



***Functional Independence
Measurement (FIM) Technical
Manual and Security Guide***



Version 1.0

May 2003

Department of Veterans Affairs

VistA System Design and Development

Revision History

Date	Description
2/26/2003	Updates from John Owczarzak
3/31/2003	Updates from John Owczarzak
4/14/2003	Updates from John Owczarzak
4/22/2003	Updates from John Owczarzak
5/02/2003	Updates from John Owczarzak

Introduction

The Functional Independence Measures (FIM) Version 1.0 provides an integration of FIM assessments into the Computerized Patient Record System (CPRS) and into the Functional Status and Outcomes Database (FSOD) at the Austin Automation Center (AAC). The FIM is an 18-item 7-level functional assessment designed to evaluate the amount of assistance required by a person with a disability to perform basic life activities safely and effectively. There are five types of FIM assessments: admission, goals, interim, discharge, and follow-up. The FIM assessments are used clinically to monitor the outcomes of rehabilitative care, as required by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Health Care Organizations (JCAHO) and the Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitative Facilities (CARF). According to VHA Directive 2000-16, medical centers are mandated to measure and track rehabilitation outcomes on all new stroke, lower-extremity amputees, and traumatic brain injury (TBI) patients using the FIM. Finally, the Performance Measurement Workgroup of the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office (VACO) approved a Network Director Performance Measure for rehabilitation for FY03 that requires the collection of FIM data. FIM Version 1.0 should greatly ease the burden placed on rehabilitation professionals in the field who are working to comply with the new performance measure.

Functional Independence provides a Graphic User Interface (GUI) front end programmed in Delphi to allow multiple clinicians to input FIM data for a given patient. This documentation will then be available in CPRS as a progress note with addendums and/or a completed consults. The GUI front end will also gather demographic data, as well as other required data by FSOD from VistA, eliminating the need for the clinician search of VistA for the information and re-enter for FIM. The FIM data will be placed in a VistA FileMan file for Health Level Seven (HL7) transmission to the FSOD at ACC.

Recommended Users

Information in this manual is technical in nature and is developed for the following individuals who are responsible for the installing, supporting, maintaining, and testing this software:

Information Resource Management (IRM)

Clinical Coordinators

National VistA Support (NVS)

Related Manual

Functional Independence Measurement (FIM) Installation Guide, V.1.0

Functional Independence Measurement (FIM) User Manual, V.1.0

Online Help

Instructions, procedures, and other information are available from the FIM online help file. You may access the help file by clicking on Help|Contents from the menu bar or by pressing the F1 key while you have any FIM screen dialog open.

Orientation

Screen Displays and Text Notes

The user's response in this manual is in bold type, but does not appear on the screen as bold. The bold part of the entry is the letter or letters that you must type so that the computer can identify the response. In most cases, you need only enter the first few letters. This increases speed and accuracy.

Every response you type must be followed by pressing the return key (or enter key for some keyboards). Whenever the return or enter key should be pressed, you will see the symbol <RET>. This symbol is not shown but is implied if there is bold input.

Within the roll and scroll part of the system, help frames may be accessed from most prompts by entering one, two, or three question marks (? , ?? , ???).

Within the examples representing actual terminal dialogues, the author may offer information about the dialogue. You can find this information enclosed in brackets, for example, [type ward name here], and will not appear on the screen.

Various symbols are used throughout the documentation to alert the reader to special information. The following table gives a description of each of these symbols:

Symbol	Description
	Used to inform the reader of general information including references to additional reading material. See example
!	Used to caution the reader to take special notice of critical information.

Table 1: Documentation Symbol Descriptions

Software and Manual Retrieval

The VistA FIM software files and Installation and Implementation Guide (i.e., RMIM1_0IG.PDF) are available on the following Office of Information Field Offices (OIFOs) ANONYMOUS SOFTWARE directories.

OIFO	FTP Address	Directory
Albany	ftp://fo-albany.med.va.gov	anonymous.software
Hines	ftp://fo-hines.med.va.gov	anonymous.software
Salt Lake City	ftp://fo-slc.med.va.gov	anonymous.software

VistA FIM software and documentation are distributed as the following set of files:

File Name	Contents	Retrieval Format	File Size
RMIM1_0.KID	KIDS build	ASCII	219,648 bytes
RMIM1_0.ZIP	FIM Executable	BINARY	1,121,792 bytes
RMIM1_0IG.pdf	Installation Guide	BINARY	1,350 bytes
RMIM1_0IG.doc			28,570 bytes
RMIM1_0TM.pdf	Technical Manual and Security Guide	BINARY	2,460 bytes
RMIM1_0TM.doc			17,530 bytes
RMIM1_0UM.pdf	Users Manual	BINARY	19,350 bytes
RMIM1_0UM.doc			29,130 bytes

VistA Intranet

Online Documentation for this product is available on the intranet at the following address: www.va.gov/vdl. This address takes you to the VistA Documentation Library (VDL), which has a listing of all the clinical software manuals. Click on the Clinical Case Registries link and it will take you to the FIM documentation.

Assumptions about the Reader

This manual is written with the assumption that the reader is familiar with the following:

- VistA computing environment
- (e.g., Kernel Installation and distribution System [KIDS])
- VA FileMan data structures and terminology
- Microsoft Windows
- M programming language

Implementation and Maintenance

Please refer to the Functional Independence Measures (FIM) Installation Guide for additional information about installing and implementing this software.

	<p>There are three ways to run the FIM.exe:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. If site chooses to pass parameters within the Tools menu of CPRS, Patient Selection will be controlled by CPRS only.*2. If site chooses to hang the software within the Tools menu of CPRS without passing parameters, Patient Selection will be controlled by FIM. FIM will run as a stand-alone.3. If site chooses to initiate FIM through other means (i.e. desktop shortcut), Patient Selection will be controlled by FIM. FIM will run as a stand-alone. <p>*If site chooses to launch FIM from the CPRS Tools menu using parameter passing (s=%SRV p=%PORT d=%DFN):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Patient Selection will be controlled by CPRS.2. No Patient Selection will be allowed in FIM3. If FIM has an active patient record open, and CPRS changes patient, users will be informed that all current input data will be ignored.4. FIM will shut down.
---	---

System Log In

The system will display the same Broker Server list that you see in CPRS if your site has server lists installed. If you wish to make changes to the list, use the ServerList program that was distributed with the RPCBroker.

Configuration File Management

The RMIM FIM SITE PARAMETERS file (#783.9) stores the system parameter data.

! The settings in this file are critical to the proper operation of the Functional Independence Measurement. Incorrect or missing setting will cause unpredictable results.

The following fields are provided in this file:

- .01 FACILITY NAME
- .02 HIGHEST CASE NUMBER
- .03 MAIL GROUP
- .04 FSOD NOTE TITLE
- .05 NON FSOD NOTE TITLE
- .06 CONSULT TITLE
- 10 FACILITY CODE (multiple)

The following is an explanation of the individual entries:

FACILITY NAME Name of your site

HIGHEST CASE NUMBER Internal use

MAIL GROUP Receives messages when a record that goes to FSOD gets created or edited

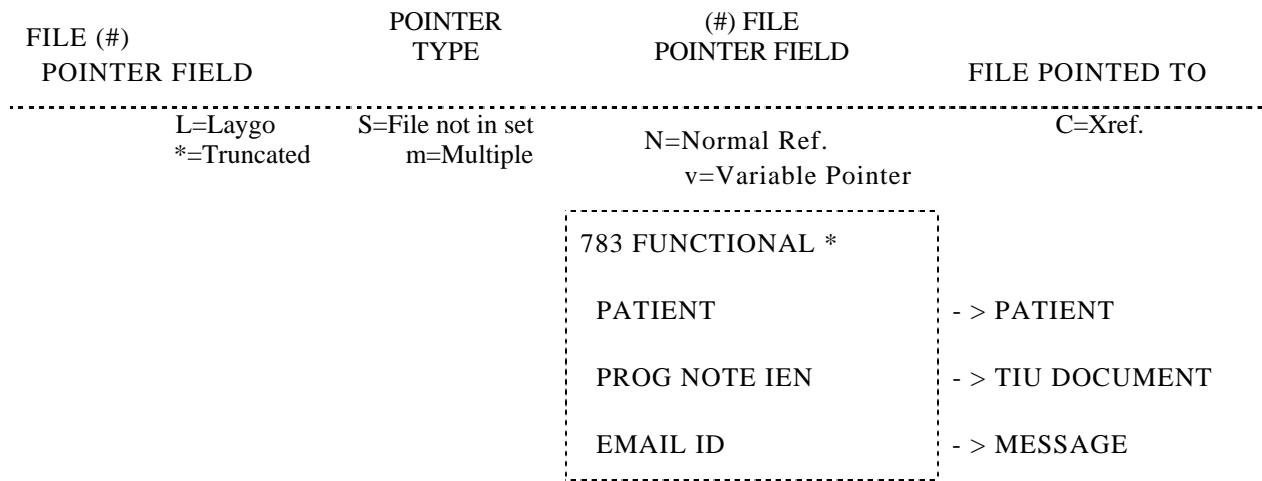
FSOD NOTE TITLE Used for progress notes when data is sent to FSOD

NON FSOD NOTE TITLE Used for progress note when data is not sent to FSOD

CONSULT TITLE Used for consults when data is sent to FSOD

FACILITY CODE (multiple) Code(s) assigned to your site by FSOD

File Diagram



Protocols

RMIM DRIVER

FIM – FSOD EVENT DRIVER

RMIM SUBSCRIBER

RMIM FIM – FSOD SUBSCRIBER

Files

The FIM.exe file is associated with the Functional Independence Measurement and must be placed on an End-User Workstation or a Consolidated Network Location. The following files are installed on the VistA server:

File	Description
Functional Independence Measurement Record file	This file holds all the information that is transmitted to Austin. This file is populated by the Functional Independence Measurement (FIM) Delphi template
Functional Independence Measurement Parameter file	Site Parameter for FIM.

Routines

Review the listing below to learn the routines installed on your site's VistA Server during the installation of RMIM V. 1.0. The first line of each routine briefly describes its general information.



You can use the Kernel First line Routine Print option to print a list containing the first line of each routine.

The following list contains the routines included in RMIM Version 1.0

Routine	Checksum Values
RMIMHL	5598302
RMIMRP	7242673
RMIMU	3354346
RMIMU1	2235473
RMIMV	8374421

Exported Options

	Option Name	Descriptions
RMIM EDIT SITE PARAMETER	FIM Site Parameter Edit	Option to edit the RMIM FIM SITE PARAMETER file (#783.9).
RMIM MAIL SERVER	RMIM Mail Server	Server option used to populate information in file #783 (RMIM FIM FSOD RECORD), fields AUSTIN STATUS (ACK or ERR) and ERROR DESCRIPTION (if one exists). This server option processes the AAC mail message back to site.
RMIM MAIL SERVER REPORT	Austin Error Report for FSOD Transmission	Report for coordinators to observe if Austin had an error processing an entry.
RMIM NIGHTLY TRANSMISSION	FIM to FSOD Transmission Task	This task should be scheduled nightly to send all edited cases to FSOD Austin.
RMIM REPORTS	FIM Repots	Menu to hold FIM coordinator reports.
RMIMCOORD MENU	FIM Coordinators Menu	Menu consisting of an option to edit the FIM Site parameter and Reports.
RMIMFIM	RMIM FIM Context version 1.0	CONTEXT needed to run the FIM template (Delphi form).
RMIMIT	FIM Retransmit all records to Austin	An option not on any menu. This option is for Information Management staff to use if all cases need to be re-transmitted to Austin FSOD.

	Option Name	Descriptions
RMIMXMIT	FIM to FSOD by Patient	Report sorted by patient to view all cases sent to FSOD and the status of that transmission.
RMIMXMIT DATE	FIM to FSOD by Transmission Date	Report sorted by transmission date for all cases transmitted to Austin.

XINDEX

XINDEX is a routine that produces a report called the VA Cross-Reference. This report is a technical and cross-reference listing of one routine or a group of routines. XINDEX provides a summary of errors and warnings for routines that do not comply with VA programming standards and conventions, a list of local and global variables and what routines they are referenced in, and a listing of internal and external routine calls.

XINDEX is invoked from programmer mode: D ^XINDEX.

When selecting routines, select RMIM*.

Callable Routines/Entry Points/APIs

There are no callable routines in this package. Files and databases should be included in your network saves.

Broker Context Menu Option Assignment

! If you have the @ sign, you will not need these Broker Menus to see these menus. We created options for each type of user to avoid us having to remove the @ sign from ourselves.

For Employees who can run FIM, assign the Broker Context Menu [RMIM FSOD] to these employees secondary menu.

External Interfaces

There is a unidirectional interface from the FIM to the AAC based upon HL7 V2.3.1 messaging standards.

The function of the message is to pass information relating to local FIM patient data to a centralized database.

A two-phased process is required for message transactions. VistA will send a batch HL7 message and receive a commit acknowledgment from the AAC over the same link. This tells VistA the message was received correctly. After the message has been processed, the AAC will connect back to the sending VistA site (using the standard listener on the port 5000) and send an application acknowledgment. See Appendix B for HL7 information

Exported Remote Procedure Calls (RPC)

RMIM distributes the following RPCs:

RPC Name	Line Tag	Routine
RMIM AUTHOR LOOKUP	AL	RMIMR
RMIM CHECK DUPLICATE	DUP	RMIMV
RMIM CONSULT LIST	CON	RMIMV
RMIM CONVERT DATE	DTFMT	RMIMRP
RMIM FIM PARAMETER	PRM	RMIMRP
RMIM GET CASES	LC	RMIMRP
RMIM GET DFN	DFN	RMIMRP
RMIM GET FORM	FRM	RMIMRP
RMIM GET PATIENT DME	DME	RMIMRP
RMIM GET SELECTED CASE	GC	RMIMRP
RMIM GET USER INFO	DUZ	RMIMRP
RMIM LOCATION LOOKUP	LL	RMIMRP
RMIM LOCK PATIENT	PT L	RMIMRP
RMIM PATIENT INFO	PI	RMIMRP

RPC Name	Line Tag	Routine
RMIM PATIENT LOOKUP	PL	RMIMRP
RMIM RESTRICTED RECORD	RRN	RMIMRP
RMIM SAVE FSOD	SAV	RMIMRP
RMIM SEND EMAIL	XM	RMIMRP
RMIM VERSION	RPC	RMIMVP

External Relations

Before installing FIM, make sure that your system includes the following VistA software applications and versions (those listed or higher).

Application Name	Minimum Version
Kernel	V. 8
Kernel Toolkit	V. 7.3
VA FileMan	V. 22
RPC Broker	V. 1.1
TIU	V.1.0
OERR	V.3.0
HL7	V.1.6
MailMan	V.8

Data Base Agreements (DBIAs)

The following is a list of DBIAs requested for FIM:

Name	DBIA Number
ORQQCN LIST	1671
ORWD DT	1824
ORWU DT	3363
TIU SIGN RECORD	1790
TIU UPDATE RECORD	1799

Name	DBIA Number
TIU REQUIRES COSIGNATURE	1800
TIU CREATE ADDENDUM RECORD	1805

Software Security

The Functional Independence Measures transmits data to the national database through the VA network; this network has security protection in place. Local coordinators will have their profile within Computerized Patient Record System (CPRS) amended by a local IRM to allow them to have access to the local FIM functionality. No other users will be able to access the local FIM unless they are set up in this method. All patients Social Security Numbers (SSN) and names are encrypted before transmission to an agreed upon standard. The fields sent to the AAC become readable upon receipt of the data, however only high-level users have access to the unencrypted fields when viewing the national database.

Mail Groups

The FIM Coordinators Mail Group RMIM FSOD is used for communication between users of the FIM template and the Coordinators. When a record that goes to FSOD gets created or edited, the FIM template will send a message to this group.

The RMIM FSOD TRANSMISSION Mail Group is used for the transmission of FIM data to the FSOD database in Austin. No members need to be in this group. The mail group should have REMOTE MEMBER: XXX@Q-FIM.MED.VA.GOV, which was created by the FIM install.

The RMIM MAIL SERVER mail group may be used in the future for better communication between Facility System and the Austin Automation Center in regards to ACK or ERR status. No members need to be in this group.

Remote Systems

As a Broker aware product written in Delphi 5, FIM connects to the M server from a client workstation. This connection is subject to authentication, as any normal logon requires. If the user is present in the new person file, successfully logs on to the Vista Server, and has the RMIMFIM option, they will have the ability to run the application.

The Functional Independence Measurement can be anywhere on the VA's TCP/IP network.

Encryption is used when a user's access, verify, and electronic signature codes are sent from the client to the server.

See RPC Broker V. 1.1 Technical Manual page 31-32 for further information on RPC Broker's security features.

Archiving and Purging

There are no archiving or purging functions necessary with FIM.

Contingency Planning

Sites utilizing the Functional Independence Measurement software should develop a local contingency plan to be used in the event of product problems in a live environment. The facility contingency plan must identify the procedure for maintaining functionality provided by this package in the event of system outage. Field station Information Security Officers (ISOs) may obtain assistance from their Regional Information Security Officer (RISO).

Interfacing Software

The interface software is HL7. This will transmit FIM data to the AAC.

Security Keys

There are two keys associated with this software.

1. RMIM COORD

This key is given to a user(s) who coordinate the Functional Status and Outcomes Database (FSOD) at the Austin Automation Center (AAC). The key allows the FSOD coordinator to edit any part of the FIM record within the template prior to sending to Austin.

2. RMIM FSOD

This key is given to user(s) who are allowed to send updates via the FIM Template to the Functional Status and Outcomes Database (FSOD) at the Austin Automation Center (AAC).

Equipment

Default PC Printer:

Reports require that the personal computer have a valid default printer specified. See Microsoft operating system documentation for details on setting up default printers.

Appendix A - Databases

RMIM FIM FSOD RECORD LOCAL FIM DATABASE		FSOD FSOD DATABASE	
NUMBER	LABEL	LABEL	
0.01	ENTRY NUMBER		n/a
0.02	SITE CASE NUMBER		n/a
0.03	PATIENT		n/a
0.04	PT ID		PATIENT_CODE/PATIENT_ID
	n/a		FIRST_NAME
	n/a		LAST_NAME
	n/a		MIDDLE_INITIAL
0.05	PT DOB		BIRTH_DATE
0.06	FACILITY CODE		FACILITY_ID
0.07	TYPE OF CARE		CARE_CLASS_CODE
0.08	IMPAIRMENT GROUP		IMPAIRMENT_CODE
0.09	ONSET DATE		ONSET_DATE
0.1	ADMIT DATE		ADMIT_DATE
0.11	DSCHG DATE		DISCHARGE_DATE
	n/a		THERAPY_START_DATE
	n/a		THERAPY_END_DATE
0.12	EDIT DATE		ASSESSMENT_DATE
0.13	XMIT DATE		n/a

RMIM FIM FSOD RECORD LOCAL FIM DATABASE		FSOD FSOD DATABASE
NUMBER	LABEL	LABEL
0.14	OP CODE	n/a
0.15	READY FOR XMIT	n/a
0.16	PROG NOTE IEN	n/a
0.17	EMAIL ID	n/a
0.2	AUSTIN STATUS	n/a
0.21	ERROR DESCRIPTION	n/a
1.01	STREET	STREET
1.02	CITY	CITY
1.03	STATE	STATE
1.04	POSTAL CODE	POSTAL_CODE
1.05	TELEPHONE	TELEPHONE
1.06	GENDER CODE	GENDER_CODE
1.07	ETHNIC CODE	ETHNICITY_CODE
1.08	MARITAL CODE	MARITAL_CODE
1.09	ACTIVE MIL IND	ACTIVE_MIL_IND
2.01	ADMIT CLASS	ADMIT_CLASS_CODE
2.03	INTERRUPTION CODE	INTERRUPTION_CODE
2.04	TRANSFER 1 DATE	TRANSFER1_DATE
2.05	RETURN 1 DATE	RETURN1_DATE
2.06	TRANSFER 2 DATE	TRANSFER2_DATE
2.07	RETURN 2 DATE	RETURN2_DATE
2.08	TRANSFER 3 DATE	TRANSFER3_DATE
2.09	RETURN 3 DATE	RETURN3_DATE
2.1	ETIOLOGIC CODE	ETIOLOGIC_CODE
2.11	ASIA CODE	ASIA_CODE
3.01	DIAGNOSIS1	DIAGNOSIS1_CODE

RMIM FIM FSOD RECORD LOCAL FIM DATABASE			FSOD FSOD DATABASE
NUMBER	LABEL		LABEL
3.02	DIAGNOSIS2		DIAGNOSIS2_CODE
3.03	DIAGNOSIS3		DIAGNOSIS3_CODE
3.04	DIAGNOSIS4		DIAGNOSIS4_CODE
3.05	DIAGNOSIS5		DIAGNOSIS5_CODE
3.06	DIAGNOSIS6		DIAGNOSIS6_CODE
3.07	DIAGNOSIS7		DIAGNOSIS7_CODE
4.01	A EAT		EAT_FIM
4.02	A GROOM		GROOM_FIM
4.03	A BATH		BATH_FIM
4.04	A DRESS UP		DRESS_UP_FIM
4.05	A DRESS LO		DRESS_LO_FIM
4.06	A TOILET		TOILET_FIM
4.07	A BLADDER		BLADDER_FIM
4.08	A BOWEL		BOWEL_FIM
4.09	A TRANS CHAIR		TRANS_CHAIR_FIM
4.1	A TRANS TOILET		TRANS_TOILET_FIM
4.11	A TRANS TUB		TRANS_TUB_FIM
4.12	A LOCOM WALK		LOCOM_WALK_FIM
4.13	A LOCOM STAIR		LOCOM_STAIR_FIM
4.14	A COMPREHEND		COMPREHEND_FIM
4.15	A EXPRESS		EXPRESS_FIM
4.16	A INTERACT		INTERACT_FIM
4.17	A PROBLEM		PROBLEM_FIM
4.18	A MEMORY		MEMORY_FIM
4.19	A WALK MODE		WALK_MODE
4.2	A COMPREHEND		COMPREHEND_MODE

RMIM FIM FSOD RECORD LOCAL FIM DATABASE		FSOD FSOD DATABASE	
NUMBER	LABEL	LABEL	
	MODE		
4.21	A EXPRESS MODE		EXPRESS_MODE
5.01	D EAT		
5.02	D GROOM		
5.03	D BATH		
5.04	D DRESS UP		
5.05	D DRESS LO		The FIM fields repeat for each type of assessment
5.06	D TOILET		
5.07	D BLADDER		
5.08	D BOWEL		
5.09	D TRANS CHAIR		
5.1	D TRANS TOILET		
5.11	D TRANS TUB		
5.12	D LOCOM WALK		
5.13	D LOCOM STAIR		
5.14	D COMPREHEND		
5.15	D EXPRESS		
5.16	D INTERACT		
5.17	D PROBLEM		
5.18	D MEMORY		
5.19	D WALK MODE		
	D COMPREHEND		
5.2	MODE		
5.21	D EXPRESS MODE		
6.01	I EAT		
6.02	I GROOM		

RMIM FIM FSOD RECORD LOCAL FIM DATABASE		FSOD FSOD DATABASE	
NUMBER	LABEL		LABEL
6.03	I BATH		
6.04	I DRESS UP		
6.05	I DRESS LO		
6.06	I TOILET		
6.07	I BLADDER		
6.08	I BOWEL		
6.09	I TRANS CHAIR		
6.1	I TRANS TOILET		
6.11	I TRANS TUB		
6.12	I LOCOM WALK		
6.13	I LOCOM STAIR		
6.14	I COMPREHEND		
6.15	I EXPRESS		
6.16	I INTERACT		
6.17	I PROBLEM		
6.18	I MEMORY		
6.19	I WALK MODE		
6.2	I COMPREHEND MODE		
6.21	I EXPRESS MODE		
7.01	F EAT		
7.02	F GROOM		
7.03	F BATH		
7.04	F DRESS UP		
7.05	F DRESS LO		
7.06	F TOILET		

RMIM FIM FSOD RECORD LOCAL FIM DATABASE		FSOD FSOD DATABASE
NUMBER	LABEL	LABEL
7.07	F BLADDER	
7.08	F BOWEL	
7.09	F TRANS CHAIR	
7.1	F TRANS TOILET	
7.11	F TRANS TUB	
7.12	F LOCOM WALK	
7.13	F LOCOM STAIR	
7.14	F COMPREHEND	
7.15	F EXPRESS	
7.16	F INTERACT	
7.17	F PROBLEM	
7.18	F MEMORY	
7.19	F WALK MODE	
	F COMPREHEND	
7.2	MODE	
7.21	F EXPRESS MODE	
8.01	G EAT	EAT_FIM_GOAL
8.02	G GROOM	GROOM_FIM_GOAL
8.03	G BATH	BATH_FIM_GOAL
8.04	G DRESS UP	DRESS_UP_FIM_GOAL
8.05	G DRESS LO	DRESS_LO_FIM_GOAL
8.06	G TOILET	TOILET_FIM_GOAL
8.07	G BLADDER	BLADDER_FIM_GOAL
8.08	G BOWEL	BOWEL_FIM_GOAL
8.09	G TRANS CHAIR	TRANS_CHAIR_FIM_GOAL
8.1	G TRANS TOILET	TRANS_TOILET_FIM_GOAL

RMIM FIM FSOD RECORD LOCAL FIM DATABASE		FSOD FSOD DATABASE	
NUMBER	LABEL		LABEL
8.11	G TRANS TUB		TRANS_TUB_FIM_GOAL
8.12	G LOCOM WALK		LOCOM_WALK_FIM_GOAL
8.13	G LOCOM STAIR		LOCOM_STAIR_FIM_GOAL
8.14	G COMPREHEND		COMPREHEND_FIM_GOAL
8.15	G EXPRESS		EXPRESS_FIM_GOAL
8.16	G INTERACT		INTERACT_FIM_GOAL
8.17	G PROBLEM		PROBLEM_FIM_GOAL
8.18	G MEMORY		MEMORY_FIM_GOAL
8.19	G WALK MODE		
8.2	G COMPREHEND MODE		
8.21	G EXPRESS MODE		

Appendix B – Health Level Seven (HL7) Specifications

Introduction

This document describes a unidirectional interface from the VistA FIM database to the FSOD database based upon HL7 V2.3.1 messaging standards.

General Specifications

Communication Protocol

The HL7 protocol defines only the seventh level of the Open System Interconnect (OSI) Model. This is the application level. Levels one through six involve primarily communication protocols.

The TCP/IP network standard will be used to support the Transport layer and Network layer of the interface. The Minimal Lower Layer Protocol (MLLP) will be used to support the Presentation layer protocol for the interface and will encapsulate the HL7 V2.3.1 messages with start and end markers.

One link only will be required for message transactions. VistA will send a batch HL7 message and receive acknowledgments over the same link.

Application Processing Rules

The HL7 protocol itself describes the basic rules for application processing by the sending and receiving systems. Information contained in the protocol will not be repeated here.

HL7 Concepts and Definitions

Messages

A message is the atomic unit of data transferred between systems. It is comprised of a group of segments in a defined sequence. Each message has a message type that defines its purpose. A three-character code contained within each message identifies its type.

The real-world event that initiates an exchange of messages is called a trigger event. These codes represent values such as a patient is admitted or an order event occurred. There is a one-to-many relationship between message types and trigger event codes. The same trigger event code may not be associated with more than one message type.

Segments

A segment is a logical grouping of data fields. Segments of a message may be required or optional. They may occur only once in a message or they may be allowed to repeat.

Each segment is given a name. Each segment is identified by a unique three-character code known as the Segment ID.

Fields

A field is a string of characters. HL7 does not care how systems actually store data within an application. When fields are transmitted, they are sent as character strings.

Except where noted, HL7 data fields may take on the null value. Sending the null value, which is transmitted as two double quote marks (""), is different from omitting an optional data field. The difference appears when the contents of a message will be used to update a record in a database rather than create a new one. If no value is sent, (i.e., it is omitted) the old value should remain unchanged. If the null value is sent, the old value should be changed to null. Please note that at this time there will be no null values sent.

Position (sequence within the segment)

Defines the ordinal position of the data field within the segment. This number is used to refer to the data field in the text comments that follow the segment definition table. In the segment attribute tables, this information is in a column labeled SEQ.

Maximum length

Defines the maximum number of characters that one occurrence of the data field may occupy. It is calculated to include the component and sub component separators.

Because the maximum length is that of a single occurrence, the repetition separator is not included in calculating the maximum length. In the segment attribute tables, this information is in a column labeled LEN.

Data type

Defines the restrictions on the contents of the data field. There are a number of data types defined by HL7. The data types used in this specification are described in the next section titled Data Types. This information is in a column labeled DT in the segment attribute tables.

Optionality

Defines whether the field is required, optional, or conditional in a segment. The designations are:

Value	Description
B	Left in for backward compatibility with previous versions of HL7. The field definitions following the segment attribute table should denote the optionality of the field for prior versions.
C	Conditional on the trigger event, or some other field.
O	Optional
R	Required
X	Not used with this trigger event

In the segment attribute tables, this information is in a column labeled OPT.

Repetition

Defines whether the field may repeat. The designations are:

Value	Description
N	No repetition permitted
Y	The field may repeat an indefinite or site-determined number of times
Y/Integer	The field may repeat up to the number specified by the integer

Each occurrence may contain the number of characters specified by the field's maximum length. In the segment attribute tables, this information is in a column labeled RP/#.

Message Delimiters

In constructing a message certain special characters are used. They are the segment terminator, the field separator, the component separator, subcomponent separator, repetition separator, and escape character.

The segment terminator is always a carriage return (in ASCII, a hex 0D).

The other delimiters are defined in the MSH segment, with the field delimiter in the 4th character position, and the other delimiters occurring as in the field called Encoding Characters, which is the first field after the segment ID. The delimiter values used in the MSH segment are the delimiter values used throughout the entire message.

The Clinical Registries interface uses the HL7 standard values, found in the table below:

Delimiter	Suggested Value	Encoding Character Position	Usage
Segment Terminator	<cr> hex 0D		Terminates a segment record. Implementers cannot change this value.
Field Separator	I		Separates 2 adjacent data fields within a segment. It also separates the segment ID from the 1st data field in each segment

Delimiter	Suggested Value	Encoding Character Position	Usage
Component Separator	^	1	Separates 2 adjacent components of data fields, where allowed
Subcomponent Separator	&	2	Separates adjacent subcomponents of data fields, where allowed. If there are no subcomponents, it may be omitted
Repetition Separator	~	3	Separates multiple occurrences of a field, where allowed
Escape Character	\	4	Escape Character for use with any field represented by an ST, TX or FT data type, or for use with the data component of the ED data type.

Data Types

Data Type Category/ Data type	Data Type Name	Notes/Format
Alphanumeric		
ST	String	
TX	Text data	
FT	Formatted text	
Numerical		
CQ	Composite quantity with units	<quantity (NM)> ^ <units (CE)>
NM	Numeric	
SI	Sequence ID	
Identifier		
ID	Coded values for HL7 tables	
IS	Coded value for user-defined	

Data Type Category/ Data type	Data Type Name	Notes/Format
	tables	
HD	Hierachic designator	<namespace ID (IS)> ^ <universal ID (ST)> ^ <universal ID type (ID)> Used only as part of EI and other data types.
EI	Entity identifier	<entity identifier (ST)> ^ <namespace ID (IS)> ^ <universal ID (ST)> ^ <universal ID type (ID)>
PL	Person location	<point of care (IS)> ^ <room (IS)> ^ <bed (IS)> ^ <facility (HD)> ^ <location status (IS)> ^ <person location type (IS)> ^ <building (IS)> ^ <floor (IS)> ^ <location description (ST)>
PT	Processing type	<processing ID (ID)> ^ <processing mode (ID)>
Date/Time		
DT	Date	YYYY[MM[DD]]
TM	Time	HH[MM[SS[.S[S[S[S]]]]]][+/-ZZZZ]
TS	Time stamp	YYYY[MM[DD[HHMM[SS[.S[S[S[S]]]]]]][+/-ZZZZ] ^ <degree of precision>
Code Values		
CE	Coded element	<identifier (ST)> ^ <text (ST)> ^ <name of coding system (ST)> ^ <alternate identifier (ST)> ^ <alternate text (ST)> ^ <name of alternate coding system (ST)>
CX	Extended composite ID with check digit	<ID (ST)> ^ <check digit (ST)> ^ <code identifying the check digit scheme employed (ID)> ^ <assigning authority (HD)> ^ <identifier type code (IS)> ^ <assigning facility (HD)

Data Type Category/ Data type	Data Type Name	Notes/Format
XCN	Extended composite ID number and name	In Version 2.3, use instead of the CN data type. <ID number (ST)> ^ <family name (ST)> & <last_name_prefix (ST) ^ <given name (ST)> ^ <middle initial or name (ST)> ^ <suffix (e.g., JR or III) (ST)> ^ <prefix (e.g., DR) (ST)> ^ <degree (e.g., MD) (ST)> ^ <source table (IS)> ^ <assigning authority (HD)> ^ <name type code (ID)> ^ <identifier check digit (ST)> ^ <code identifying the check digit scheme employed (ID)> ^ <identifier type code (IS)> ^ <assigning facility (HD)> ^ <name representation code (ID)>
Generic		
CM	Composite	No new CM's are allowed after HL7 Version 2.2. Hence there are no new CM's in Version 2.3.
Demographics		
XAD	Extended address	In Version 2.3, replaces the AD data type. <street address (ST)> ^ <other designation (ST)> ^ <city (ST)> ^ <state or province (ST)> ^ <zip or postal code (ST)> ^ <country (ID)> ^ <address type (ID)> ^ <other geographic designation (ST)> ^ <county/parish code (IS)> ^ <census tract (IS)> ^ <address representation code (ID)>
XPN	Extended person name	In Version 2.3, replaces the PN data type. <family name (ST)> ^ <given name (ST)> & <last_name_prefix (ST)> ^ <middle initial or name (ST)> ^ <suffix (e.g., JR or III) (ST)> ^ <prefix (e.g., DR) (ST)> ^ <degree (e.g., MD) (IS)> ^ <name type code (ID) > ^ <name representation code (ID)>

Data Type Category/ Data type	Data Type Name	Notes/Format
XON	Extended composite name and ID number for organizations	<organization name (ST)> ^ <organization name type code (IS)> ^ <ID number (NM)> ^ <check digit (NM)> ^ <code identifying the check digit scheme employed (ID)> ^ <assigning authority (HD)> ^ <identifier type code (IS)> ^ <assigning facility ID (HD)> ^ <name representation code (ID)>
XTN	Extended telecommunications number	In Version 2.3, replaces the TN data type. [NNN] [(999)]999-9999 [X99999] [B99999] [C any text] ^ <telecommunication use code (ID)> ^ <telecommunication equipment type (ID)> ^ <email address (ST)> ^ <country code (NM)> ^ <area/city code (NM)> ^ <phone number (NM)> ^ <extension (NM)> ^ <any text (ST)>
Time Series:		
TQ	Timing/quantity	For timing/quantity specifications for orders, see Chapter 4, Section 4.4. <quantity (CQ)> ^ <interval (*)> ^ <duration (*)> ^ <start date/time (TS)> ^ <end date/time (TS)> ^ <priority (ST)> ^ <condition (ST)> ^ <text (TX)> ^ <conjunction (ID)> ^ <order sequencing (*)> ^ <performance duration (CE)> ^ <total occurrences (NM)>

Use of Escape Sequences in Text Fields

When a field of type TX, FT, or CF is being encoded, the escape character may be used to signal certain special characteristics of portions of the text field. The escape character is whatever display ASCII character is specified in the Escape Character component of *MSH-2-encoding characters*.

The character \ must be used to represent the character so designated in a message. An escape sequence consists of the escape character followed by an escape code ID of one character, and another occurrence of the escape character. The following escape sequences are used by the Hepatitis C HL7 interface:

Value	Description
\S\	Component separator
\T\	Subcomponent separator
\R\	Repetition separator
\E\	Escape character

Specification Conventions

Segment Tables Definitions

Column	Description
SEQ	Ordinal position of the data field within the segment
LEN	Maximum length of a field
DT	HL7 data type
OPT	Required, Optional, Conditional, or Backward compatible
RP/#	Repeating field (Y/N/#)
ELEMENT NAME	Field description
COMMENTS	Set to 'See Notes', if the field is used in this interface

HL7 Messages

HL7 Message Definition

The message is sent as a batch message. Each patient will be transmitted as an individual record.

```
ORU          Observational Results (Unsolicited)
MSH          Message Header
PID          Patient Identification
[PV1]        Patient Visit
{NTE}        Notes and Comments
{
OBR          Observations Report ID
{
[OBX]        Observation/Result
}
```

ORU – Unsolicited transmission of an observation (Event type R01)

The function of this message is to initiate the transmission of information about a report. With the observation segment (OBX), and the OBR, one can construct almost any clinical report as a three-level hierarchy, with the PID segment at the upper level, an order segment (OBR) at the next level and one or more observation segments (OBX) at the bottom. One result segment (OBX) is transmitted for each component of a diagnostic report, such as a series of Diagnosis codes or an Admission's scores.

Segment	Order Message	HL7 Chapter
MSH	Message header	2
PID	Patient identification	3

Segment	Order Message	HL7 Chapter
OBR	Order detail	4
OBX	Observation/Result	7

HL7 Segment Definitions and Specifics

MSH Attributes

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP /#	ELEMENT NAME	COMMENTS
1	1	ST	R		Field Separator	See Notes
2	4	ST	R		Encoding Characters	See Notes
3	180	HD	O		Sending Application	See Notes
4	180	HD	O		Sending Facility	See Notes
5	180	HD	O		Receiving Application	See Notes
6	180	HD	O		Receiving Facility	See Notes
7	26	TS	O		Date/Time Of Message	See Notes
8	40	ST	O		Security	NV
9	7	C M	R		Message Type	See Notes
10	20	ST	R		Message Control ID	See Notes
11	3	PT	R		Processing ID	See Notes
12	8	ID	R		Version ID	See Notes
13	15	N M	O		Sequence Number	NV
14	180	ST	O		Continuation Pointer	NV
15	2	ID	O		Accept Acknowledgment Type	NV
16	2	ID	O		Application Acknowledgment Type	NV
17	2	ID	O		Country Code	See Notes
18	6	ID	O	Y/ 3	Character Set	NV

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP /#	ELEMENT NAME	COMMENTS
19	60	CE	O		Principal Language Of Message	NV

MSH field definitions

MSH – Field Separator <1>/<1>/<ST>

Definition: This field contains the separator between the segment ID and the first real field, *MSH-2-encoding characters*. As such, it serves as the separator and defines the character to be used as a separator for the rest of the message. Recommended value is |, (ASCII 124).

MSH – Encoding Characters <2>/<4>/<ST>

Definition: This field contains the four characters in the following order: the component separator, repetition separator, escape character, and subcomponent separator. Recommended values are ^~\&, (ASCII 94, 126, 92, and 38, respectively).

MSH – Sending Application <3>/<180>/<HD>

Definition: This field uniquely identifies the sending application among all other applications within the network enterprise. The network enterprise consists of all those applications that participate in the exchange of HL7 messages within the enterprise. Entirely site defined.

MSH – Sending Facility <4>/<180>/<HD>

Definition: This field contains the address of one of several occurrences of the same application within the sending system. Entirely user-defined.

MSH – Receiving Application <5>/<180>/<HD>

Definition: This field uniquely identifies the receiving application among all other applications within the network enterprise. The network enterprise consists of all those applications that participate in the exchange of HL7 messages within the enterprise. Entirely site-defined.

MSH – Receiving Facility <6>/<180>/<HD>

Definition: This field identifies the receiving application among multiple identical instances of the application running on behalf of different organizations. See comments: *MSH-4-sending facility*. Entirely site-defined.

MSH – Date/Time Of Message <7>/<26>/<TS>

Definition: This field contains the date/time that the sending system created the message. If the time zone is specified, it will be used throughout the message as the default time zone.

Format: YYYYYMMDDHHMMSS

MSH – Message Type <9>/<7>/<CM>

Components: <message type (ID)> ^ <trigger event (ID)>

Definition: This field contains the message type and trigger event for the message.

VistA sends an ORM message type with the trigger event O01 for orders from Radiology/Nuclear Medicine and TIU. An ORU message type with the trigger event R01 for unsolicited observation results is sent to VistA.

MSH – Message Control ID <10>/<20>/<ST>

Definition: This field contains a number or other identifier that uniquely identifies the message. The receiving system echoes this ID back to the sending system in the Message acknowledgment segment (MSA).

MSH – Processing ID <11>/<3>/<PT>

Components: <processing ID (ID)> ^ <processing mode (ID)>

Definition: This field identifies the status of the interface. The processing mode component is not used.

Value	Description
P	Production
D	Debugging
T	Training

MSH – Version ID <12>/<8>/<ID>

Definition: This field is matched by the receiving system to its own version to be sure the message will be interpreted correctly.

The VistA TIU Connection interface currently uses version 2.3 of the HL7 standard. However, future versions will be implemented as needed.

MSH – Country Code <17>/<2>/<ID>

Definition: This field contains the country of origin for the message.

Example:

MSH|^~\&|RMIM SITE|FIM|RMIM AAC|FSOD|20021009123935-
0500||ORU^R01^ORU_R01|54823249|T|2.4|||NE|AL|US

PID Attributes

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP /#	ELEMENT NAME	COMMENTS
1	4	SI	O		Set ID - Patient ID	NV
2	20	CX	O		Patient ID (External ID)	See Notes
3	20	CX	R	Y	Patient ID (Internal ID)	See Notes
4	20	CX	O	Y	Alternate Patient ID - PID	See Notes
5	48	XPN	R	Y	Patient Name	See Notes
6	48	XPN	O		Mother's Maiden Name	NV
7	26	TS	O		Date/Time of Birth	See Notes
8	1	IS	O		Sex	See Notes
9	48	XPN	O	Y	Patient Alias	NV
10	1	IS	O		Race	See Notes
11	106	XAD	O	Y	Patient Address	See Notes
12	4	IS	B		County Code	NV
13	40	XTN	O	Y	Phone Number - Home	See Notes
14	40	XTN	O	Y	Phone Number - Business	NV
15	60	CE	O		Primary Language	NV
16	1	IS	O		Marital Status	See Notes
17	3	IS	O		Religion	NV
18	20	CX	O		Patient Account Number	NV
19	16	ST	O		SSN - Patient	See Notes
20	25	DLN	O		Driver's License Number - Patient	NV
21	20	CX	O	Y	Mother's Identifier	NV

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP /#	ELEMENT NAME	COMMENTS
22	3	IS	O		Ethnic Group	NV
23	60	ST	O		Birth Place	NV
24	2	ID	O		Multiple Birth Indicator	NV
25	2	NM	O		Birth Order	NV
26	4	IS	O	Y	Citizenship	NV
27	60	CE	O		Veterans Military Status	See Notes
28	80	CE	O		Nationality	NV
29	26	TS	O		Patient Death Date and Time	NV
30	1	ID	O		Patient Death Indicator	NV

PID field definitions

PID – Patient ID (external ID) <2>/<20>/<CX>

Components: <ID (ST)> ^ <check digit (ST)> ^ <code identifying the check digit scheme employed (ID)>

Definition: When the patient is from another institution, outside office, etc., the identifier used by that institution can be shown in this field. This contains the patient SSN.

PID – Patient ID (internal ID) <3>/<20>/<CX>

Components: <ID (ST)> ^ <check digit (ST)> ^ <code identifying the check digit scheme employed (ID)>

Definition: This field contains the primary identifier, or other identifiers used by the facility to identify a patient uniquely. This will be VistA DFN.

PID – Alternate patient ID <4>/<20>/<CX>

Components: <ID (ST)> ^ <check digit (ST)> ^ <code identifying the check digit scheme employed (ID)> ^ <assigning authority (HD)> ^ <identifier type code (IS)> ^ <assigning facility (HD)>

Definition: This field contains the IEN and local Case number.

PID – Patient Name <5>/<48>/<XPN>

Components: <family name (ST)> ^ <given name (ST)> ^ <middle initial or name (ST)>

Definition: This field contains the legal name of the patient.

PID – Date/Time of Birth <7>/<26>/<TS>

Definition: This field contains the patient's date of birth.

Format:

YYYYMMDD

PID – Sex <8>/<1>/<IS>

Definition: This field contains the patient's sex.

Value	Description
2	Female
1	Male

PID – Race <10>/<1>/<IS>

Definition: This field refers to the patient's ethnic code.

1-White

2-Black

3-Asian

4-Native American

5-Other

6-Hispanic

PID – Patient Address <11>/<106>/<XAD>

Components: <street address (ST)> ^ <other designation (ST)> ^ <city (ST)> ^ <state or province (ST)> ^ <zip or postal code(ST)> ^ <country (ID)> ^ < address type (ID)> ^ <other geographic designation (ST)> ^ <county/parish code (IS)> ^ <census tract (IS)>

Definition: This field contains the mailing address of the patient.

PID – Telephone <13>/<40>/<XTN>

Definition: This field contains the patient's Telephone Number.

PID – Marital Code <16>/<1>/<IS>

Definition: This field contains the patient's Marital Code.

1-Never Married

2-Married

3-Widowed

4-Separated

5-Divorced

PID – SSN – Patient <19>/<16>/<ST>

Definition: This field contains the patient's social security number.

Format: [555555555] or [555555555P]

Note: PID does not include the “-“ in this field.

PID – Veterans Military Status <27>/<16>/<ST>

Definition: This field contains the patient's Active Military Indicator.

A-Active Military

N-Not Active Military

Example PID segment

PID|000001640|2604|8^25|TEST^SAM^ONE||19400516|1|||NONE^^LONGLY^^12345
^USA||(561)123-1234|||||000001640||||||N

PV1 Attributes

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP /#	ELEMENT NAME	COMMENTS
1	4	SI	O		Set ID - PV1	NV
2	1	IS	R		Patient Class	See Notes
3	80	PL	O		Assigned Patient Location	NV
4	2	IS	O		Admission Type	See Notes
5	20	CX	O		Preadmit Number	NV
6	80	PL	O		Prior Patient Location	NV
7	60	XC N	O	Y	Attending Doctor	NV
8	60	XC N	O	Y	Referring Doctor	NV
9	60	XC N	O	Y	Consulting Doctor	NV
10	3	IS	O		Hospital Service	NV
11	80	PL	O		Temporary Location	NV
12	2	IS	O		Preadmit Test Indicator	NV
13	2	IS	O		Readmission Indicator	NV
14	3	IS	O		Admit Source	NV
15	2	IS	O	Y	Ambulatory Status	NV
16	2	IS	O		VIP Indicator	NV
17	60	XC N	O	Y	Admitting Doctor	NV
18	2	IS	O		Patient Type	NV
19	20	CX	O		Visit Number	NV
20	50	FC	O	Y	Financial Class	NV
21	2	IS	O		Charge Price	NV

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP /#	ELEMENT NAME	COMMENTS
					Indicator	
22	2	IS	O		Courtesy Code	NV
23	2	IS	O		Credit Rating	NV
24	2	IS	O	Y	Contract Code	NV
25	8	DT	O	Y	Contract Effective Date	NV
26	12	NM	O	Y	Contract Amount	NV
27	3	NM	O	Y	Contract Period	NV
28	2	IS	O		Interest Code	NV
29	1	IS	O		Transfer to Bad Debt Code	NV
30	8	DT	O		Transfer to Bad Debt Date	NV
31	10	IS	O		Bad Debt Agency Code	NV
32	12	NM	O		Bad Debt Transfer Amount	NV
33	12	NM	O		Bad Debt Recovery Amount	NV
34	1	IS	O		Delete Account Indicator	NV
35	8	DT	O		Delete Account Date	NV
36	3	IS	O		Discharge Disposition	NV
37	25	CM	O		Discharged to Location	NV
38	2	IS	O		Diet Type	NV
39	2	IS	O		Servicing Facility	NV
40	1	IS	B		Bed Status	NV
41	2	IS	O		Account Status	NV
42	80	PL	O		Pending Location	NV

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP /#	ELEMENT NAME	COMMENTS
43	80	PL	O		Prior Temporary Location	NV
44	26	TS	O		Admit Date/Time	See Notes
45	26	TS	O		Discharge Date/Time	See Notes
46	12	NM	O		Current Patient Balance	NV
47	12	NM	O		Total Charges	NV
48	12	NM	O		Total Adjustments	NV
49	12	NM	O		Total Payments	NV
50	20	CX	O		Alternate Visit ID	NV
51	1	IS	O		Visit Indicator	NV
52	60	XC	O	Y	Other Healthcare Provider	NV

PV1 Field Definitions

PV1 – Admission Type

PV1 – Patient Class <2>/<1>/<IS>

Care Class Code

1= Acute Rehab Inpatient

2= Sub Acute Rehab Inpatient

3= Continuum of Care

PV1 – Admission Type <4>/<2>/<IS>

Admit Class Code

1= Initial Rehab

2= Short Stay

3= Readmission

PV1 – Admit Date/Time <44>/<26>/<TS>

Definition: This field contains the admit date/time. It is to be used if the event date/time is different than the admit date and time, i.e., a retroactive update. This field is also used to reflect the date/time of an outpatient/emergency patient registration.

Note: Date could be a Therapy Start Date depending on the admit class code.

PV1 – Discharge Date/Time <45>/<26>/<TS>

Definition: This field contains the discharge date/time. It is to be used if the event date/time is different than the discharge date and time, that is, a retroactive update. This field is also used to reflect the date/time of an outpatient/emergency patient discharge.

Note: Date could be a Therapy Start Date depending on the admit class code.

Example PV1 segment

PV1| |CLASS| |ADMIT| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|20020801|20020801

NTE – Notes and Comments Segment – Attributes

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/ #	ELEMENT NAME	COMMENTS
1	4	SI	O		Set ID – NTE	NV
2	8	ID	O		Source of Comment	NV
3	245	FT	O	Y	Comment	See Notes
4	60	CE	O		Comment Type	

NTE field definitions

NTE-3 Comment

Definition: This field contains the transfer/return dates.

Transfer 1 date – Return 1 date – Transfer 2 date – Return 2 date – Transfer 3 date – Return 3 date

Example: CCCCMMDD

Example NTE segment

NTE|1|L|20020923^20020923^20020923^20020923^20020923^20020923|

OBR Attributes

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/ #	ELEMENT NAME	COMMENTS
1	4	SI	C		Set ID - OBR	NV
2	75	EI	C		Placer Order Number	NV
3	75	EI	C		Filler Order Number +	NV
4	200	CE	R		Universal Service ID	See Notes
5	2	ID	B		Priority	NV
6	26	TS	B		Requested Date/time	NV
7	26	TS	C		Observation Date/Time #	See Notes
8	26	TS	O		Observation End Date/Time #	NV
9	20	CQ	O		Collection Volume *	NV
10	60	XCN	O	Y	Collector Identifier *	NV
11	1	ID	O		Specimen Action Code *	NV
12	60	CE	O		Danger Code	NV
13	300	ST	O		Relevant Clinical Info.	See Notes
14	26	TS	C		Specimen Received Date/Time *	NV
15	300	CM	O		Specimen Source *	NV
16	80	XCN	O	Y	Ordering Provider	NV
17	40	XTN	O	Y/2	Order Callback Phone Number	NV
18	60	ST	O		Placer field 1	NV
19	60	ST	O		Placer field 2	NV
20	60	ST	O		Filler Field 1 +	NV
21	60	ST	O		Filler Field 2 +	NV
22	26	TS	C		Results Rpt>Status Chng - Date/Time +	NV
23	40	CM	O		Charge to Practice +	NV

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/ #	ELEMENT NAME	COMMENTS
24	10	ID	O		Diagnostic Serv Sect ID	NV
25	1	ID	C		Result Status +	NV
26	400	CM	O		Parent Result +	NV
27	200	TQ	O	Y	Quantity/Timing	NV
28	150	XCN	O	Y/5	Result Copies To	NV
29	150	CM	O		Parent	NV
30	20	ID	O		Transportation Mode	NV
31	300	CE	O	Y	Reason for Study	NV
32	200	CM	O		Principal Result	NV
					Interpreter +	
33	200	CM	O	Y	Assistant Result	NV
					Interpreter +	
34	200	CM	O	Y	Technician +	NV
35	200	CM	O	Y	Transcriptionist +	NV
36	26	TS	O		Scheduled Date/Time +	NV
37	4	NM	O		Number of Sample	NV
					Containers *	
38	60	CE	O	Y	Transport Logistics of	NV
					Collected Sample *	
39	200	CE	O	Y	Collector's Comment *	NV
40	60	CE	O		Transport Arrangement	NV
					Responsibility	
41	30	ID	O		Transport Arranged	NV
42	1	ID	O		Escort Required	NV
43	200	CE	O	Y	Planned Patient Transport	NV
					Comment	

OBR Field Definitions

OBR – Universal Service ID <4>/<200>/<CE>

This will be the fields required separated by ^SSN^DOB^Care Class^ Onset Date^Impairment Group^ Admit Date^Facility Code

OBR – Observation Date/time # <7>/<26>/<TS>

Assessment Date (length/size 10)

OBR – Relevant Clinical Info. <13>/<300>/<ST>

Etiologic Code (length/size 10)

Example OBR segment

OBR|||000001640^19400516^1^20020826^17.51^20020828^1433|||20020916|||||250.0

OBX Attributes

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	ELEMENT NAME	COMMENTS
1	10	SI	O		Set ID - OBX	See Notes
2	2	ID	C		Value Type	See Notes
3	590	CE	R		Observation Identifier	See Notes
4	20	ST	C		Observation Sub-ID	NV
5	245	*	C	Y ¹	Observation Value	See Notes
6	60	CE	O		Units	NV
7	10	ST	O		References Range	NV
8	5	ID	O	Y/5	Abnormal Flags	NV
9	5	NM	O		Probability	NV
10	2	ID	O	Y	Nature of Abnormal Test	NV
11	1	ID	R		Observe Result Status	See Notes

¹ May repeat for multipart, single answer results with appropriate data types, e.g., CE, TX, and FT data types.

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/ #	ELEMENT NAME	COMMENTS
12	26	TS	O		Date Last Obs Normal Values	NV
13	20	ST	O		User Defined Access Checks	NV
14	26	TS	O		Date/Time of the Observation	NV
15	60	CE	O		Producer's ID	NV
16	80	XCN	O		Responsible Observer	NV
17	60	CE	O	Y	Observation Method	NV

OBX field definitions

OBX – Set ID – OBX <1>/<10>/<SI>

Defined as array number.

OBX – Value Type <2>/<2>/<ID>

Defined as NM = Assessment Type Data

CE = Diagnoses Data

FT= Case Notes

TX= DME Items

OBX – Observation Identifier <3>/<590>/>CE>

A= Admission, D= Discharge, I= Interim, F= Follow-up and G= Goals

Diagnoses

Case Notes

DME Items

OBX – Observation Value <5>/<65536>/<>

ASIA Impairment Scale

A-Complete

B-Sensory Preserved

C-Motor Nonfunctional

D-Motor Functional

E-Normal

The value of the Results 0-9 on scores for different assessment types or the ASIA code followed by the 7 Diagnoses codes. Will be based on Observation Identifier

OBX – Observ Result Status <11>/<1>/<ID>

Always an F – used by HL7

Example OBX segment

OBX|1|NM|ADMISSION| |1^^1^^^^2^^^^^1^^^^4^^^^3| | | | |F

OBX|2|CE|DIAGNOSES CODE| |A^610.1^^410.0^^^^750.1| | | | |F

OBX|nn|FT|CASE NOTES| |test of the note| | | | |F

OBX|nn|TX|DME ITEMS| |item^cost| | | | |F