Pharmacy Enterprise Customization System (PECS)

Release Notes

Version 3.0

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Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Information and Technology (OIT)
Product Development (PD)

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1. Introduction

The goal of the Pharmacy Reengineering (PRE) project is to replace the current M-based suite of pharmacy applications with a system that will better meet the current and expected business needs for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and address the ever-changing patient safety issues. PRE is intended to build on the work accomplished in 2006 with the development of the Pharmacy Enterprise Product System (PEPS) Proof of Concept (POC). The first phase, PRE V.0.5, implements enhanced order checking functionality utilizing Health*e*Vet (H*e*V) compatible architecture and First Databank (FDB) MedKnowledge[1] Application Program Interfaces (APIs) and database. The Pharmacy Enterprise Customization System (PECS) is a component of PRE that is intended to customize the First Databank MedKnowledge Framework COTS database in order to integrate VA custom records. A process to automatically update the standard and custom FDB data at the local database has also been provided.

In response to the Project Management Accountability System (PMAS) initiative instituted in the summer of 2009 that requires projects to complete an increment every six months, PRE now uses an Agile Development methodology, which focuses on developing a usable product at the end of small, iterative timeframes, with involvement and approval from the product owner at every iteration. Each small timeframe, called a sprint, ends with a workable product that is built on the previous efforts until the increment is complete and meets the PMAS schedule. Each increment produces agreed-upon functionality that is available to the entire user community upon National Deployment.

PECS v1.0, the initial version, was deployed to production in 2011 and remained in use until PECS v2.1 was deployed. PECS v2.0 was dedicated to the re-architecture of the application but was never deployed. PECS v2.1 implemented approved development tools (Spring MVC) and additional functionality. PECS v2.2 focused on implementing new features needed by the Pharmacy Benefits Management (PBM) team.

This Release Notes document provides a brief description of the new features and functions of PECS v3.0.

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[1] At the time of development, this product was known as FDB Drug Information Framework (commonly abbreviated as FDB-DIF). The references to FDB-DIF in this Release Notes document are necessary because that was the product that was installed with this release, and references to the new database (MedKnowledge) would be inaccurate, as it has a different schema.

2. Enhancements

PECS v3.0 provides both functional and architectural enhancements.

2.1. Functional Enhancements

Easy Search:

- Added a query that produces a report that lists the drug pairs and their associated interactions for a Dispensable Generic Drug or a Dispensable Drug.

- Re-factored Easy Search to allow for additional searches to be added easily.

- Added the ability to search for Dispensable Drugs along with Dispensable Generics.

- Easy Search now returns DOSE HIGH, DOSE HIGH UNITS, DOSE RATE HIGH and DOSE RATE HIGH UNITS for dose range queries.

Reports:

- Updated the Duplicate Therapy and Drug-Drug Interaction-Drug Pair FDB Comparison Reports to fix the issues that were found in the PECS v2.2 Initial Operating Capability.

Drug-Drug Interaction:

- Added the ability hover the mouse on an icon next to any required field with changes and see the corresponding changes.

- Added the ability to download an Excel report on the full history.

Drug Pairs:

- Added the ability hover the mouse on an icon next to any required field with changes and see the corresponding changes.

- Added the ability to download an Excel report on the full history.

- Added the data grid to the custom drug pairs section of the Drug Pair customization page.

- Added the ability to search Routed Generic drugs.

- Added the ability to add multiple Routed Generic Drug pairs.

Dose Range:

- Added the ability hover the mouse on an icon next to any required field with changes and see the corresponding changes.

- Added the ability to download an Excel report on the full history.

- Added Not to Exceed fields.

Duplicate Therapy:

- Added the ability hover the mouse on an icon next to any required field with changes and see the corresponding changes.

- Added the ability to download an Excel report on the full history.

- Added the ability to see the FDB record of a customized Duplicate Therapy record.

Professional Monograph:

- Added the ability hover the mouse on an icon next to any required field with changes and see the corresponding changes.

- Added the ability to download an Excel report on the full history.

- Added the ability to see the FDB record of a customized Professional Monograph record.

MOCHA Server:

- Dosing Lookup now returns the Not-To-Exceed fields.

- Order Checks now returns Not-To-Exceed fields when performing a Drug Dose Check.

2.2. Architectural Enhancements

- PECS updated from FDB-DIF v3.3 to FDB-DIF v3.3 API and Schema

- MOCHA Server updated from FDB-DIF v3.3 Application Program Interface (API) and Schema

- Updated the PECS Custom Update file to be compatible with FDB-DIF v3.3 API and Schema