 U.S.C., Sections 7611-7619, 7635-7636 Health Professional
		Scholarship Program-VA; 38 U.S.C. 1710 & 1729 Health Care
		Provider Credentialing and Privileging Records-VA;
	•	38 U.S.C., Sections 501(a), 1705, 1710, 1722, & 5317 Income
		Verification Records-VA;
	•	38 U.S.C., Section 501 Call Detail Records-VA;
	•	68 FR 75025 & 69 FR 35139 Gulf War Registry-VA, Agent
		Orange Registry-VA, and 38 U.S.C., Sections 501 and 7304
		Spinal Cord Dysfunction Registry-VA;
	•	38 U.S.C., Section 527 and Government Performance and
		Results Act of 1993, Public Law 103-62 Consolidated Data
		Information System-VA; Executive Order 12656 Disaster Emergency Medical Personnel System (DEMPS)-VA;
	•	5 U.S.C., Chapters 11, 31, 33, 43, 61, 63, & 83, 38Z U.S.C.
	•	501, 38 U.S.C., Chapter 74 Automated Safety Incident
		Tracking System-VA;
	•	38 U.S.C., Chapter 73, Section 7301(b) Patient Advocate
	•	Tracking System (PATS)-VA;
	•	38 U.S.C., Section 501 Compliance Records, Responses and
		Resolutions of Reports of Persons Allegedly Involved in
		Compliance Violations-VA;
	•	38 U.S.C., Sections 501, 503, 7451, 7452, & 7431-7440
		Employee Incentive Scholarship Program-VA
	•	38 U.S.C., Section 501 Telephone Care and Service for Clinical
		Care;
	•	38 U.S.C., Sections 1710 & 1729 The Revenue Program-
		Billing and Collections Records-VA;

•	38 U.S.C., Sections 501, 503, 7451, 7452, and 7431-7440
	Education Debt Reduction Program-VA;
	38 U.S.C., Part V, Chapter 78 Veterans Canteen Service (VCS)
	Payroll Deduction Program (PDP)-VA; 38 U.S.C., Section 501
	National Patient Databases-VA;
•	38 U.S.C., Section 501 My HealtheVet Administrative
	Records-VA;
•	73 FR 55214 Library Network (VALNET)-VA;
	38 U.S.C., Section 1730 Community Residential Care and
	Medical Foster Home Programs-VA;
	38 U.S.C., Sections 501(a), 1705, 1710, 1722, and 5317
	Enrollment and Eligibility Records-VA;
	38 U.S.C., Sections 501 & 7304 Administrative Data
	Repository-VA;
•	38 U.S.C., Sections 501(b), 304, 7301, & 7304(a) Ethics
	Consultation Web-based Database (ECWeb)-VA; 38 U.S.C.,
	Sections 501(a), 1705, 1710, 1722, 1722(a), 1781 and 5 U.S.C.,
	Section 552(a) Customer Relationship Management System
	(CRMS)-VA;
•	38 U.S.C., Section 501 Suicide Prevention Database-VA;
•	38 U.S.C., Section 501(a) All Employee Survey-VA;
•	38 U.S.C., Section 501(a) Veterans Health Administration
	Leadership and Workforce Development-
•	38 U.S.C., Section 501 Investigative Database-OMI-VA;
•	38 U.S.C., Section 501 VA Mobile Application Environment
	(MAE)-VA;
•	5 U.S.C. 1302, 2951, 3301, 3372, 4118, 8347, and Executive
	Orders 9397, 9830, & 12107 Employee Medical File System
	Records-VA;

1.7 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Characterization of the information

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:

Privacy Risk:

VA *Area Bedford* collects Personally Identifiable Information (PII) and a variety of other Sensitive Personal Information (SPI), such as Protected Health Information (PHI). 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 personal, professional, or financial harm may result for the individuals affected.

Mitigation:

VA *Area Bedford* employs a variety of security measures designed to ensure that the information is not inappropriately disclosed or released. These measures include access control, awareness and training, audit and accountability, certification, accreditation, and security assessments, configuration management, contingency planning, identification and authentication, incident response, maintenance, media protection, physical and environmental protection, planning, personnel security, risk assessment, systems and services acquisition, system and communications protection, and system and information integrity. The boundary employs all security controls in the respective high impact security control baseline unless specific exceptions have been allowed based on the tailoring guidance provided in the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Special Publication 800-37 and specific VA directives.

All employees with access to Veteran's health information are required to complete the Privacy and HIPAA Focused training as well as the VA Privacy and Information Security Awareness & Rules of Behavior training annually. The VA enforces two-factor authentication by enforcing smartcard logon requirements. PIV cards are issued to employees, contractors, and partners in accordance with HSPD-12. The Personal Identity Verification (PIV) Program is an effort directed and managed by the Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD-12) Program Management Office (PMO). IT Operations and Services (ITOPS) Solution Delivery (SD) is responsible for the technical operations support of the PIV Card Management System. Information is not shared with other agencies without a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or other legal authority.

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 within the Boundary 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.

- **Name**: Used to identify the patient during appointments and in other forms of communication
- **Social Security Number**: Used as a patient identifier and as a resource for verifying income Information with the Social Security Administration
- Date of Birth: Used to identify age and confirm patient identity
- Mother's Maiden Name: Used to confirm patient identity
- Mailing Address: Used for communication, billing purposes and calculate travel pay
- **Phone Number(s):** Used for communication, confirmation of appointments and conduct Telehealth appointments
- **Fax Number**: used to send forms of communication and records to business contacts, Insurance companies and health care providers
- Email Address: used for communication and MyHealtheVet secure communications
- Emergency Contact Information (Name, Phone Number, etc. of a different individual): Used in cases of emergent situations such as medical emergencies.
- **Financial Account Information:** Used to calculate co-payments and VA health care benefit eligibility
- Health Insurance Beneficiary Account Numbers: Used to communicate and bill third part Health care plans
- **Certificate/License numbers**: Used to track and verify legal authority to practice medicine and Licensure for health care workers in an area of expertise.
- Vehicle License Plate Number: Used for assignment of employee parking and assignment of parking during events
- Internet Protocol (IP) Address Numbers: Used for configuration and network connections. Network Communication allows information to be transferred from one Information Technology System to another.
- **Current Medications**: Used within the medical records for health care purposes/treatment, prescribing medications and allergy interactions.
- **Previous Medical Records**: Used for continuity of health care
- **Race/Ethnicity**: Used for patient demographic information and for indicators of ethnicity-related diseases.
- Tax Identification Number: Used for employment, eligibility verification
- **Medical Record Number**: Used to identify a patient within the medical record system without using their social security number as their identifier.
- **Next of Kin**: Used in cases of emergent situations such as medical emergencies. Used when patient expires and in cases of patient incapacity.
- Guardian Information: Used when patient is unable to make decisions for themselves.

- **Electronic Protected Health Information (ePHI):** Used for history of health care treatment, during treatment and plan of treatment when necessary.
- **Military history/service connection**: Used to evaluate medical conditions that could be related to location of military time served. It is also used to determine VA benefit and health care eligibility.
- Service-connected disabilities: Used to determine VA health care eligibility and treatment plans/programs
- **Employment information**: Used to determine VA employment eligibility and for veteran contact, financial verification.
- Veteran dependent information: Used to determine benefit support and as an emergency contact person.
- **Disclosure requestor information**: Used to track and account for patient medical records released to requestors.
- **Death certificate information**: Used to determine date, location and cause of death.
- **Criminal background information**: Used to determine employment eligibility and during VA Police investigations.
- Education Information: Used for demographic background information for patients and as a determining factor for VA employment in areas of expertise. Basic educational background, e.g. High School Diploma, college degree credentials
- **Gender**: Used as patient demographic, identity and indicator for type of medical care/provider and medical tests required for individual.
- **Tumor PII/PHI Statistics**: Used to evaluate medical conditions and determine treatment plan

The data may be used for approved research purposes. The data may be used also for such purposes as assisting in the scheduling of tours of duties and job assignments of employees; the scheduling of patient treatment services, including nursing care, clinic appointments, surgery, diagnostic and therapeutic procedures; the repair and maintenance of equipment and for follow-up activities to determine that the actions were accomplished and to evaluate the results; the registration of vehicles and the assignment and utilization of parking spaces; to plan, schedule, and maintain rosters of patients, employees and others attending or participating in sports, recreational or other events (e.g., National Wheelchair Games, concerts, picnics); for audits, reviews and investigations conducted by staff of the health care facility, the Network Directors Office, VA Central Office, and the VA Office of Inspector General (OIG); for quality assurance audits, reviews, investigations and inspections; for law enforcement investigations; and for personnel management, evaluation and employee ratings, and performance evaluations.

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

Many facilities within an Boundary sift through large amounts of information in response to a user inquiry or programmed functions. Facilities may help identify areas that were previously not obvious and need additional research by agents, analysts, or other employees. Some facilities perform

complex analytical tasks resulting in, among other types of data, matching, relational analysis, scoring, reporting, or pattern analysis. Describe any type of analysis facilities within the Boundary conduct and the data that is created from the analysis.

If the facility 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 VA *Area Bedford* uses statistics and analysis to create general reports that provide the VA a better understanding of *patient care, benefits and support the organization in its mission to provide effective patient care to our veterans* These reports are:

- 1. Reports created to analyze statistical analysis on case mixes.
- 2. Analyze the number of places and geographical locations where patients are seen to assess the volume of clinical need.
- 3. Analyze appointment time-frame data to track and trend averages of time.

These reports may track:

- The number of patients enrolled, provider capacity, staffing ratio, new primary care patient wait time, etc. for Veterans established with a Patient Care Aligned Team (PACT)
- Beneficiary travel summary/benefits
- Workload and cost resources for various services, i.e., mental health, primary care, home dialysis, fee services, etc.
- Daily bed management activity
- Coding averages for outpatient/inpatient encounters
- Satisfaction of Healthcare Experience of Patients (SHEP) data as it pertains to customer satisfaction regarding outpatient/inpatient services
- Unique patient trends
- Clinic wait times

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

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</u> covers how to appropriately use information. Describe the disciplinary programs or Boundary controls (i.e. denial of access) that are in place if an individual is inappropriately using the information.

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

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

<u>Principle of Use Limitation:</u> Is the use of information contained in the facilities 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.

The controls in place to assure that the information is handled in accordance with the uses described above include mandatory online information security and Privacy and HIPAA training; face-to-face training for all incoming new employees conducted by the Information System Security Officer and Privacy Officer; regular audits of individuals accessing sensitive information; and formal administrative rounds during which personal examine all areas within the facility to ensure information is being appropriately used and controlled.

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 by the facilities within the Boundary?

Identify and list all information collected from question 1.1 that is retained by the facilities within the Boundary.

This question is related to privacy controls DM-1, Minimization of Personally Identifiable Information, and DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal

The Area Bedford does not retain information.

- Name
- Social Security Number (SSN)
- Date of Birth
- Mother's Maiden Name
- Mailing Address
- Phone Numbers
- Fax Numbers
- Email address
- Emergency contact info
- Financial account information
- Health insurance beneficiary account numbers
- Certificate/license numbers
- Vehicle License Plate Numbers

- Internet Protocol address numbers
- Current medications
- Previous medical records
- Race/ethnicity
- Tax Identification Number
- Medical Record Number
- Next of Kin
- Guardian Information
- ePHI
- Military history/service connection
- Service connection disabilities
- Employment information
- Veteran dependent information
- Disclosure requestor information
- Death certification information
- Criminal background investigation
- Education Information
- Gender
- Tumor PII/PHI statistics

3.2 How long is information retained by the facilities?

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 Boundary may have a different retention period than medical records or education records held within your Boundary, please be sure to list each of these retention periods.

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.

Length of Retention Table

Site Type: VBA/VHA/NCA	Length of Retention	
or Program Office		
*VHA	• Financial Records: Different forms of financial records are	
	retained 1-7 years based on specific retention schedules.	
	Please refer to VA Record Control Schedule (RCS)10-1, Part	
	Two, Chapter Four- Finance Management	
	• Patient medical records are retained for a total of 75 years after	
	the last episode of care. (Department of Veterans Affairs	
	Record Control Schedule (RCS)10-1, Part Three, Chapter Six-	
	Healthcare Records, Item 6000.1a. and 6000.1d.	

Site Type: VBA/VHA/NCA or Program Office	Length of Retention
	 Official Human Resources Personnel File: Folder will be transferred to the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) within 30 days from the date an employee leaves the VA. NPRC will destroy 65 years after separation from Federal service. (Department of Veterans Affairs Record Control Schedule (RCS)10-1, Part Two, Chapter Three- Civilian Personnel, Item No. 3000.1 Office of Information and Technology (OI&T) Records: These records are created, maintained and disposed of in accordance with Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Information and Technology RCS 005-1.

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 Boundary owner. This question is related to privacy control DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal.

Retention Schedule Table

Site Type: VBA/VHA/NCA or Program Office	Retention Schedule
*VHA	Records Control Schedule 10-1
	Records Control Schedule 005-1

3.4 What are the procedures for the elimination of PII/PHI?

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

Information within the *Area Bedford* is destroyed by the disposition guidance of *RCS 10-1*. Paper documents are destroyed to an unreadable state in accordance with the Department of Veterans' Affairs VA Directive 6371, (April 8, 2014)

Electronic data and files of any type, including Protected Health Information (PHI), Sensitive Personal Information (SPI), Human Resources records, and more are destroyed in accordance with the **Department of Veterans' Affairs Directive 6500 VA Cybersecurity Program (January 23, 2019)**. When required, this data is deleted from their file location and then permanently deleted from the deleted items or Recycle bin. Magnetic media is wiped and sent out for destruction per VA Directive 6500. Digital media is shredded or sent out for destruction per VA Directive 6500.

3.5 Does the Boundary include any facility or program that, where feasible, uses 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

VA Directive 6500 mandates that Systems under development should not process "live data" or do any real processing in which true business decisions will be based. Test data used to test and develop systems, that have not yet undergone security Assessment and Authorization (A&A), must be deidentified. Per the HIPAA Privacy laws, data that has been de-identified is no longer defined as PII. The PO can personally assure that the data has been properly de-identified proof-of-concept, or prototype) should not be attached to VA networks without first being assessed and authorized. Healthcare portal (i.e., MyHealthyVet, etc) provides encryption through secure messaging for compliance with FIPS 140-2 policy. Additionally, the healthcare portal enrollment process supports verifying a subject's identity before allowing access to the application for increased authentication. Mobile media must follow the encryption standards as set forth in the ESO Data and Media Protection SOP.

To minimize the use of PII used in training VA Directive 6502 (page 1) sets policy to limit data access to PII to only individuals with a need for that information in order to perform their official duties; and to minimize the collection and maintenance of data to that necessary to perform the official functions of the Department.

3.6 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Retention of information

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 Boundary.

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

<u>Principle of Minimization:</u> 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?

<u>Principle of Data Quality and Integrity:</u> 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 maintained by *Area Bedford* could 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, breached, or exploited for reasons other than what is described in the privacy documentation associated with the information.

Mitigation: To mitigate the risk posed by information retention, *Area Bedford* adheres to the VA RCS schedules for each category or data it maintains. When the retention data is reached for a record, the medical center will carefully dispose of the data by the determined method as described in question 3.4. The *Area Bedford* ensures that all personnel involved with the collection, use and retention of data are trained in the correct process for collecting, using and retaining this data. A Records Management Officer (RMO), Privacy Officer (PO) and an Information System Security Officer (ISSO) are assigned to the boundary to ensure their respective programs are understood and followed by all to protect sensitive information form the time it is captured by the VA until it is finally disposed of. Each of these in-depth programs have controls that overlap and are assessed annually to ensure requirements are being met and assist staff with questions concerning the proper handling of information.

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 are facilities within the Boundary sharing/receiving/transmitting information with? What information is shared/received/transmitted, and for what purpose? How is the information transmitted?

Note: Question #3.5 (second table) in the Boundary 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 Boundary within VA with which information is shared.

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

For each interface with a system outside each facility, 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.

List the Program Office or ITSysteminformation is shared/received with	List the purpose of the information being shared /received with the specified program office or IT System	List the specific data element types such as PII/PHI that are shared/received with the Program Office or IT System	Describe the method of transmittal	Provide name of Applicable Area Sites
Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacy (CMOP)	For a complete patient profile of controlled substances	Veteran's name, address, full SSN, DOB, provider's name, name/quantity of medication(s), provide name	Secure electronic transmission through VistA	Area Bedford
Northeast Consolidated Patient Account Center	Medical care cost recovery	Diagnosis, service connection, dates of service, health insurance information, demographics	Secure electronic transmission through the Veterans Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) system	Area Bedford
Office of Inspector General	Healthcare oversight & law enforcement	Personally Identifiable Information (PII), Protected Health Information (PHI)	Electronic. No direct access	Area Bedford
VA Health Eligibility Center (HEC)	Medical Care Cost Recovery	Diagnosis, service connection, dates of service, health insurance	Secure electronic transmission using the	Area Bedford

Data Shared internally by facilities within the Boundary including VA Enterprise Systems Organizations

List the Program Office or ITSysteminformation is shared/received with	List the purpose of the information being shared /received with the specified program office or IT System	List the specific data element types such as PII/PHI that are shared/received with the Program Office or IT System	Describe the method of transmittal	Provide name of Applicable Area Sites
		information, demographics	Enrollment Systems Redesign or automatic upload to HEC via a VistA entry	
VA HIV Register	Tracking diagnosis and treatment outcomes	Diagnosis, HIV Status, treatment and outcomes, survivor tracking, demographics, problem lists	Electronic HIV register package	Area Bedford
VA National Cemetery Administration	Death/burial benefits	Veteran's name, full SSN, DD214-Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty	Secure fax	Area Bedford
VA Network Authorization Office: Non-VA Care Payments	Health/Medical payment authorization	Demographics, diagnoses, medical history, service connection, provider orders, VHA recommendation/approval for non-VA care	Fee Basis Claim System (FBCS) software program	Area Bedford
VA Tumor Register	Monitoring cancer rates and outcomes	Diagnosis/procedures, tumor status, treatment types, treatment outcomes, survivor tracking, demographics	Electronic tumor register package	Area Bedford
VA Veterans Benefits Administration	Service- connected/non- service- connected disabilities, benefit payments, educational benefits, spousal benefits	Financial assessment test and service-connected disability diagnoses, veterans' health status, compensation, and pension exam notes	Secure electronic transmission using the Compensation and Pension Record Interchange (CAPRI)	Area Bedford

List the Program Office or ITSysteminformation is shared/received with	List the purpose of the information being shared /received with the specified program office or IT System	List the specific data element types such as PII/PHI that are shared/received with the Program Office or IT System	Describe the method of transmittal	Provide name of Applicable Area Sites
VBMS	Filing benefit claims	Social Security Number, Benefits Information, Claims Decision, DD-214	Compensation and Pension Record Interchange (CAPRI) electronic software package	Area Bedford
VistA	Electronic Health Record	Area Boundary Log files, sample clinical data that may contain Protected Health Information (PHI)	Electronically pulled from VistA thru Computerized Patient Record Area Boundary (CPRS)	Area Bedford

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:

<u>Privacy Risk:</u> The internal sharing of data is necessary individuals to receive benefits at the *Area Bedford.* However, there is a risk that the data could be shared with an inappropriate VA organization or institution which could result in a breach of privacy and disclosure of PII/PHI to unintended parties or recipients.

<u>Mitigation:</u> Safeguards implemented to ensure data is not sent to the wrong VA organization are employee security and privacy training and awareness and required reporting of suspicious activity. Use of secure passwords, access for need-to-know basis, Personal Identification Verification (PIV) Cards, Personal Identification Numbers (PIN), encryption, and access authorization are all measures that are utilized within the facilities. Access to sensitive information and the systems where the information is stored is controlled by the VA using a "least privilege/need to know" policy. Access must be requested and only the access required by VA persons or processes acting on behalf of VA persons is to be requested or granted.

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 facility is allowed to share the information in identifiable form or personally identifiable information outside of VA.

Note: Question #3.6 in the Boundary 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 Boundary 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.

List External Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with	List the purpose of information being shared / received / transmitted with the specified program office or IT System	List the specific data element types such as PII/PHI that are shared/received with the Program or IT System	List the legal authority, binding agreement, SORN routine use, etc. that permit external sharing (can be more than one)	List the method of transmission and the measures in place to secure data	List names of Applicable Area Sites
Abbott-ALERE	To conduct maintenance	Instrument logs and related files	National MOU	Transmitted upon request	Area Bedford

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 program office or IT System	List the specific data element types such as PII/PHI that are shared/received with the Program or IT System	List the legal authority, binding agreement, SORN routine use, etc. that permit external sharing (can be more than one)	List the method of transmission and the measures in place to secure data	List names of Applicable Area Sites
		for maintenance reports. No PII/PHI		in an electronic, written or verbal format based on the individual request.	
Alternate Transportation Systems, LLC	To coordinate transportation for eligible veterans to medical appointments IAW VHA Directive 1601B.05	Name, last 4, DOB, pick up location, clinic name, assistive equipment used, any other special medical considerations entered by the provider submitting the consult.	BAA	Fax machine upon request	Area Bedford
Department of Defense	Determine military service dates, eligibility	Name, Service Information, SSN	MOU	Bi-directional Health Information Exchange	Area Bedford
Healthcare Quality Assistance Group, Inc	Provides consulting and continuous survey readiness	All PHI	BAA	No transmission, viewing only	Area Bedford
Internal Revenue Services	Income verification	Name, Financial Information	ISA/ MOU, Computer Matching Agreement	Secure Web- Portal, Secure Socket Layer	Area Bedford
Language Services Association	Inbound telephone interpretation services and	All PHI	BAA	In person or via telephone per request	Area Bedford

List External Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with	List the purpose of information being shared / received / transmitted with the specified program office or IT System	List the specific data element types such as PII/PHI that are shared/received with the Program or IT System	List the legal authority, binding agreement, SORN routine use, etc. that permit external sharing (can be more than one)	List the method of transmission and the measures in place to secure data	List names of Applicable Area Sites
Massachusetts Department of Children and Families	face-to-face interpretation Reporting of suspected child abuse or neglect	Perpetrator's name/address; Minor child's name, age, address/name of legal guardian	MGL c.119 § 51A SORN 24VA10P2, Routine Use 3 Standing Letter	Via phone call or secure fax	Area Bedford
Massachusetts Department of Public Health	Tracking of infectious diseases, injuries, gunshot wounds, patient abuse	Patient's name, lab results, relevant treatment information, and contact information	Mass. General Laws (MGL) c. 111 §§ 6- 7, 105 Code of Mass. Regulations (CMR) 300.100; 300.131- 300.134; 300.134; 300.150; MGL c. 111 §§ 6-7, 105 CMR 300.180- 300.181; MGL c. 111 §§ 6-7; MGL c. 111D § 6, 105 CMR 300.170- 300.171; MGL c.111 §	Via secure fax	Area Bedford

List External Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with	List the purpose of information being shared / received / transmitted with the specified program office or IT System	List the specific data element types such as PII/PHI that are shared/received with the Program or IT System	List the legal authority, binding agreement, SORN routine use, etc. that permit external sharing (can be more than one)	List the method of transmission and the measures in place to secure data	List names of Applicable Area Sites
			111B and 105 CMR 301.010, 105 CMR 301.020 M.G.L. c. 112 § 12A; MGL c. 111 § 72G SORN 24VA10P2, Routine Use 10, 20 Standing Letter		
Massachusetts Disabled Persons Protection Commission	Reports of suspected disabled person abuse or neglect	Patients name, SSN DOB, home address, medical information	MGL c. 19C § 10 and 118 CMR 3.03 SORN 24VA10P2, Routine Use 3 Standing Letter	Via phone call or secure fax	Area Bedford
Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs	Reports of suspected elder abuse or neglect	Patient's name, SSN, DOB, home address, medical information	MGL c.19A § 15 and 651 CMR 5.07 SORN 24VA10P2, Routine Use 3 Standing Letter	Via phone call or secure fax	Area Bedford
Massachusetts Prescription Drug	To access a complete patient profile	Patient's name, address, DOB, provider name,	SORN 24VA10P2,	Secure website	Area Bedford

List External Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with	List the purpose of information being shared / received / transmitted with the specified program office or IT System	List the specific data element types such as PII/PHI that are shared/received with the Program or IT System	List the legal authority, binding agreement, SORN routine use, etc. that permit external sharing (can be more than one)	List the method of transmission and the measures in place to secure data	List names of Applicable Area Sites
Monitoring	of controlled	medication	Routine Use		
Program	substances	name/quantity	53		
National Crime Information Center (NCIC)	Criminal background information is obtained and used to confirm employment.	Name, address, and criminal history	National ISA/MOU	Transmitted upon request in an electronic, written or verbal format based on the individual request.	Area Bedford
Northeast Record Retention	Provides shredding services	PHI. PII, SPI, VA proprietary sensitive	BAA	Documents are placed in a secure bin	Area Bedford
Omnicell	Provides medicine and supply automation support services and technical support, while troubleshooting malfunctions.	information Veterans full name, date of birth, full SSN, diagnosis, and medications	National ISA/MOU	until shredded Transmitted upon request in an electronic, written or verbal format based on the individual request.	Area Bedford
OPMFTS	Send electronic fingerprint transmissions from the VA fingerprint system to the US OPM Fingerprint transaction system.	Background Investigative Documents	National MOU	Transmitted upon request in an electronic, written or verbal format based on the individual request.	Area Bedford

List External Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with	List the purpose of information being shared / received / transmitted with the specified program office or IT System	List the specific data element types such as PII/PHI that are shared/received with the Program or IT System	List the legal authority, binding agreement, SORN routine use, etc. that permit external sharing (can be more than one)	List the method of transmission and the measures in place to secure data	List names of Applicable Area Sites
Payright CWT	Provides payroll processing for CWT	Name, SSN	BAA	Hand carried in an enclosed envelope by contracted drivers and secured in a locked desk in a locked office	Area Bedford
Philips	To provide expedited remote diagnostics, maintenance, monitoring and repair	Patient name, ID number, SSN, Date of birth, height, weight, system performance parameters and system monitoring information	National MOU	Transmitted upon request in an electronic, written or verbal format based on the individual request.	Area Bedford
Philips- Carestream	To provide expedited remote diagnostics and maintenance.	System performance parameters/system monitoring information, which may include: disk usage, reconstruction speed, image quality parameters, helium levels, temperature, humidity and system error code information, acquisition	National MOU	Transmitted upon request in an electronic, written or verbal format based on the individual request.	Area Bedford

List External Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with	List the purpose of information being shared / received / transmitted with the specified program office or IT System	List the specific data element types such as PII/PHI that are shared/received with the Program or IT System	List the legal authority, binding agreement, SORN routine use, etc. that permit external sharing (can be more than one)	List the method of transmission and the measures in place to secure data	List names of Applicable Area Sites
		parameter settings, system maintenance information			
Quest	Transmit laboratory orders and receive laboratory results	Patient name, DOB, Sex, Patient ID, Order or accession number, VA Facility Code, Client or account number, Order codes and names, any comments associated with the orders, any specimen source or type required	National MOU	Transmitted upon request in an electronic, written or verbal format based on the individual request.	Area Bedford
ScriptPro	Technical support and Maintenance services for Pharmacy automated outpatient dispensing medication system. Patient and medication order information are transmitted.	First and Last Name, Social Security Number, address, medication receiving (prescription data), Phone Number	National ISA/MOU	Transmitted upon request in an electronic, written or verbal format based on the individual request	Area Bedford
Social Security Administration	Eligibility for Federal benefits	SSN, Name, Address	National ISA/ MOU	Site to Site (S2S), IPSEC Tunnel, Secure FTP	Area Bedford

List External Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with	List the purpose of information being shared / received / transmitted with the specified program office or IT System	List the specific data element types such as PII/PHI that are shared/received with the Program or IT System	List the legal authority, binding agreement, SORN routine use, etc. that permit external sharing (can be more than one)	List the method of transmission and the measures in place to secure data	List names of Applicable Area Sites
Sysmex	For service and support	Software and data to be used by or with the guidance of Sysmex Technical Support	National MOU	Transmitted upon request in an electronic, written or verbal format based on the individual request.	Area Bedford
Vecna	Used to present to and collect updates from Veterans on demographics and healthcare.	Demographics and healthcare. No PII/PHI	National MOU	Transmitted upon request in an electronic, written or verbal format based on the individual request.	Area Bedford
Wachter	For service and support	Software support and maintenance updates and or upgrades	BAA	Transmitted upon request in an electronic, written or verbal format based on the individual request.	Area Bedford

The information with each application is categorized in accordance with FIPS 199 and NIST SP 800-60. As part of the categorization any PII is identified.

The VA has policies which direct and guide the activities and processes performed by the VA. The policies are periodically reviewed to ensure completeness and applicability. The NIST SP 800-53 controls are selected based on the categorization. The controls provide protection for Veteran PII while developed or stored by an application or IT system, physically transported, between facilities, least privilege, stored offsite, or transmitted between IT centers.

Internal protection is managed by access controls such as user authentication (user IDs, passwords and Personal Identification Verification (PIV)), awareness and training, auditing, and internal network controls. Remote protection is provided by remote access control, authenticator management, audit, and encrypted transmission.

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:

<u>Privacy Risk:</u> The sharing of data is necessary for individuals to receive benefits at the *Area Bedford*. However, there is a risk that the data could be shared with an inappropriate and/or unauthorized external organization or institution.

Mitigation: Safeguards implemented to ensure data is not shared inappropriately with organizations are employee security and privacy training and awareness and required reporting of suspicious activity. Use of secure passwords, access for need-to-know purposes, Personal Identification Verification (PIV) Cards, Personal Identification Numbers (PIN), encryption and access authorization are all measures that are utilized within the administrations. Standing letters for information exchange, business associate agreements and memorandums of understanding between agencies and VA are monitored closely by the Privacy Officer (PO), ISSO to ensure protection of information.

All personnel accessing Veteran's information must first have a successfully adjudicated background screening or Special Agreement Check (SAC). This background check is conducted by the Office of Personnel Management A background investigation is required commensurate with the individual's duties.

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 in <u>Appendix A</u>. (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 facilities within the Boundary 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, Boundary of Records Notices and Privacy Act Statements, and TR-3, Dissemination of Privacy Program Information.

The *Area Bedford* provides notice of information collection in several additional ways. The initial method of notification is in person during individual interviews or in writing via the Privacy Act statement on forms and applications completed by the individual. Additionally, the Department of Veterans Affairs also provides notice by publishing the following <u>VA System of Record Notices</u> (VA SORN) in the Federal Register and online.

Site Type:	Applicable SORs
VHA	 Accreditation Records-VA, VA SORN 01VA022 (May 18, 2009) Applicants for Employment under Title 38, USC-VA, VA SORN 02VA135 (approved prior to 1995) Blood Donor Information-VA, VA SORN 04VA115 (Dec. 12, 2008) Individual Correspondence Records-VA, VA SORN 05VA026 (Nov. 26, 2008) Employee Medical File System Records (Title 38)-VA, VA SORN 08VA05 Employee Unfair Labor Practice Charges and Complaints, Negotiated Agreement Grievances and Arbitrations-VA, VA SORN 09VA05 (approved prior to 1995)

Applicable SORs

Site Type:	Applicable SORs
	 Criminal Investigations-VA, VA SORN 11VA51 (Aug. 8, 2011) Individuals Submitting Invoices-Vouchers For Payment-VA, VA SORN 13VA047 (approved prior to 1995)
	 Individuals Serving on a Fee Basis or Without Compensation (Consultants, Attendings, and Others or Paid Indirectly), VA SORN 14VA05135 (November 18, 2010)
	 Litigation Files-VA, VA SORN 16VA026 (March 16, 2009) Centralized Staffing Systems-VA, VA SORN 18VA05 (approved prior to 1995)
	 Motor Vehicle Operator Accident Records-VA, VA SORN 20VA138 (Oct. 19, 2009)
	 Non-VA Fee Basis Records-VA, VA SORN 23VA16 (Aug. 31, 2009) Patient Medical Records-VA, VA SORN 24VA10P2 (March 22, 2013) Personnel and Accounting Integrated Data System-VA, VA SORN 27VA047 (July 02, 2012)
	 Personnel Registration under Controlled Substances Act-VA, VA SORN 28VA119 (Oct. 19, 2009)
	 Veterans, Employee and Citizen Health Care Facility Investigation Records-VA, VA SORN 32VA10Q (Aug. 31, 2009)
	 National Prosthetic Patient Database (NPPD)-VA, VA SORN 33VA113 (Oct. 19, 2009)
	• Veteran, Patient, Employee, and Volunteer Research and Development Project Records-VA, VA SORN 34VA12 (May 27, 2010)
	 VA Supervised Fiduciary/Beneficiary and General Investigative Records- VA, VA SORN 37VA27 (March 15, 2011)
	 Veterans and Beneficiaries Identification Records Location Subsystem- VA, VA SORN 38VA21 (June 4, 2001)
	 Veterans, Service Members, Family Members, and VA Beneficiary Survey Records-VA, VA SORN 43VA008 (April 06, 2007)
	 Health Administration Center Civilian Health and Medical Program Records-VA, VA SORN 54VA16 (July 15, 2009)
	 Voluntary Service Records-VA, VA SORN 57VA135 (April 15, 2009) Compensation, Pension, Education, and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Records-VA, VA SORN 58VA21/22/28 (July 19, 2012)
	 Repatriated American Prisoners of War-VA, VA SORN 60VA21 (Oct. 06, 2010)
	 Grievance Records-VA, VA SORN 63VA05 (approved prior to 1995) Readjustment Counseling Program (RCS) Vet Center Program-VA, VA SORN 64VA15 (June 18, 2009)

Site Type:	Applicable SORs
	 Community Placement Program-VA, VA SORN 65VA122 (July 9, 2009) PROS/KEYS, VA SORN 67VA30 (April 07, 2011) VA Employee Counseling Services Program Records-VA, VA SORN 68VA05 (approved prior to 1995) Ionizing Radiation Registry-VA, VA SORN 69VA131 (Dec. 08, 2008) Health Professional Scholarship-VA, VA SORN 73VA10A2 (May 10, 2013) General Personnel Records (Title 38)-VA, VA SORN 76VA05 (July 20, 2000) Health Care Provider Credentialing and Privileging Records-VA, VA SORN 77VA10Q (March 26, 2008)
	 Veterans Health Information System and Technology Architecture (VistA) – VA, VA SORN 79VA10P2 (Oct. 31, 2012)
	 VA Police Badge and Training Records System-VA, VA SORN 83VA07 (Dec. 08, 2008) National Chaplain Management Information System (NCMIS)-VA, VA
	 SORN 84VA111 (May 08, 2009) Chief Financial Officer and Fiscal Officer Designation and Certification Records System-VA, VA SORN 85VA047 (April 09, 2009)
	 Workers' Compensation Occupational Safety and Health Management Information System –VA, VA SORN 86VA00S1 (Aug. 05, 2008)
	 Customer User Provisioning System (CUPS)-VA, VA SORN 87VA005OP (Aug. 14, 2009) Accounts Receivable Records (Formally known as 88VA20A6)-VA, VA
	SORN 88VA244 (Formally known as 88VA20A6) (April 6, 1998)
	 Income Verification Records-VA, VA SORN 89VA16 (May 08, 2008) Call Detail Records-VA, VA SORN 90VA194 (April 14, 2009) Electronic Document Management System (EDMS)-VA, VA SORN
	 Electronic Document Management System (EDMS)-VA, VA SORN 92VA045 (May 2, 2000) Gulf War Registry-VA, VA SORN 93VA131 (March 16, 2009)
	 Consolidated Data Information System-VA, VA SORN 97VA105 (May 04, 2011) Disaster Emergency Medical Personnal System (DEMPS) VA, VA SORM
	 Disaster Emergency Medical Personnel System (DEMPS)-VA, VA SORM 98VA104 (Jan. 27, 2010) Automated Safety Incident Surveillance and Tracking System-VA, VA
	SORN 99VA13 (March 31, 2009)Patient Advocate Tracking System (PATS)-VA, VA SORN
	 100VA10NS10 (June 03, 3009) Professional Standards Board Action and Proficiency Rating Folder (Title 38)-VA, VA SORN 101VA05 (July 20, 2000)

Site Type:	Applicable SORs
	 Agency-Initiated Personnel Actions (Title 38)-VA, VA SORN 102VA05 (July 28, 2000) Police and Security Records-VA, VA SORN 103VA07B (Dec. 08, 2008) Agent Orange Registry-VA, VA SORN 105VA131 (March 16, 2009) Compliance Records, Response, and Resolution of Reports of Persons Allegedly Involved in Compliance Violations-VA, VA SORN 106VA17 (Aug. 17, 2009) Program Evaluation Research Data Records-VA, VA SORN 107VA008B (March 21, 2007) Employee Incentive Scholarship Program-VA, VA SORN 110VA10 (Jan. 25, 2010) Center for Acquisition and Material Management Education Online (CAMEO)-VA, VA SORN 111VA95E (Aug. 16, 2001) Telephone Service for Clinical Care Records-VA, VA SORN 113VA112 (May 08, 2009) The Revenue Program Billings and Collection Records-VA, VA SORN 116VA08 (Feb. 02, 2012) Veterans Canteen Service (VCS) Payroll Deduction System-VA, VA SORN 117VA103 (May 12, 2010) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Records-VA, VA SORN 119VA005R1C (Nov. 17, 2009) National Patient Databases-VA, VA SORN 121VA19 (May 11, 2012) Center for Veterans Enterprise-VA, VA SORN 130VA19 (Nov. 17, 2010)
	 Purchase Credit Card Program-VA, VA SORN 131VA047 (March 31, 2009) Library Network (VALNET)-VA, VA SORN 136VA19E (June 24, 2008) Veterans Information Solutions (VIS)-VA, VA SORN 137VA005Q (July 28, 2009)
	 Veterans Affairs/Department of Defense Identity Repository (VADIR)- VA, VA SORN 138VA005Q (July 27, 2009)
	 Community Residential Care and Medical Foster Home Programs – VA, VA SORN 142VA114 (Nov. 01, 2011)
	 Department of Veterans Affairs Personnel Security File System (VAPSFS)-VA, VA SORN 145VA005Q3 (March 25, 2008) Department of Veterans Affairs Identity Management System (VAIDMS)-
	• Department of Veteralis Affaits identity Management System (VAIDMS)- VA, VA SORN 146VA005Q3 (March 26, 2008)

Site Type:	Applicable SORs
	 Enrollment and Eligibility Records-VA, VA SORN 147VA16 (Aug. 31, 2009) Non-Health Data Analysis and Projections for VA Policy and Planning-VA, VA SORN 149VA008A (April 13, 2007) Administrative Data Repository-VA, VA SORN 150VA19 (Nov. 26, 2011) Inquiry Routing & Information System (IRIS)–VA, VA SORN 151VA005N (March 12, 2008) Ethics Consultation Web-based Database (ECWeb)-VA, VA SORN 152VA10E (July 20, 2011) Customer Relationship Management System (CRMS)-VA, VA SORN 155VA16 (Nov. 26, 2008) Suicide Prevention Database-VA, VA SORN 158VA11 (Oct. 21, 2010) Veterans Tracking Application(VTA)/Federal Case Management Tool (FCMT)-VA, VA SORN 163VA005Q3 (April 19, 2012) Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER)-VA, VA SORN 168VA10P2 May 11, 2012)

This Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) also serves as notice of the Area Bedford. As required by the eGovernment Act of 2002, Pub.L. 107–347 §208(b)(1)(B)(iii), the Department of Veterans Affairs "after completion of the [PIA] under clause (ii), make the privacy impact assessment publicly available through the website of the agency, publication in the Federal Register, or other means."

The VHA Notice of Privacy Practice (NOPP) is a document which explains the collection and use of protected health information to individuals interacting with VA. The NOPP is mailed every three years or when there is a major change to all enrolled Veterans.

Employees and contractors are required to review, sign, and abide by the National Rules of Behavior on an annual basis.

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 *Area Bedford* only requests information necessary to administer benefits to veterans and other potential beneficiaries. While an individual may choose not to provide information, this may 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 *Area Bedford*.

6.3 Do individuals have the right to consent to 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

Information Consent Rights Table

	Information Consent Rights
Site Type: VBA	
VHA, NCA or	
Program Office	
*VHA	Yes. Individuals must submit in writing to their facility PO. The request must state what information and/or to whom the information is restricted and must include their signature and date of the request. The request is then forwarded to facility Privacy Officer for review and processing. Individuals may also request to Opt-Out of the facility directory during an inpatient admission. If the individual chooses to opt-out, no information on the individual is given out. Individuals can request further limitations on other disclosures. A veteran, legal guardian or court appointed Power of Attorney can submit a request to the facility Privacy Officer to obtain information.

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:

<u>Principle of Transparency:</u> Has sufficient notice been provided to the individual?

<u>Principle of Use Limitation</u>: 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:

<u>Privacy Risk:</u> There is a risk that veterans and other members of the public will not know that the *Area Bedford* exists or that it collects, maintains, and/or disseminates PII, PHI or PII/PHI about them.

<u>Mitigation:</u> This risk is mitigated by the common practice of providing the Notice of Privacy Practice (NOPP) when Veterans are enrolled for health care. s. 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 (SOR) and Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) available for review online, as discussed in question 6.1 and the Overview section of this PIA.

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 <u>VA FOIA Web page</u> to obtain information about FOIA points of contact and information about agency FOIA processes.

If the facilities within the Boundary are 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 facilities within the Boundary are not a Privacy Act Boundary, 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.

An individual wanting notification or access, including contesting the record, should mail or deliver a request to the office identified in the SOR. If an individual does not know the "office concerned," the request may be addressed to the PO of any VA field station VHA facility where the person is receiving care or the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. The receiving office must promptly forward the mail request received to the office of jurisdiction clearly identifying it as "Privacy Act Request" and notify the requester of the referral.

When requesting access to one's own records, patients are asked to complete <u>VA Form 10-5345a</u>: *Individuals' Request for a Copy of their Own Health Information*, which can be obtained from the medical center or online at https://www.va.gov/find-forms/about-form-10-5345a/.

Additionally, veterans and their dependents can gain access to their Electronic Health Record (EHR) by enrolling in the my <u>HealtheVet program</u>, VA's online personal health record. More information about my HealtheVet is available at <u>https://www.myhealth.va.gov/index.html</u>.

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.

Individuals are required to provide a written request to amend or correct their records to the appropriate Privacy Officer or System Manager as outlined in the Privacy Act SOR. Every Privacy Act SOR contains information on Contesting Record Procedure which informs the individual who to contact for redress. Further information regarding access and correction procedures can be found in the notices listed in <u>Appendix A</u>.

The VHA Notice of Privacy Practices also informs individuals how to file an amendment request with VHA.

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 by many resources to include the VHA Notice of Privacy Practice (NOPP) which states:

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

Individuals seeking information regarding access to and contesting of VA benefits records may write, call or visit the nearest VA regional office.

Additional notice is provided through the SORS listed in 6.1 of this PIA and through the Release of Information Office where care is received.

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).

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.

Formal redress via the amendment process is available to all individuals, as stated in questions 7.1-7.3

In addition to the formal procedures discussed in question 7.2 to request changes to one's health record, a veteran or other VAMC patient who is enrolled in myHealth*e*vet can use the system to make direct edits to their health records.

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 Boundary 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: <u>Principle of Individual Participation:</u> Is the individual provided with the ability to find out whether a project maintains a record relating to him?

<u>Principle of Individual Participation:</u> 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?

<u>Principle of Individual Participation:</u> 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:

<u>Privacy Risk:</u> There is a risk that members of the public will not know the relevant procedures for gaining access to, correcting, or contesting their information.

<u>Mitigation:</u> *Area Bedford* mitigates the risk of incorrect information in an individual's records by authenticating information when possible, using the resources discussed in question 1.5. Additionally, staff verifies information in medical records and corrects information identified as incorrect during each patient's medical appointments.

As discussed in question 7.3, the NOPP, which every enrolled Veteran receives every three years or when there is a major change. The NOPP discusses the process for requesting an amendment to one's records.

The *Area Bedford* Release of Information (ROI) office is available to assist Veterans with obtaining access to their health records and other records containing personal information. The Veterans' Health Administration (VHA) established MyHealtheVet program to provide Veterans remote access to their medical records. The Veteran must enroll and have access to the premium account to obtain access to all the available features. In addition, VHA Directive 1605.01 Privacy and Release of Information 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 Boundary, and are they documented?

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

Identify users from other agencies who may have access to the Boundary and under what roles these individuals have access to the Boundary. 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 Boundary. 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 Boundary Design and Development.

Individuals receive access to the *Area Bedford* by gainful employment in the VA or upon being awarded a contract that requires access to the boundary systems. Upon employment, the Office of Information and Technology (OIT) creates computer and network access accounts as determined by employment positions assigned. Users are not assigned to software packages or network connections that are not part of their assigned duties or within their assigned work area.

VA *Area Bedford* requires access to the GSS be requested using the local access request system. VA staff must request access for anyone requiring new or modified access to the GSS. Staff are not allowed to request additional or new access for themselves.

Access is requested utilizing Electronic Permission Access Boundary (ePAS). Users submit access requests based on need to know and job duties. Supervisor and OIT 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 access is granted, individuals can log into the system(s) through dual authentication, i.e., a PIV card with a complex password combination. 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. Generally, VA file areas are locked after normal duty hours and the facilities are protected from outside access by the VA Police. Access to computer rooms at VA Area Bedford is generally limited by appropriate locking devices and restricted to authorized VA IT employees. Access to information stored on automated storage media at other VA locations is controlled by individually unique passwords/codes. Access by Office of Inspector General (OIG) staff conducting an audit, investigation, or inspection at the health care area, or an OIG office location remote from the health care area, is controlled in the same manner.

Access to the *Area Bedford* working and storage areas is restricted to 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 Manager, System Administrators, Network Administrators, Database Managers, Users of VA Information Systems or VA Sensitive Information.

• Individuals are subject to a background investigation before given access to Veteran's information.

• All personnel with access to Veteran's information are required to complete the VA Privacy and Information Security Awareness training and Rules of Behavior annually AND Privacy and HIPAA Focused Training.

•Human Resources notify Divisions, IT and ISSO of new hires and their start date(s), through [method of notice (email, fax etc.)]. The Division that the person is going into fills out the local access form, Automated Systems Access Request form, with name, SSN and/or claim number, job title, division and telephone number, along with marking the boxes on the form for application access the user will need on the computer system. This form starts at the Division level, is signed by the Division Chief, then goes to the ISSO and Director, for signatures and then to IT for implementation. Documentation is filed in an employee folder and maintained in the ISSO's office.

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

If so, how frequently are contracts reviewed and by whom? Describe the necessity of the access provided to contractors to the Boundary 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.

Contractors will have access to the Boundary after completing the VA Privacy and Information Security Awareness training and Rules of Behavior annually, and after the initiation of a background investigation. Contractors are only allowed access for the duration of the contract this is reviewed by the privacy officer and the designated Contracting Officer Representative (COR). Per the National Contractor Access Program (NCAP) guidelines, contractors can have access to the Boundary only after completing mandatory information security and privacy training, Privacy and HIPAA Focused Training as well as having completed a Special Agency Check, finger printing and having the appropriate background investigation scheduled with Office of Personnel Management. Certification that this training has been completed by all contractors must be provided to the employee who is responsible for the contract in question. In addition, all contracts by which contractors might access sensitive patient information must include a Business Associate Agreement which clarifies the mandatory nature of the training and the potential penalties for violating patient privacy. Contractors with VA Area Bedford access must have an approved computer access request on file. The area manager, or designee, in conjunction with the ISSO and the applicable COR reviews accounts for compliance with account management requirements. User accounts are reviewed periodically in accordance with National schedules.

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

VA offers privacy and security training. Each program or Boundary may offer training specific to the program or Boundary 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 *Area Bedford* personnel, volunteers, and contractors are required to complete initial and annual Privacy and Security Awareness and Rule Behavior (RoB) training, during New Employee Orientation (NEO) or via TMS. In addition, all employees who interact with patient sensitive medical information must complete the Privacy and HIPAA focused mandated privacy training. Finally, all new employees receive face-to-face training by the Boundary Privacy Officer and Information System Security Officer during new employee orientation. The Privacy and Information System Security Officers also perform subject specific trainings on an as needed basis. Each site identifies personnel with significant information system security roles and responsibilities. (i.e., management, system managers, system administrators, contracting staff, HR staff), documents those roles and responsibilities, and provides appropriate additional information system security training. Security training records will be monitored and maintained. The Talent Management System offers the following applicable privacy courses:

VA 10176: Privacy and Information Security Awareness and Rules of Behavior VA 10203: Privacy and HIPPA Training VA 3812493: Annual Government Ethics.

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

8.4a If Yes, provide:

- 1. The Systems Security Plan Status: Approved
- 2. The Systems Security Plan Status Date: 17 June 2021
- 3. The Authorization Status: Authorization to Operate
- 4. The Authorization Date: 7 September 2021
- 5. The Authorization Termination Date: 7 September 2024
- 6. The Risk Review Completion Date: 16 August 2021
- 7. The FIPS 199 classification of the system (LOW/MODERATE/HIGH): Moderate

Please note that all Boundaries containing PII/PHI are categorized at a minimum level of "moderate" under Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 199.

8.4b If No or In Process, provide your Initial Operating Capability (IOC) date.

Section 9. 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 Boundary 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	Boundary 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 Officers

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

Privacy Officer, Penny Lashua

Privacy Officer, Charles (Skip) Williamson

Information Systems Security Officer, Charesse Blood

Information Systems Security Officer, Joseph Smith

Area Manager, John Dubuc

APPENDIX A – Notice

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).

Applicable Notices

Site Type: VBA/VHA/NCA or Program Office	Applicable NOPPs
VHA	Notice of Privacy Practices
	VHA Privacy and Release of Information:

APPENDIX B – PII Mapped to Components

Note: Due to the PIA being a public facing document, please do not include the server names in the table.

PII Mapping of Components (Servers/Database)

Components of the Area Boundary collecting/storing PII (Each row refers to a grouping of databases associated with a single server)	Does this component collect PII? (Yes/No)	Does this component store PII? (Yes/No)	Does this component share, receive, and/or transmit PII? (Yes/No)	Type of PII (SSN, DOB, etc.)	Reason for Collection/ Storage of PII	Safeguards	Provide Names of Applicable Sites
 ACVSUJournal_00010002 Censis_Beta_V2_Global censis_graphics Censis_HL1310 Censis_SG1310 CensisBufferAgent RIGHTFAX TELEFORM_BED Teleform_BedExport zzHL7 zzNew zzOld ZzPat 	Yes	Yes	Yes	Social Security Number, Name, Address	This data is needed to facilitate patient care and hospital operations	Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) 256, Server is stored in a secured environment and managed with restricted access controls	Area Bedford
ACVSAuditACVSBIRS	No	No	No	NA	NA	NA	Area Bedford

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Components of the Area Boundary collecting/storing PII (Each row refers to a grouping of databases associated with a single server)	Does this component collect PII? (Yes/No)	Does this component store PII? (Yes/No)	Does this component share, receive, and/or transmit PII? (Yes/No)	Type of PII (SSN, DOB, etc.)	Reason for Collection/ Storage of PII	Safeguards	Provide Names of Applicable Sites
 ACVSCORE ACVSJournal OM_4.0 PIV_Class SWHSystem SWHSystemAudit SWHSystemJournal SystemState 							
 BHL_BED_PROD BHL_BED_Test COMPASSBED EMR NOAHDatabaseCore SmithsSolisE TracerEnsemble 	Yes	Yes	Yes	Social Security Number, Name, Address	This data is needed to facilitate patient care and hospital operations	Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) 256, Server is stored in a secured environment and managed with restricted access controls	Area Bedford
 AutostoreAudit DRS_73 DRS_79 EFORMS FM1_DEV FM1_DEV_ASPNET FM1_DEV_CONFIG 	No	No	No	NA	NA	NA	Area Bedford

Components of the Area Boundary collecting/storing PII (Each row refers to a grouping of databases associated with a single server)	Does this component collect PII? (Yes/No)	Does this component store PII? (Yes/No)	Does this component share, receive, and/or transmit PII? (Yes/No)	Type of PII (SSN, DOB, etc.)	Reason for Collection/ Storage of PII	Safeguards	Provide Names of Applicable Sites
 FMI_PRD FMI_PRD_ASPNET FMI_PRD_CONFIG Framework JRMS KeyWatcher_KWHistoryV2 KeyWatcher_KWMainV2 LICENSE Lynx Monitor Quartz SFFX SimpleK SimpleK-arh SOLUTIONINFO SystemState WEBAPPCONFIG 							
BPOC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Personally Identifiable Information (PII), Protected Health Information (PHI), and Individually Identifiable	This data is needed to facilitate patient care and hospital operations	Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) 256, Server is stored in a secured environment and managed with restricted access controls	Area Bedford

Components of the Area Boundary collecting/storing PII (Each row refers to a grouping of databases associated with a single server)	Does this component collect PII? (Yes/No)	Does this component store PII? (Yes/No)	Does this component share, receive, and/or transmit PII? (Yes/No)	Type of PII (SSN, DOB, etc.)	Reason for Collection/ Storage of PII	Safeguards	Provide Names of Applicable Sites
				Information (III).			
Upslpmdb UPSNrfRVLDB USPNrfUserDB Upswsdb Upswsdb_ActivityLog Upswsdb_reconciler Upswsdb_report	Yes	Yes	Yes	Addresses	This data is needed to facilitate patient care and hospital operations	Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) 256, Server is stored in a secured environment and managed with restricted access controls	Area Bedford
Access3000	No	No	No	NA	NA	NA	Area Bedford
QCDAO	No	No	No	NA	NA	NA	Area Bedford

This table is only to be completed for the Medical Devices or Special Purpose System Boundary PIAs. This table should be skipped for the Area Boundary PIA. This information must match the medical devices and special purpose systems listed in 3.7 of the Boundary PTA.

Name of Device	Type (Medical Device or Special Purpose System)	Is the device within the MedMOD boundary?	Enterprise Risk Assessment Number