



PHIN VOCABULARY ACCESS AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (VADS) 3.4.0 RELEASE NOTES

**Version 1.0
01/15/2016**

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 3.4.0 RELEASE

The purpose of the Release Notes is to communicate the content updates, application bug fixes, web service updates, and database updates for Release 3.3.9 of PHIN VADS. For future releases, the following sections will be updated, as well as the content and application release version numbers and release dates:

- Content Release Version: 2012.03.20
- Content Release Date: 03/21/2012
- Application Release Version: 3.4.0
- Application Release Date: 01/15/2016

3.1 CONTENT UPDATES

N/A

3.2 APPLICATION UPDATES

- Removed broken links.
- Implemented CDC standard template.

3.3 WEB SERVICE UPDATES

N/A.

3.4 DATABASE UPDATES

N/A

3.5 KNOWN ISSUES

N/A

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.

- Content Release Version: 2012.03.20
- Content Release Date: 03/21/2012
- Application Release Version: 3.3.9
- Application Release Date: 04/19/2012

3.1 CONTENT UPDATES

N/A

3.2 APPLICATION UPDATES

- Enhanced the code logic for to retire and unretired value set.
- Implemented the ability to retire and unretire value sets.

3.3 WEB SERVICE UPDATES

N/A.

3.4 DATABASE UPDATES

N/A

3.5 KNOWN ISSUES

N/A