

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

**4.0.6.3 TECHNOLOGY REFRESH
RELEASE NOTES**

09/26/2019



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 4.0.6.3 RELEASE

The purpose of the Release Notes is to communicate the content updates, application bug fixes, web service updates, and database updates for Release 4.0.6.3 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:

- Application Release Version: 4.0.6.3
- Application Release Date: 09/26/2019

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Application bug fixes

WEB SERVICE UPDATES

DATABASE UPDATES

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.

ENVIRONMENT UPDATE

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 4.0.6.2

- Application Release Version: 4.0.6.2
- Application Release Date: Not released

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Fixed broken PHIN Vocabulary Link

WEB SERVICE UPDATES

DATABASE UPDATES

KNOWN ISSUES

ENVIRONMENT UPDATE

Release 4.0.6.1 Tech Refresh



- Application Release Version: 4.0.6.1
- Application Release Date: 11/30/2018

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Added a Code System Update Calendar

WEB SERVICE UPDATES

DATABASE UPDATES

KNOWN ISSUES

ENVIRONMENT UPDATE

Release 4.0.6 Tech Refresh

- Application Release Version: 4.0.6
- Application 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

WEB SERVICE UPDATES

- The new REST API is migrating the existing CodeSystem and ValueSet vocabulary RESTful services. The existing services used the Jersey 1.19 framework that was a good fit for the Java 1.7 environment and Tomcat 7 server.
- 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. Therefore, Spring Boot MVC was the best framework we have used.
- URI for Rest Documentation now available: <https://phinvads.cdc.gov/rest2/docs/phinvads-api-guide.html>

DATABASE UPDATES

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.

ENVIRONMENT UPDATES

- Windows server updated to 2016 STD (App Server)



- Database server updated to Microsoft SQL Server 2016
- Apache Tomcat updated to version 9.0.10
- Java updated to version: 1.8.0_172-b11
- Spring Boot: 2.0.3 Release
- Microsoft Windows Server Version 1607 (IIS Server)
- Internet Information Services (IIS) version is 10.0.14393.0

Release 4.0.5

- Application Release Version: 4.0.5
- Application Release Date: 4/26/2018

CONTENT UPDATES

- Added a PHIN VADS User Guide

APPLICATION UPDATES

- 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.

WEB SERVICE UPDATES

- Rest endpoints for MMGAT now available
- Rest endpoints for SDP now support count and history

DATABASE UPDATES

- O&M has made the following changes
- Increased the data type length for conceptname and SDOpreferreddesignation columns in the codesystemconcept table for all three phinvads databases.
- Removed these two columns from the index as it exceeded the maximum index entry of 900 bytes.

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.

ENVIRONMENT UPDATES

Release 4.0.4

- Application Release Version: 4.0.4
- Application Release Date: 2/1/2018

CONTENT UPDATES



- Added a PHIN VADS User Guide

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Updated RCMT search feature
- Updated ISO 3166 Value Sets

WEB SERVICE UPDATES

- N/A

DATABASE UPDATES

- N/A

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.

ENVIRONMENT UPDATES

RELEASE 4.0.3.2

- Application Release Version: 4.0.3.2
- Application Release Date: 12/19/2017

CONTENT UPDATES

- N/A

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Updated code for UAF and VADS compatibility with Apache Tomcat Server 7.0.63

WEB SERVICE UPDATES

- N/A

DATABASE UPDATES

- N/A

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.

ENVIRONMENT UPDATES



- Application Server is updated from WebLogic (12.1.3) to Apache Tomcat 7.0.63.

RELEASE 4.0.3.1

- Application Release Version: 4.0.3.1
- Application Release Date: 09/22/2017

CONTENT UPDATES

- N/A

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Updated code for VADS compatibility with Apache Tomcat Server 7.0.63

WEB SERVICE UPDATES

- N/A

DATABASE UPDATES

- N/A

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.

ENVIRONMENT UPDATES

Application Server was updated from WebLogic (12.1.3) to Apache Tomcat 7.0.63.

RELEASE 4.0.3

- Content Release Version: 2017.01.26
- Content Release Date: 01/26/2017
- Application Release Version: 4.0.3
- Application Release Date: 1/26/2017

CONTENT UPDATES

- Removed Google RSS reader link from subscription page
- Removed Community of Practice link

APPLICATION UPDATES

- Value Set download file updated to include version release comments
- Updated RSS feed for All Views and All Valuesets
- Resolution of error when attempting to download files with long file names
- Restricted CDC links to HTTPS
- The details view was updated to display the view notes field

WEB SERVICE UPDATES

- N/A



DATABASE UPDATES

- N/A

KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

ENVIRONMENT UPDATES

- N/A