

**PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION
NETWORK VOCABULARY ACCESS
AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
(PHIN VADS)**

4.0.10.1 RELEASE NOTES

12/18/2025



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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INTRODUCTION

The Public Health Information Network (PHIN) Vocabulary Access and Distribution System (VADS) is a vocabulary server that allows CDC programs and Public Health Partners to search, browse, and download vocabularies required for PHIN messaging and applications needed for Public Health Surveillance. The primary objective of PHIN VADS is to be the distribution source for vocabularies based on the Consolidated Health Informatics initiative.

BACKGROUND

One of the primary challenges facing public health today is the use of standardized vocabularies to represent public health information within numerous applications and messages. Currently, some public health professionals use their own terminology and codes to represent public health concepts, often with inconsistent meaning. Even when controlled vocabularies are used, inconsistencies among versions challenge interpretation. The use of these non-standard vocabularies makes it almost impossible for precise communication to occur across applications. Controlled vocabularies, such as the Systematic Nomenclature for Medicine (SNOMED) or Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC), establish standardized, version-controlled coded concepts, which, if used consistently, could significantly reduce the level of semantic ambiguity in public health information.

PHIN Vocabulary Services strives to enable the consistent and accurate representation of information by encouraging and supporting the use of Vocabulary Standards to promote semantic interoperability among public health systems. Working with Standards Development Organization (SDO) terminology experts, the PHIN Messaging and Vocabulary Team actively participates in the development and identification of vocabularies important to the public health arena. SDOs and related work groups include Health Level 7 (HL7), Consolidated Health Informatics Initiative (CHI), Health Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP), and American Health Information Community (AHIC).

PHIN Vocabulary Access and Distribution System (PHIN VADS) is a web-based enterprise vocabulary system for accessing, searching, and distributing vocabularies used within the PHIN. PHIN VADS serves as a single source of standard vocabularies to the CDC and its public health partners. PHIN VADS promotes the use of standards-based vocabulary within PHIN systems to support the exchange of consistent information among public health partners.



RELEASE NOTES FOR PHIN VADS 4.0.10.1 RELEASE

The purpose of the Release Notes is to communicate the content updates, application bug fixes, web service updates, and database updates of PHIN VADS.

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 12/18/2025
- Database version upgrade
- Two import related error field length increased to 1000 from 255

KNOWN ISSUES

- Special characters in concept code need to be encoded in urls
- Available VS search and sorting not working in View Version edit

APPENDIX OF ARCHIVED RELEASE NOTES

This section of the Release Notes includes information about past releases as a historical reference for PHIN VADS release details.

Release 4.0.10

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 08/18/2025
- Removed Adobe Analytics and replaced with Digital Metrics & Analytics Tool (DMAT)
- Upgraded the springboot version for rest2 API, examples of endpoints:
 - <https://phinvads.cdc.gov/rest2/CodeSystemSummary>
 - <https://phinvads.cdc.gov/rest2/ValueSetSummary>
 - https://phinvads.cdc.gov/rest2/ValueSet/PHVS_ApgarScore5Min_NCHS
 - <https://phinvads.cdc.gov/rest2/ValueSet/1.3.6.1.4.1.19376.1.7.3.1.1.13.8.12>
 - https://phinvads.cdc.gov/rest2/CodeSystem/PH_AbnormalFlag_HL7_2x
 - <https://phinvads.cdc.gov/rest2/CodeSystem/2.16.840.1.113883.12.78>

Release 4.0.9

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 06/18/2025
- Web framework upgrades to address security issues



- Reenabled file upload for editor apps.

KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

Release 4.0.8.12

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 03/18/2025
- Disabled file upload to address security issue
- Fixed missing icons on left menu on production site

KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

Release 4.0.8.10

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 11/26/2024
- Upgraded Template Package to version 4.5 from version 3.0
- Upgraded jQuery ui and rebuilt calendar lookup on the search option menus
- Reworked tooltips to reduce unnecessary popups.
- Removed page references to obsolete template war

KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

Release 4.0.6.10

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 07/12/2024
- Added adobe analytics in VADS webapp.
- Cleaned up conflicting and outdated js libraries: site catalyst and google analytics.
- Fixed js errors causing tooltips not shown.
- Fixed missing file icons in hot topic detail and left menu links.
- Fixed concept relationship download error when there's no concept code selected.



- Updated Code System Calendar and resource links on left menu.
- Added PHINVADS FHIR API document and link.
- Fixed two FHIR API issues in baseStu3: VS count inconsistency with VADS webapp and error in VS batch fetching when there's conflict between VS and version statuses.

KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

Release 4.0.6.9

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 01/20/2024
- Web framework upgrade to address security vulnerabilities.

KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

Release 4.0.6.6

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 03/25/2022
- Migrated log4j to address zero-day vulnerability

KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

Release 4.0.6.5

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 12/01/2021
- Web framework upgrade to address security vulnerabilities.



KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

Release 4.0.6.4

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 03/26/2021
- Added New Code System, ISO 639-3 Language Codes
- Updated Code System Update Calendar

KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

Release 4.0.6.3

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 09/26/2019
- Application Bug Fixes

KNOWN ISSUES

- When opening the VADS Browser in multiple tabs, it may be required to refresh the current active tab in order to download the appropriate view or value set. When navigating backward and forward within the current tab, it may also be required to refresh the page in order to initiate another action – such as paging between concepts in a value set

Release 4.0.6.2

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: Not released
- Fixed broken PHIN Vocabulary Link

KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

Release 4.0.6.1 Tech Refresh

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 11/30/2018
- Added a Code System Update Calendar



KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

Release 4.0.6 Tech Refresh

- Release date: 10/29/2018

CONTENT UPDATES

Disclaimer:

- PHIN VADS Content updates will not be included in future release notes. To determine the version of a View, Value Set or Code System navigate to the given content by searching or browsing PHIN VADS, click “Details”. Click “Value Set Details” if a Value Set or “Code System Details” if a Code System to view the content’s version and status date. Users can also subscribe using RSS feeds. To subscribe click the “Subscribe” button on the PHIN VADS Homepage.

APPLICATION UPDATES

- The new REST API is migrating the existing CodeSystem and ValueSet vocabulary RESTful services.
- As we upgrade environments and move toward a cloud based environment it is desirable to be on a restful platform that has widespread usage and support for newer frameworks.
- URI for Rest Documentation now available:
<https://phinvads.cdc.gov/rest2/docs/phinvads-api-guide.html>

KNOWN ISSUES

- Known defects that are currently in production still exist in this version of VADS and will be addressed in a later release.

Release 4.0.5

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 4/26/2018
- Updated RCMT search feature
- Update to ISO 3166 Value Sets reverted
- UAT field length for Code System Concept Name, Code System Concept Preferred Designation, and Value Set Concept Preferred Designation increased from 256 to 550.
- Rest endpoints for MMGAT now available
- Rest endpoints for SDP now support count and history
- Increased the data type length for conceptname and SDOpreferreddesignation columns in the codesystemconcept table for all three phinvads databases.
- Removed two columns above from the index as it exceeded the maximum index entry of 900 bytes.



- Updated PHIN VADS User Guide

KNOWN ISSUES

- Known defects and issues that are currently in production still exist in this version of VADS and will be addressed in a later release.
- “Legacy text and Calendar Icon” Visible only on the Value Sets 1st Search page in the background.

Release 4.0.4

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 2/1/2018
- Updated RCMT search feature
- Updated ISO 3166 Value Sets
- Added a PHIN VADS User Guide

KNOWN ISSUES

- Known defects and issues that are currently in production still exist in this version of VADS and will be addressed in a later release.
- “Legacy text and Calendar Icon” Visible only on the Value Sets 1st Search page in the background.

Release 4.0.3.2

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 12/19/2017
- Updated code for UAF and VADS compatibility with new web server

KNOWN ISSUES

- Known defects and issues that are currently in production still exist in this version of VADS and will be addressed in a later release.
- “Legacy text and Calendar Icon” Visible only on the Value Sets 1st Search page in the background.

Release 4.0.3.1

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 09/22/2017
- Updated code for VADS compatibility with new web server



KNOWN ISSUES

- Known defects and issues that are currently in production still exist in this version of VADS and will be addressed in a later release.

Release 4.0.3

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Release date: 1/26/2017
- Content Release date: 01/26/2017
- Content Release Version: 2017.01.26
- Value Set download file updated to include version release comments
- Updated RSS feed for All Views and All Value sets
- Resolution of error when attempting to download files with long file names
- Restricted CDC links to HTTPS
- The detail view was updated to display the view notes field
- Removed Google RSS reader link from subscription page
- Removed Community of Practice link

KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A