

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

**4.0.6.5 TECHNOLOGY REFRESH  
RELEASE NOTES**

12/01/2021



## 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.

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## 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 4.0.6.5 RELEASE

The purpose of the Release Notes is to communicate the content updates, application bug fixes, web service updates, and database updates for Release 4.0.6.5 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: 4.0.6.5
- Application Release Date: 12/01/2021

### CONTENT UPDATES

- N/A

### APPLICATION UPDATES

- Struts upgraded to 2.5.26 to address vulnerabilities CVE-2019-0230 and CVE-2019-0233

### WEB SERVICE UPDATES

- N/A

### DATABASE UPDATES

- N/A

### KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

### ENVIRONMENT UPDATE

- Apache Tomcat updated to version 9.0.54
- Apache HTTP Server updated to version: 2.4.51.0

## 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 NOTES FOR PHIN VADS 4.0.6.4 RELEASE

- Application Release Version: 4.0.6.4
- Application Release Date: 03/26/2021

### CONTENT UPDATES

- Updated Code System Update Calendar

### APPLICATION UPDATES

- Added New Code System, ISO 639-3 Language Codes

### WEB SERVICE UPDATES

- N/A

### DATABASE UPDATES

- N/A

### KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

### ENVIRONMENT UPDATE

- Windows server updated to 2016 STD (App Server)
- Database server updated to Microsoft SQL Server 2016
- Apache Tomcat updated to version 9.0.44
- Java updated to version: 1.8.0\_181
- Spring Boot: 2.0.3 Release
- Microsoft Windows Server Version 1607 (IIS Server)
- Internet Information Services (IIS) version is 10.0.14393

## Release 4.0.6.3

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

### APPLICATION UPDATES

- Application Bug Fixes

### WEB SERVICE UPDATES

- N/A



## DATABASE UPDATES

- N/A

## 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

- N/A

## 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

- N/A

## DATABASE UPDATES

- N/A

## KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

## ENVIROMENT UPDATE

- N/A

## 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

- N/A

## DATABASE UPDATES

- N/A

## KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

## ENVIRONMENT UPDATE

- N/A

## 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

- N/A

## 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

- 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

- 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

- N/A

## 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

- N/A

## 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 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

## WEB SERVICE UPDATES

- N/A

## DATABASE UPDATES

- N/A

## KNOWN ISSUES

- N/A

## ENVIRONMENT UPDATES

- N/A