

VAST Data Discussion

Wednesday, December 4, 2019 2:05 PM

- A year ago it was decided to use VAST as the source of truth for VHA data
- The folks who own VAST would be open to change, but we will need to ensure any changes don't break other systems that rely upon it
- Owner of VAST - program office within VHA - VSSC
 - Scott Dingman
- Do we want to include ALL fields currently served by Drupal, only the ones that require hierarchy configuration, or hierarchy plus some desired ones
 - **DECISION: Add Health systems and create hierarchy associations**
 - We do not yet need to ask VAST to be source of truth for facility short names (we'll continue to serve this from Drupal)
- Two asks of VSSC
 - Short Name
 - Creation of Health System/Medical Center in VAST and association of facilities and VISN to it
- Short Name
 - Drupal should not be source of truth
 - Should be included in discussion with VAST
- VSSC is well-aware Health System is not in VAST but knew the need would come one day, so they should be open to this workstream
- This scales beyond just VHA. The naming conventions will need to apply across VBA and NCA
- Maybe look to FMS conventions that were used? (max 30 character limit)
 - JHL can try to look
- JHL and Andy do not anticipate getting any pushback to support these specific fields
- We should call them customer short-name
- Dave M: Vet Centers in VAST may make up the discrepancy between VAST and VHA facility data set
 - There are 11 unclassified facilities plus mobile ones that show up in VAST - need to be investigated separately
- In the past a clinic has opened but it doesn't exist in VAST so there is no facility ID. They currently put an incorrect facility ID. This workflow will not work in Drupal.
- We can use subdomain to infer name = houston.va.gov --> VA Houston health care
- Usage of facility short name in URLs
 - **DECISION: JHL- We can use short name in URL for both clinics and VAMCs**
 - We will need to document the conventions

Next Steps

- Confirm clinics have opened before data was put in VAST in the last two months. If so, determine new workflow for when new clinics open and its data is not yet created in VAST (**Sundar**)
- Add Health System names to Jenny's data sheet in airtable (**Kevin Walsh**)
- Figure out the 120 or so discrepancy between data sources (**Dave M/Kevin Walsh**)
- Document short name convention and usage (**Mikki**)
- This team to regroup to review status of all the above w/o 12/16 (**Jeff**)
- Once there is agreement on the recommendations (all next steps above are complete), Dave M., Andy L., Jenny HL to have call with the VAST team to review requests to add Health Systems and their short names, then create hierarchy associations (**Dave M/JHL/Andy**)