SPINAL CORD DYSFUNCTION (SCD)

TECHNICAL MANUAL SECURITY GUIDE

Version 2.0

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Department of Veterans Affairs
VistA Health System Design & Development

Revision History

Date	Revision	Page Number	Description
December 2002	Revision		Document reviewed and updated.
December 2002	Patch SPN*2.0*19		Enhancements
October 2003	Patch SPN*2.0*21		Enhancements/Revisions
	Patch SPN*2.0*21	11	Added new file (#154.3)
	Patch SPN*2.0*21	19	Added new file (#154.3)
February	Patch SPN*2*24		New Option/Improvement to Reports

Introduction

The SCD package is a set of programs and files that supports the maintenance of a local and National Registry for the care and tracking of patients with a spinal cord dysfunction. It also provides clinical and administrative reports for medical center use.

It provides data extracts for uploading to the National Registry. This registry is centralized and is used to provide VA-wide review of patient demographics, clinical aspects of disease, and resource utilization involved in providing care to patients.

The package uses an HL7 interface to transmit comprehensive data from the SCD (Spinal Cord Dysfunction) Registry file (#154) and from the Outcomes file (#154.1) to a National SCD Registry database.

Various report options list new registrants, applications for inpatient care, discharges, and patients who have not been seen at the medical center for a specified length of time. They track the utilization of medical resources used during treatment.

Implementation and Maintenance

MENU OPTION ASSIGNMENT

Spinal Cord Dysfunction [SPN MAIN MENU]

Spinal Cord Dysfunction is the main menu for the software and should be assigned to the ADPAC and the SCD Coordinator for the package. It contains all the options in the package.

SCD Coordinator Menu [SPNL COORDINATOR]

The SCD Coordinator Menu should be assigned to clinicians or other users who need to input and view patient registration data.

Utilization Reports [SPN REPORT UTIL]

The Utilization Reports menu may be assigned, if needed, to Laboratory, Pharmacy, and/or Radiology personnel to view statistical data from those reports without compromising patient confidentiality.

SCD PACKAGE MANAGEMENT MENU

The SCD Package Management Menu [SPNL MANAGEMENT] provides the functionality to edit site parameters, inactivate and/or delete records and edit etiology synonyms.

The ADPAC for this software should exercise the Edit Site Parameters option in this menu and review the other options for future use and maintenance of the package.

- Edit Site Parameters [SPNL PARAMETERS]: This option is used to set the values for the follow up reports and the notification mail groups. It is important to note that the Facility Number is not available for editing within the Edit Site Parameters option. Changes to the Facility Number can only be made through the Kernel package.

    F/U RPT (LAST SEEN) PERIOD: This is the default time period that the Follow Up (Last Seen) report uses. Patients who haven't been seen during this period of time will be displayed in the report. The entry must be nnnD (days), nnW (weeks), nnM (months), or nY (years), where "n" is a number. For example: 180D is 180 days, 6M is 6 months.

F/U RPT (LAST PHY EXAM) PERIOD: This is the default time period that the Follow Up (Last Annual Rehab Eval Received) report uses. Patients who haven't had a rehab evaluation during this period of time will be displayed in the report. The entry must be nnnD (days), nnW (weeks), nnM (months), or nY (years), where "n" is a number. For example: 180D is 180 days, 6M is 6 months.

SEND NOTIFICATION: Enter YES to notify a mail group that a patient with SCI (Spinal Cord Injury) or MS (Multiple Sclerosis) has been admitted or discharged, NO to suppress notifications. The message will be sent to the mail group for the site parameter SCI Notification Mail Group or MS Notification Mail Group depending on whether the patient is MS or SCI.

SCI NOTIFICATION MAIL GROUP: The default for this is the SPNL SCD Coordinator mail group. If your site created a specific mail group and you want that group to receive these notifications, and then enter it here.

MS NOTIFICATION MAIL GROUP: The default for this is the SPNL SCD Coordinator mail group. If your site created a specific mail group and you want that group to receive these notifications, and then enter it here.

- Activate an SCD Registrant [SPNL INPUT ACTIVATE]: This option will activate an existing registrant in the SCD (Spinal Cord) Registry file (#154). A screen is in place so only those patients that currently have a status of Inactive can be selected.

- [1]Cleanup Report [SPNL CLEANUP REPORT] This option scans the SCD Registry and identifies patient records with missing data in relevant fields. Utilizing results from this report, users will be able to edit the incomplete records and populate these fields accordingly.

```
 Field Name                        Field Number
 -------------------------         ------------

 Registration Status                  .03
 SCI Network                          1.1
 SSN                               Computed
 Integration Control Number        (file 2)
 Registration Date                    .02
 Date of Last Review                  .05

 Utilizing results from this report, users will be able to edit the
 incomplete records and populate these fields accordingly.
```

- Delete an Outcome Record [SPNF FIM DELETE]: This option allows you to delete a record from the Outcomes file (#154.1). Once a record has been deleted, it cannot be recovered!

- Delete Registry Record [SPNL REGISTRY DELETE]: This option allows you to delete a record from the SCD (Spinal Cord) Registry file (#154). Once a record has been deleted, it cannot be recovered!

---

[1] Patch SPN*2*24 – New option.

- Enter/Edit Etiology SYNONYM [SPNL ETIOLOGY SYN EDIT]: This option allows you to enter and edit new or existing Synonyms for a given Etiology (Cause of SCD).

- Inactivate an SCD Registrant [SPNL INPUT INACTIVATE]: This option will inactivate an existing registrant in the SCD (Spinal Cord Dysfunction) Registry file (#154). A screen is in place so only those patients who currently have a status of Active can be selected.

SECURITY KEYS

See Security Keys in the chapter, Software Product Security. There were no changes to the security keys for those sites that used the previous version of the software. Only new users need to be assigned security keys.

DISK STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

Disk storage is expected to be nominal. No site is expected to require more than a megabyte of storage for the SCD package.

Current estimates indicate approximately 150 bytes per Registry record and 100 bytes per Outcomes record. The reference file storage is estimated at approximately 50 K bytes.

NAMESPACE

The package uses the namespace SPN.

FILE NUMBERS

Files for the package are numbered from 154 - 154.94.

FILTERED REPORTS

Filtered reports screen the SCD files for patients you want to see in reports. There are Up Front Filters:

```
Up Front Filters:
SCI Network Status
      A) SCI Network
      B) Non-SCI Network
      C) Both A and B
Select SCI Network: A  SCI Network
      Registration Status
      A) SCD-Currently served
      B) SCD-Not Currently served
      C) Both A&B
      D) Not SCD
      E) Expired
```

Automatic Filters:

```
Automatic Filters:
    Cause of Injury:
      T) Traumatic
      N) Non-traumatic
      B) Both Traumatic and Non-traumatic
      U) Unknown
  Select Cause: Traumatic
    Extent of Injury:
      P) Paraplegia
      Q) Quadriplegia
      B) Both
  Select Injury: Both
```

And User Selectable Filters:

```
User Selectable Filters:
Select Filter: ??

Choose from:

   ADDITIONAL CARE VA
   AGE
   ANNUAL REHAB EVAL NEXT DUE
   ANNUAL REHAB VA
   COUNTY
   DIVISION
   ETIOLOGY
   FEE BASIS
   GEOGRAPHICAL AREA
   HOURS OF HELP NEEDED
   IMPAIRMENTS
   IN/OUT PATIENT VISIT
   MEDICATIONS
   PRIMARY CARE VA
```

```
        PROSTHETICS
        RACE
        REGISTRATION STATUS
        SCI LEVEL
        SERVICE CONNECTION
        SEX
        TOTAL FIMS CHANGE OVER TIME
        VITAL STATUS
        WALK / WHEELCHAIR
```

Automatic Filters and User Selectable Filters are not available with every report.

You may add more Up Front and/or Automatic Filters to those exported with the software if you have access to the Enter or Edit File Entries option in VA FileMan. Here's an example of adding Age to the Up Front Filters and Sex to the Automatic Filters. Note the Upfront and Automatic Filter Display Order fields. They only accept a unique filter display order ("1" and "2" are used by the exported filters).

```
        Select OPTION: ENTER OR EDIT FILE ENTRIES

        INPUT TO WHAT FILE: SCD FILTER// <RET>
        EDIT WHICH FIELD: ALL// ??

        Choose from:
          .01           NAME
          .02           SEARCH CRITERIA TEST
          .03           SEARCH CRITERIA PARAMETERS
          .04           AUTOMATIC FILTER DISPLAY ORDER
          .05           UPFRONT FILTER DISPLAY ORDER
          1             FILTER DESCRIPTION  (word-processing)
           FOLLOW A FIELD NAME WITH ';"CAPTION"' TO HAVE THE FIELD ASKED AS
        'CAPTION: '
                OR WITH ';T' TO USE THE FIELD 'TITLE' AS CAPTION
        EDIT WHICH FIELD: ALL// .05  UPFRONT FILTER DISPLAY ORDER
        THEN EDIT FIELD: .04 AUTOMATIC FILTER DISPLAY ORDER
        THEN EDIT FIELD: <RET>


        Select SCD FILTER NAME: ??

        Choose from:
          ADDITIONAL CARE VA
          AGE
          ANNUAL REHAB EVAL NEXT DUE
          ANNUAL REHAB VA
          COUNTY
          DIVISION
          ETIOLOGY
          FEE BASIS
          GEOGRAPHICAL AREA
          HOURS OF HELP NEEDED
          IMPAIRMENTS
          IN/OUT PATIENT VISIT
          MEDICATIONS
```

```
        PRIMARY CARE VA
        PROSTHETICS
        RACE
        REGISTRATION STATUS
        SCI LEVEL
        SERVICE CONNECTION
        SEX
        TOTAL FIMS CHANGE OVER TIME
        VITAL STATUS
        WALK / WHEELCHAIR


        This field contains the external name of the search variable that
the user will see.
Select SCD FILTER NAME: age
UPFRONT FILTER DISPLAY ORDER: ??
        Upfront filter display order will be a number value that will tell
        what filter is to be displayed in what order.
UPFRONT FILTER DISPLAY ORDER: 1??
        Type a Number between 1 and 999999, 0 Decimal Digits
UPFRONT FILTER DISPLAY ORDER: 2??
        Type a Number between 1 and 999999, 0 Decimal Digits
UPFRONT FILTER DISPLAY ORDER: 3
AUTOMATIC FILTER DISPLAY ORDER: <RET>

Select SCD FILTER NAME: sex
UPFRONT FILTER DISPLAY ORDER: <RET>
AUTOMATIC FILTER DISPLAY ORDER: 3
```

This is how the above changes affect Up Front Filters and Automatic Filters:

```
        Filtered Reports

Up Front Filters:
SCI Network Status
        A) SCI Network
        B) Non-SCI Network
        C) Both A and B
Select SCI Network: A  SCI Network
     Registration Status
        A) SCD-Currently served
        B) SCD-Not Currently served
        C) Both A&B
        D) Not SCD
        E) Expired
Select Registration Status: A  SCD-Currently served
Age range start value: 18
Age range end value:   35

    ADH    SCD Ad Hoc Reports...
    BPI    Basic Patient Information (132 Column)
    BRK    Breakdown of Patients
    CFDD   CHART/FAM/DIENER/DUSOI Scores
    CI     Current Inpatients
    EPL    Expanded Patient List (255 Column)
    FA     Patients with Future Appointments
```

```
         FIM     Functional Independence Measures
         FULE    Follow-Up (Last Annual Rehab Eval Received)
         FULS    Follow-Up (Last Seen)
         HS      Health Summary
         IOA     Inpatient/Outpatient Activity
         IOAS    Inpatient/Outpatient Activity (Specific)
         LNS     New SCI/SCD Patients
         ML      Mailing labels
         PL      Patient Listing
         PLSC    Patient Listing (Sort by State and County)
         RGR     Registrant General Report
         RIR     Registrant Injury Report
         SELF    Self Report of Function
         UTL     Utilization Reports...

Select Filtered Reports Option: ADH   SCD Ad Hoc Reports

     REG   Registration Ad Hoc Report
     SEL   Self Report of Function Ad Hoc Report
     FIM   FIM Ad Hoc Report
     AS    ASIA Ad Hoc Report
     CHA   CHART Ad Hoc Report
     FAM   FAM Ad Hoc Report
     DEN   DIENER Ad Hoc Report
     DUS   DUSOI Ad Hoc Report
     MS    Multiple Sclerosis Ad Hoc Report
     OUT   Comprehensive Outcomes Ad Hoc Report

Select SCD Ad Hoc Reports Option: REG   Registration Ad Hoc Report

     Automatic Filters:
         Cause of Injury:
           T) Traumatic
           N) Non-traumatic
           B) Both Traumatic and Non-traumatic
           U) Unknown
       Select Cause: t   Traumatic
         Extent of Injury:
           P) Paraplegia
           Q) Quadriplegia
           B) Both
       Select Injury: b   Both
     Patient sex: f   FEMALE

     User Selectable Filters: <RET>
```

Routine List

Routines are namespace SPN. Obtain the most recent list of package routines using the Kernel First Line Routine Print [XU FIRST LINE PRINT] option under Routine Tools.

```
Select Programmer Options Option: ROUTINE Tools


          %Index of Routines
          Check Routines on Other CPUs
          Compare routines on tape to disk
          Compare two routines
          Delete Routines
          First Line Routine Print
          Flow Chart Entire Routine
          Flow Chart from Entry Point
          Group Routine Edit
          Input routines
          List Routines
          Output routines
          Routine Edit
          Routines by Patch Number
          Variable changer
          Version number update

Select Routine Tools Option: FIRST Line Routine Print

PRINTS FIRST LINES

routine(s) ?   >   SPN*
searching directory ...
routine(s) ?   >   <RET>

(A)lpha, (D)ate ,(P)atched, OR (S)ize ORDER: A//<RET>
Include line 2? NO//<RET>
```

File List

FILE#	NAME	FUNCTION
154	SCD (SPINAL CORD) REGISTRY	This is the local registry file for SCD. It contains the main data for a SCD patient. Records may be removed from this file using the option, Delete Registry Record [SPNL REGISTRY DELETE]. This file points to the Patient file because a patient must exist in the Patient file in order for an entry to be made in this file. The IEN for a patient in this file will be the same as the IEN in the Patient file because the pointer number is used as the IEN in this file.
154.01	SCD NLOI CATEGORY	This file contains all the codes and descriptions of these codes for all neurologic level of injuries. This file comes with data and cannot be edited.
154.03	ETIOLOGY	This file contains the descriptions and codes for all etiology categories. This file contains etiology categories for both traumatic and disease types. Field .02 (Type of Cause) is used to determine whether the Description and Code Within Type of Cause for an entry is a traumatic etiology or a disease etiology entry. For example, code 01 could be, Auto Accident or Poliomyelitis, but the 'T' in field .02 makes it a traumatic etiology, so it is an Auto Accident. This file comes with data. The Synonym field can be edited via the option Enter/Edit Etiology Synonym [SPNL ETIOLOGY SYN EDIT].
154.1	OUTCOMES	This file contains data on a patient's Outcomes. A patient may have multiple records. Records may be removed from this file using the option Delete an Outcome Record [SPNF FIM DELETE].
154.11	FUNCTIONAL STATUS LEVEL	This file contains the response levels for the Self Report of Function measure and FIM and FAM. This file comes with data.
154.2	SCD KURTZKE-EDSS	This file contains Kurtzke-EDSS scores, descriptions, and references. It comes with data and cannot be edited.

154.3	OUTCOME SCORE TYPES	This file contains score types for selection by users entering outcome information.
154.7	PHYSICAL FACILITY	This file is created to help route Admission/Discharge notifications to the proper facility in the case of integrated sites.
154.8	AD HOC MACRO	This file contains the print and sort macros generated by the Ad Hoc report mechanism. The records in this file should be accessed only through the Ad Hoc report options.
154.91	SCD SITE PARAMETERS	This file contains those parameters that affect the default values in the follow up reports and the mail groups to be notified about admissions/discharges. The option Edit Site Parameters [SPNL PARAMETERS] can be used to edit the values in those fields.
154.92	SCD FILTER	This file contains the external names of the report filters. It also contains MUMPS code, which represents entry points into the filter routines. The Filter Criteria Parameters field contains the entry point to interactively prompt the user for the data needed by the search variable. The Filter Criteria Test field contains the entry point to test the SCD patient records for inclusion in the search variable reports.

Exported Options

Spinal Cord Dysfunction ... [SPN MAIN MENU]
SCD Coordinator Menu ... [SPNL COORDINATOR]
    Registration and Health Care Information [SPNL INPUT/EDIT SCD REGISTRANT]
    Clinical Information [SPNL CLINICAL REGISTRATION MOD]
    Inpatient Rehabilitation Outcomes [SPNL INPATIENT OUTCOMES]
    Outpatient Rehabilitation Outcomes [SPNL OUTPATIENT OUTCOMES]
    Annual Evaluation Outcomes [SPNL ANN EVAL OUTCOMES]
    Continuum of Care Outcomes [SPNL CONT OF CARE OUTCOMES]
    SCD Reports Menu ... [SPNL SCD REPORTS]
        SCI/SCD Admissions [SPN PRINT ADMISSIONS]
        Aggregate Outcomes Report [SPN AGG OUTCOMES REPORT]
        Applications for Inpatient Care [SPN PRINT APPLICAT]
        SCI/SCD Discharges [SPN PRINT DISCHARGE]
        Filtered Reports ... [SPNL SCD REPORT (FILTERED)]
            SCD Ad Hoc Reports ... [SPNP ADHOC MENU]
                Registration Ad Hoc Report [SPNP ADHOC REGISTRY]
                Self Report of Function Ad Hoc Report [SPNP ADHOC SELF REPORT]
                FIM Ad Hoc Report [SPNP ADHOC FIM]
                ASIA Ad Hoc Report [SPNP ADHOC ASIA]
                CHART Ad Hoc Report [SPNP ADHOC CHART]
                FAM Ad Hoc Report [SPNP ADHOC FAM]
                DIENER Ad Hoc Report [SPNP ADHOC DIENER]
                DUSOI Ad Hoc Report [SPNP ADHOC DUSOI]
                Multiple Sclerosis Ad Hoc Report [SPNP ADHOC MS]
                Comprehensive Outcomes Ad Hoc Report [SPNP ADHOC FUNCTIONAL]
            Basic Patient Information (132 Column) [SPNP BASIC PATIENT INFO]
            Breakdown of Patients [SPNL PATIENT BREAKDOWN]
            CHART/FAM/DIENER/DUSOI Scores [SPN PRINT OUT]
            Current Inpatients [SPNL CURRENT INPT]
                Locked with SPNL SCD PTS
            Expanded Patient List (255 Column) [SPNP EXP PATIENT INFO]
            Patients with Future Appointments [SPNL FUTURE APPTS]
            Functional Independence Measures [SPN PRINT FIM]
            Follow-Up (Last Annual Rehab Eval Received) [SPNL F/U LAST REHAB EVAL]
                Locked with SPNL SCD PTS
            Follow-Up (Last Seen) [SPNL F/U LAST SEEN]
                ** Locked with SPNL SCD PTS**
            Health Summary [SPNL HEALTH SUMMARY]
                Locked with SPNL SCD PTS
            Inpatient/Outpatient Activity [SPNL INPT/OPT ACTIVITY]
            Inpatient/Outpatient Activity (Specific) [SPNL INPT/OPT SPECIFIC]
            New SCI/SCD Patients [SPNP LIST NEW SCI/SCD]
            Mailing Labels [SPNP MAIL LAB]
            Patient Listing [SPNP PATIENT LIST]
            Patient Listing (Sort by State and County) [SPNP PATIENT LIST(ST,COU)]
            Registrant General Report [SPNL REGISTRANT GENERAL REPORT]
            Registrant Injury Report [SPNL REGISTRANT INJURY REPORT]
            Self Report of Function [SPN PRINT SELF]
            Utilization Reports ... [SPN REPORT UTIL]

Laboratory Utilization [SPNL LAB UTIL]
Laboratory Utilization (Specific) [SPNL LAB UTIL SPECIFIC]
Pharmacy Utilization [SPNL PHARM UTIL]
Pharmacy Utilization (Specific) [SPNL PHARM UTIL SPECIFIC]
Radiology Utilization [SPNL RADIOLOGY UTIL]
Functional Status Scores [SPNF FIM SCORES]
ICD9 Code Search [SPN ICD CODE SEARCH]
Print MS Help Text [SPN MS HELP]
MS (Kurtzke) Measures [SPN PRINT MS]
MS Patient Listing [SPNP MS PATIENT LISTING]
Patient Summary Report [SPNL REGISTRY SUMMARY]
Show Sites Where Pt Has Been Treated [SPNP SHOW SITES]
Change your Division Assignment [SPNL USER DIVISION]
Inquire to an Outcome [SPNINQ]
Edit Non-conforming Outcome [SPNLOLD]
Inquire to a Registry Patient [SPN REG INQ]

SCD Package Management Menu ... [SPNL MANAGEMENT] **Locked with SPNL SCD MGT**
Edit Site Parameters [SPNL PARAMETERS]
Activate an SCD Registrant [SPNL INPUT ACTIVATE]
[2]Cleanup Report [SPNL CLEANUP REPORT]
Delete an Outcome Record [SPNF FIM DELETE]
Delete Registry Record [SPNL REGISTRY DELETE]
Enter/Edit Etiology SYNONYM [SPNL ETIOLOGY SYN EDIT]
Inactivate an SCD Registrant [SPNL INPUT INACTIVATE]

---

[2] Patch SPN*2*24 – New option.

Archiving and Purging

ARCHIVING

There are no package-specific archiving procedures or recommendations for the SCD package.

The SCD package itself contains minimal data. The volumes of data it references are drawn from other packages (e.g., Laboratory, Pharmacy, Scheduling). The data for those packages should be archived/purged according to their associated regulations and guidance. Such archiving/purging does not affect the operation of the SCD package.

PURGING

There are two purging options exported with the SCD package, Delete Registry Record [SPNL REGISTRY DELETE] and Delete an Outcome Record [SPNF FIM DELETE]. It is imperative that data essential for the operation of the package be maintained. As noted under Archiving, purging of data referenced for SCD patients for other packages will not impact the operation of the SCD package.

Callable Routines

There are no callable routines in the SCD package.

External Relations

PLATFORM REQUIREMENTS

The SCD package requires a standard VistA operating environment in order to function correctly.

> Minimum requirements:
> VA FileMan V. 21.0   Kernel V. 8.0
> PIMS V. 5.3   Health Summary V. 2.5
> HL7 V. 1.6
>
> Additional requirements in order to use all the possible functionality:
> Lab V. 5.1   National Drug File V. 2.0
> Unit Dose V. 2.13   Outpatient Pharmacy V. 6.0
> DRG Grouper V. 10.0   Radiology/Nuclear Medicine V. 4.5

DATABASE INTEGRATION AGREEMENTS (DBIA)

All integration agreements can be found in the Integration Agreements Menu under the DBA menu on FORUM.

Subscribing Agreements:

```
Select Subscriber Package Menu Option: 1  Print ACTIVE by Subscribing Package
  * Previous selection: SUBSCRIBING PACKAGE equals CLINICAL INFO RESOURCE
NETWORK
  START WITH SUBSCRIBING PACKAGE: FIRST// SPINAL CORD DYSFUNCTION
  GO TO SUBSCRIBING PACKAGE: LAST// SPINAL CORD DYSFUNCTION
DEVICE: (Enter a printer or press <RET> to view)
```

Custodial Agreements:

```
Select Custodial Package Menu Option: 1  ACTIVE by Custodial Package
Select PACKAGE NAME: SPINAL CORD DYSFUNCTION          SPN
DEVICE: (Enter a printer or press <RET> to view)
```

Internal Relations

The options in this package may be invoked independently and tailored to the users' needs.

Package-wide Variables

The Spinal Cord Dysfunction package contains no package-wide variables.

Software Product Security

MAIL GROUPS AND ALERTS

SPNL SCD COORDINATOR: This mail group is the default for the site parameters for SCI NOTIFICATION MAIL GROUP and MS NOTIFICATION MAIL GROUP. If used, it receives notification when patients in the Spinal Cord Dysfunction database are admitted or discharged. If it is not used and the site wants to send notifications, other mail groups may be created for those parameters.

SPN ALERT: This protocol is used to alert the members of the mail groups in the site parameters SCI MOTIFICATION MAIL GROUP and MS NOTIFICATION MAIL GROUP when a patient has an admission/discharge. It is hung off the DGPM MOVEMENT EVENTS protocol.
> ENTRY ACTION: D EN^SPNALERT

REMOTE SYSTEMS

All fields in the SCD (Spinal Cord) Registry file (#154) and the Outcomes file (#154.1) are transmitted to the National Spinal Cord Dysfunction Registry. This process is performed with HL7.

Adding or editing a record triggers the transmission process:

> Whenever a patient's record is added or edited, an HL7 message is generated and sent to the Q-SCD.MED.VA.GOV domain. This domain is located at the Austin Automation Center in Austin Texas. Once there, the data is placed into a comprehensive National SCD database. This information will be used for national reports and trending of Spinal Cord Injury patients.

> No extra steps need to be performed to trigger this event. There will be no outward indication informing you that this process is occurring.

ARCHIVING AND PURGING

There are no archiving functions associated with this package. Purging is handled using the options Delete an Outcome Record and Delete Registry Record.

CONTINGENCY PLANNING

Using services must 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.

INTERFACING

This software does not use or require a specialized product.

ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES

No electronic signatures are used in this package.

MENUS

The following options are locked with security keys:

Current Inpatients [SPNL CURRENT INPT] **Locked with SPNL SCD PTS**
Follow-Up (Last Annual Rehab Eval Received) [SPNL F/U LAST REHAB EVAL]
    Locked with SPNL SCD PTS
Follow-Up (Last Seen) [SPNL F/U LAST SEEN] ** Locked with SPNL SCD PTS**
Health Summary [SPNL HEALTH SUMMARY] **Locked with SPNL SCD PTS**
SCD Package Management Menu ... [SPNL MANAGEMENT]
    Locked with SPNL SCD MGT

SECURITY KEYS

There are two security keys. They have not changed from the previous version, so only new users will require the assignment of keys.

SPNL SCD PTS This key protects access to options with identifiable patient data. All users who enter and edit data should have this key.

SPNL SCD MGT This key permits access to the SCD Package Management Menu [SPNL MANAGEMENT] from which package operations management may be accomplished. Assign this key to the ADPAC and/or SCD Coordinator responsible for managing the operation of the local Spinal Cord Dysfunction package processes.

SPNL SCD MAIL **Note: This key will be removed in a future version.**

FILE SECURITY

#	File Name	DD	RD	WR	DEL	LAYGO	AUDIT
154	SCD (Spinal Cord) Registry	@					#
154.01	SCD NLOI CATEGORY	@		#	@	#	#
154.03	ETIOLOGY	@		#	@	#	#
154.1	OUTCOMES	@					#
154.11	FUNCTIONAL STATUS LEVEL	@		#	@	#	#
154.2	SCD KURTZKE-EDSS	@		#	@	#	#
154.3	OUTCOME SCORE TYPES	@		#	@	@	#
154.7	PHYSICAL FACILITY	@	@	@	@	@	@
154.8	AD HOC MACRO	@					#
154.91	SCD SITE PARAMETERS	@					#
154.92	SCD FILTER	@		#	@	#	#

REFERENCES
None.

How to Generate On-line Documentation

RETRIEVING ON-LINE HELP USING QUESTION MARKS

The use of question marks at the file and field level is described in the VA FileMan Technical Manual. The use of question marks within the menu system will invoke help about options and menus. One question mark at the top-level menu prompt will display the items available on the menu. Two question marks will show the Common Menu available to all users as well as any secondary menu options for the current user. Locked options are displayed if the user holds the key. Three question marks displays descriptions of the options from the Option file.

PRINT OPTION FILE

The Print Option file, in the Kernel's Menu Management menu, will display a list of namespaced options associated with the SCD package. Other namespaced entries may also be retrieved from the Print Template, Input Template, and Security Key files.

LIST FILE ATTRIBUTES

This VA FileMan option allows the user to generate documentation pertaining to files and file structure. Utilization of this option via the "Standard" format will yield the dictionary information for a specified file(s).

Using the Global Map format of this option generates an output which lists all cross-references for the file selected, global location of each field in the file, input templates, print templates, and sort templates.

INQUIRE TO OPTION FILE

The Menu Management Inquire option provides the following information about a specified option: option name, menu text, option description, type of option, and lock, if any. Menu items will be shown for any menu type option. In addition to the fields listed, any other field containing data will be shown.

To secure information about Spinal Cord Dysfunction options, the user must specify the name or namespace of the option(s) desired, i.e., SPN.

Glossary

ABBREVIATED RESPONSE	This feature allows you to enter data by typing only the first few characters for the desired response. This feature will not work unless the information is already stored in the computer.
ACCESS CODE	A code that allows the computer to identify you as a user authorized to gain access to the computer. Your code is greater than six and less than twenty characters long. It can be numeric, alphabetic, or a combination of both, and is usually assigned by a site manager or application coordinator. (See the term **verify code** in the Glossary.)
ADPAC	**A**utomated **D**ata **P**rocessing **A**pplication **C**oordinator
APPLICATION COORDINATOR	Designated individuals responsible for user-level management and maintenance of an application package such as IFCAP, Lab, Pharmacy, Mental Health, etc.
AUTO-MENU	An indication to Menu Manager that the current user's menu items should be displayed automatically. When auto-menu is not in effect, the user must enter a question mark at the menu's select prompt to see the list of menu items.
CARET	A symbol expressed as up caret (^), left caret (<), or right caret (>). In many M systems, a right caret is used as a system prompt and an up caret as an exiting tool from an option. Also known as the up-arrow symbol or shift–6 key.
COMMAND	A combination of characters that instruct the computer to perform a specific operation.
COMMON MENU	Options that are available to all users. Entering two question marks at the menu's select prompt displays any secondary menu options available to the signed-on user, along with the common options available to all users.
CONTROL KEY	The Control Key (**Ctrl** on the keyboard) performs a specific function in conjunction with another key. In word-processing, for example, holding down the **Ctrl** key and typing an **A** causes a new set of margins and tab settings to occur; **Ctrl-S** causes printing on the terminal screen to stop; **Ctrl-Q** restarts printing on the terminal screen; **Ctrl-U** deletes an entire line of data entry <u>before</u> the Return key is pressed.

CROSS REFERENCE   An indexing method whereby files can include pre-sorted lists of entries as part of the stored database. Cross-references (x-refs) facilitate look-up and reporting.

A file may be cross-referenced to provide direct access to its entries in several ways. For example, VA FileMan allows the Patient file to be cross-referenced by name, social security number, and bed number. When VA FileMan asks for a patient, the user may then respond with either the patient's name, social security number, or his bed number. A cross-reference speeds up access to the file, both for looking up entries and for printing reports.

A cross-reference is also referred to as an index or cross-index.

CURSOR   A flashing image on your screen (generally a horizontal line or rectangle) that alerts you that the computer is waiting for you to make a response to an instruction (prompt).

DATA   A representation of facts, concepts, or instructions in a formalized manner for communication, interpretation, or processing by humans or by automatic means. The information you enter for the computer to store and retrieve. Characters that are stored in the computer system as the values of local or global variables. VA FileMan fields hold data values for file entries.

DATA ATTRIBUTE   A characteristic of a unit of data such as length, value, or method of representation. VA FileMan field definitions specify data attributes.

DATA DICTIONARY   The Data Dictionary is a global containing a description of what kind of data is stored in the global corresponding to a particular file. The data is used internally by FileMan for interpreting and processing files.

A Data Dictionary (DD) contains the definitions of a file's elements (fields or data attributes), relationships to other files, and structure or design. Users generally review the definitions of a file's elements or data attributes; programmers review the definitions of a file's internal structure.

DATA DICTIONARY ACCESS   A user's authorization to write/update/edit the data definition for a computer file. Also known as **DD Access**.

DATA DICTIONARY LISTING   This is the printable report that shows the data dictionary. DDs are used by users and programmers.

DATA PROCESSING	Logical and arithmetic operations performed on data. These operations may be performed manually, mechanically, or electronically: sorting through a card file by hand would be an example of the first method; using a machine to obtain cards from a file would be an example of the second method; and using a computer to access a record in a file would be an example of the third method.
DATABASE	A set of data, consisting of at least one file, that is sufficient for a given purpose. The VistA database is composed of a number of VA FileMan files. A collection of data about a specific subject, such as the PATIENT file. A data collection has different data fields (e.g., patient name, SSN, Date of Birth, and so on). An organized collection of data about a particular topic.
DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM	A collection of software that handles the storage, retrieval, and updating of records in a database. A **D**ata**b**ase **M**anagement **S**ystem (DBMS) controls redundancy of records and provides the security, integrity, and data independence of a database.
DATABASE, NATIONAL	A database that contains data collected or entered for all VHA sites.
DBA	**D**ata**b**ase **A**dministrator, oversees package development with respect to VistA Standards and Conventions (SAC) such as namespacing. Also, this term refers to the **D**ata**b**ase **A**dministration function and staff.
DBIA	**D**ata**b**ase **I**ntegration **A**greement, a formal understanding between two or more VistA packages which describes how data is shared or how packages interact. The DBA maintains a list of DBIAs.
DBIC	**D**ata**b**ase **I**ntegration **C**ommittee. Within the purview of the DBA, the committee maintains a list of DBIC approved callable entry points and publishes the list on FORUM for reference by application programmers and verifiers.
DEBUG	To correct logic errors or syntax errors or both types in a computer program. To remove errors from a program.
DEFAULT	A response the computer considers the most probable answer to the prompt being given. It is identified by double slash marks (//) immediately following it. This allows you the option of accepting the default answer or entering your own answer. To accept the default you simply press the enter (or return) key. To change the default answer, type in your response.

DELETE	The key on your keyboard (may also be called rubout or backspace on some terminals) which allows you to delete individual characters working backwards by placing the cursor immediately after the last character of the string of characters you wish to delete. The @ sign (uppercase of the 2 key) may also be used to delete a file entry or data attribute value. The computer asks "Are you sure you want to delete this entry?" to insure you do not delete an entry by mistake.
DELIMITER	A special character used to separate a field, record or string. VA FileMan uses the ^ character as the delimiter within strings.
DEVICE	A peripheral connected to the host computer, such as a printer, terminal, disk drive, modem, and other types of hardware and equipment associated with a computer. The host files of underlying operating systems may be treated like devices in that they may be written to (e.g., for spooling).
DICTIONARY	A database of specifications of data and information processing resources. VA FileMan's database of data dictionaries is stored in the FILE of files (#1).
DISK	The media used in a disk drive for storing data.
DISK DRIVE	A peripheral device that can be used to "read" and "write" on a hard or floppy disk.
DOUBLE QUOTE (")	A symbol used in front of a Common option's menu text or synonym to select it from the Common menu. For example, the five character string "TBOX" selects the User's Toolbox Common option.
DSCC	**D**ocumentation **S**tandards and **C**onventions **C**ommittee. Package documentation is reviewed in terms of standards set by this committee.
DUZ	A local variable holding the user number that identifies the signed-on user.
DUZ(0)	A local variable that holds the File Manager Access Code of the signed-on user.
ENCRYPTION	Scrambling data or messages with a cipher or code so that they are unreadable without a secret key. In some cases encryption algorithms are one directional, that is, they only encode and the resulting data cannot be unscrambled (e.g., access/verify codes).

ENTER   Pressing the return or enter key tells the computer to execute your
                           instruction or command or to store the information you just entered.

ENTRY   A VA FileMan record. It is uniquely identified by an internal entry
                           number (the .001 field) in a file.

ETIOLOGY   The study or theory of the factors that cause disease and the method
                           of their introduction to the host. The cause(s) or origin of a disease or
                           disorder.

EXTRACTOR   A specialized routine designed to scan data files and copy or
                           summarize data for use by another process.

FIELD   In a record, a specified area used for the value of a data attribute. The
                           data specifications of each VA FileMan field are documented in the
                           file's data dictionary. A field is similar to blanks on forms. It is
                           preceded by words that tell you what information goes in that
                           particular field. The blank, marked by the cursor on your terminal
                           screen, is where you enter the information.

FILE   A set of related records treated as a unit. VA FileMan files maintain
                           a count of the number of entries or records.

FILE MANAGER (VA   The Database Management System (DBMS). The central component
FILEMAN)   of the Kernel that defines the way standard VistA files are structured
                           and manipulated.

FOIA   The **F**reedom **O**f **I**nformation **A**ct. Under the provisions of this
                           public law, software developed within the VA is made available to
                           other institutions, or the general public, at a nominal cost.

FORCED QUEUING   A device attribute indicating that the device can only accept queued
                           tasks. If a job is sent for foreground processing, the device rejects it
                           and prompts the user to queue the task instead.

FREE TEXT   The use of any combination of numbers, letters, and symbols when
                           entering data.

GLOBAL VARIABLE   A variable that is stored on disk (M usage).

GO-HOME JUMP   A menu jump that returns the user to the Primary menu presented at
                           sign-on. It is specified by entering two up-arrows (^^) at the menu's
                           select prompt. It resembles the rubber band jump but without an
                           option specification after the up-arrows.

HARDWARE	The physical equipment pieces that make up the computer system (e.g., terminals, disk drives, central processing units). The physical components of a computer system.
HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT (HSR&D)	Established in 1973 to assist in the search for the most cost-effective approaches to delivering quality health care to the nation's veterans through the support of health services research studies.
HELP FRAMES	Entries in the HELP FRAME file that may be distributed with application packages to provide on-line documentation. Frames may be linked with other related frames to form a nested structure.
HELP PROMPT	The brief help that is available at the field level when entering one question mark.
HINQ	**Hospital INQ**uiry. A system that permits medical centers to query the Veterans Benefits Administration systems via the VADATS network.
HIS	**H**ospital **I**nformation **S**ystems
ICD	**I**nternational **C**lassification of **D**iseases
IFCAP	**I**ntegrated **F**unds Distribution, **C**ontrol Point Activity, **A**ccounting, and **P**rocurement
IHS	**I**ndian **H**ealth **S**ervice
IHS	**I**ntegrated **H**ospital **S**ystem
INPATIENT	A patient who has been admitted to a hospital in order to be treated for a particular condition.
KERNEL	A set of software routines that function as an intermediary between the host operating system and the application packages such as Laboratory, Pharmacy, IFCAP, etc. The Kernel provides a standard and consistent user and programmer interface between application packages and the underlying M implementation.
KEY	The purpose of Security Keys is to set a layer of protection on the range of computing capabilities available with a particular software package. The availability of options is based on the level of system access granted to each user.

KEYWORD	A word or phrase used to call up several codes from the reference files in the LOCAL LOOK-UP file. One specific code may be called up by several different keywords.
LAYGO ACCESS	A user's authorization to create a new entry when editing a computer file. (**L**earn **A**s **Y**ou **GO** allows you the ability to create new file entries.)
LINK	Non-specific term referring to ways in which files may be related (via pointer links). Files have links into other files.
LOG IN/ON	The process of gaining access to a computer system.
LOG OUT/OFF	The process of exiting from a computer system.
MAIL MESSAGE	An entry in the MESSAGE file. The VistA electronic mail system (MailMan) supports local and remote networking of messages.
MAILMAN	An electronic mail system that allows you to send and receive messages from other users via the computer.
MANAGER ACCOUNT	A UCI that can be referenced by non-manager accounts such as production accounts. Like a library, the MGR UCI holds percent routines and globals (e.g., ^%ZOSF) for shared use by other UCIs.
MANDATORY FIELD	This is a field that requires a value. A null response is not valid.
MEDICAL CARE COST RECOVERY (MCCR)	A VA project to collect data from entities, which owe payment to VA for care of patients. Also referred to by the acronym MCCR.
MENU	A list of choices for computing activity. A menu is a type of option designed to identify a series of items (other options) for presentation to the user for selection. When displayed, menu-type options are preceded by the word "Select" and followed by the word "option" as in Select Menu Management option: (the menu's select prompt).
MENU CYCLE	The process of first visiting a menu option by picking it from a menu's list of choices and then returning to the menu's select prompt. Menu Manager keeps track of information, such as the user's place in the menu trees, according to the completion of a cycle through the menu system.
MENU SYSTEM	The overall Menu Manager logic as it functions within the Kernel framework.

MENU TEMPLATE	An association of options as pathway specifications to reach one or more final destination options. The final options must be executable activities and not merely menus for the template to function. Any user may define user-specific menu templates via the corresponding Common option.
MENU TEXT	The descriptive words that appear when a list of option choices is displayed. Specifically, the Menu Text field of the OPTION file. For example, User's Toolbox is the menu text of the XUSERTOOLS option. The option's synonym is TBOX.
MS	Multiple Sclerosis.
NATIONAL SPINAL CORD DYSFUNCTION (SCD) REGISTRY	This package consists of two major components: 1) a local registry for use within a VA health care facility, and 2) a National Registry reflecting the events of care for patients at all VA facilities.
NEUROLOGIC LEVEL	Pertains to the vertebra and specific area of the spine affected or impaired by a disease or injury (e.g., Cervical: C01–C08, Thoracic: T01–T12; Lumbar: L01–L05; Sacral: S01–S05).
NUMERIC FIELD	A response that is limited to a restricted number of digits. It can be dollar valued or a decimal figure of specified precision.
OPERATING SYSTEM	A basic program that runs on the computer, controls the peripherals, allocates computing time to each user, and communicates with terminals.
OPTION	An entry in the OPTION file. As an item on a menu, an option provides an opportunity for users to select it, thereby invoking the associated computing activity. Options may also be scheduled to run in the background, non-interactively, by TaskMan.
OPTION NAME	The Name field in the OPTION file (e.g., XUMAINT for the option that has the menu text "Menu Management"). Options are namespaced according to VistA conventions monitored by the DBA.
OUTPATIENT	A patient who comes to the hospital, clinic, or dispensary for diagnosis and/or treatment but does not occupy a bed.
PACKAGE	The set of programs, files, documentation, help prompts, and installation procedures required for a given software application.

PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA (PVA)	A congressionally chartered veterans service organization founded following World War II, has developed a unique expertise in a wide variety of issues involving the needs of its members—veterans of the armed forces who have experienced spinal cord injury or dysfunction.
PASSWORD	A user's secret sequence of keyboard characters, which must be entered at the beginning of each computer session to provide the user's identity.
PERIPHERAL DEVICE	Any hardware device other than the computer itself (central processing unit plus internal memory). Typical examples include card readers, printers, CRT units, and disk drives.
PHANTOM JUMP	Menu jumping in the background. Used by the menu system to check menu pathway restrictions.
POINTER	A relationship between two VA FileMan files, a pointer is a file entry that references another file (forward or backward).
PRIMARY MENUS	The list of options presented at sign-on. Each user must have a primary menu in order to sign-on and reach Menu Manager. Users are given primary menus by IRM. This menu should include most of the computing activities the user needs.
PRINTER	A printing or hard copy terminal.
PRODUCTION ACCOUNT	The UCI where users log on and carry out their work, as opposed to the manager or library account.
PROGRAM	A list of instructions written in a programming language and used for computer operations.
PROMPT	The computer interacts with the user by issuing questions called prompts, to which the user issues a response.
PVA	**P**aralyzed **V**eterans of **A**merica—a congressionally chartered veterans service organization founded following World War II, has developed a unique expertise in a wide variety of issues involving the needs of its members—veterans of the armed forces who have experienced spinal cord injury or dysfunction.

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QUEUING	Requesting that a job be processed in the background rather than in the foreground within the current session. Jobs are processed sequentially (first-in, first-out). The Kernel's Task Manager handles the queuing of tasks.
QUEUING REQUIRED	An option attribute that specifies that the option must be processed by TaskMan (the option can only be queued). The option may be invoked and the job prepared for processing, but the output can only be generated during the specified time periods.
READ ACCESS	A user's authorization to read information stored in a computer file.
RECORD	A set of related data treated as a unit. An entry in a VA FileMan file constitutes a record. A collection of data items that refer to a specific entity (e.g., in a name-address-phone number file, each record would contain a collection of data relating to one person).
RESOURCE	Sequential processing of tasks can be controlled through the use of resources. Resources are entries in the DEVICE file which must be allocated to a process(es) before that process can continue.
RETURN	On the computer keyboard, the key located where the carriage return is on an electric typewriter. It is used in to terminate "reads." Symbolized by <RET>.
SCHEDULING OPTIONS	This is a technique of requesting that TaskMan run an option at a given time, perhaps with a given rescheduling frequency.
SCI	**S**pinal **C**ord **I**njury
SCI CENTERS	First established in 1946, these centers coordinate and administer the long-term care and treatment of spinal cord injured veterans.
SCI COORDINATOR	A social worker who identifies SCI patients, evaluates their socioeconomic status and advises them on eligibility criteria for VA benefits. SCI coordinators and other field personnel are the primary users of the local registries.
SCI PATIENTS	Patients whose spinal cord has been impaired due to trauma.
SCREEN	A CRT, monitor or video display terminal

SECONDARY MENUS   Options assigned to individual users to tailor their menu choices. If a user needs a few options in addition to those available on the Primary menu, the options can be assigned as secondary options. To facilitate menu jumping, secondary menus should be specific activities, not elaborate and deep menu trees.

SECURITY KEY   The purpose of Security Keys is to set a layer of protection on the range of computing capabilities available with a particular software package. The availability of options is based on the level of system access granted to each user.

SERVER   An entry in the OPTION file. An automated mail protocol that is activated by sending a message to a server at another location with the "S.server" syntax. This activity is specified in the OPTION file.

SET OF CODES   Usually a preset code with one or two characters. The computer may require capital letters as a response (e.g., M for male and F for female). If anything other than the acceptable code is entered, the computer rejects the response.

SIGN-ON/SECURITY   The Kernel module that regulates access to the menu system. It performs a number of checks to determine whether access can be permitted at a particular time. A log of sign-ons is maintained.

SITE MANAGER/   At each site, the individual who is responsible for managing
IRM CHIEF   computer systems, installing and maintaining new modules.

SPACEBAR RETURN   You can answer a VA FileMan prompt by pressing the spacebar and then the Return key. This indicates to VA FileMan that you would like the last response you were working on at that prompt recalled.

SPECIAL QUEUING   An option attribute indicating that TaskMan should automatically run the option whenever the system reboots.

SPECIALTY   The particular subject area or branch of medical science to which one devotes professional attention.

SPINAL CORD   Specified diseases and conditions that result in an impairment or
DYSFUNCTION (SCD)   abnormality of the spinal cord and/or cauda equina. Specified list includes conditions of both traumatic and nontraumatic etiology.

SPINAL CORD INJURY (SCI)	Damage to the spinal cord as a result of a traumatic incident. Trauma is a sudden external force which damages the spinal cord. This includes surgical trauma (i.e., which is both sudden and external) but excludes sudden damage to the vertebrae caused by disease (i.e., the disease process is not sudden). If both traumatic and non traumatic causes are present, classify as traumatic.
SPOOLER	Spooling (under any system) provides an intermediate storage location for files (or program output) for printing at a later time. In the case of VistA, the Kernel manages spooling so that the underlying OS mechanism is transparent. The Kernel subsequently transfers the text to the ^XMBS global for despooling (printing).
STOP CODE	A number (i.e., a subject area indicator) assigned to the various clinical, diagnostic, and therapeutic sections of a facility for reporting purposes. For example, all outpatient services within a given area (e.g., Infectious Disease, Neurology, and Mental Hygiene—Group) would be reported to the same clinic stop code.
SYNONYM	A field in the OPTION file. Options may be selected by their menu text or synonym (see Menu Text).
TASKMAN	The Kernel module that schedules and processes background tasks (also called Task Manager).
TEMPLATE	A means of storing report formats; data entry formats, and sorted entry sequences. A template is a permanent place to store selected fields for use at a later time. Edit sequences are stored in the INPUT TEMPLATE file, print specifications are stored in the PRINT TEMPLATE file, and search or sort specifications are stored in the SORT TEMPLATE file.
TERMINAL	May be either a printer or CRT/monitor/video display terminal.
TIMED-READ	The amount of time a READ command waits for a user response before it times out.
TREE STRUCTURE	A term sometimes used to describe the structure of an M array. This has the same structure as a family tree, with the root at the top and ancestor nodes arranged below according to their depth of subscripting. All nodes with one subscript are at the first level, all nodes with two subscripts at the second level, and so on.

TRIGGER	A type of VA FileMan cross reference. Often used to update values in the database given certain conditions (as specified in the trigger logic). For example, whenever an entry is made in a file, a trigger could automatically enter the current date into another field holding the creation date.
TYPE-AHEAD	A buffer used to store characters that are entered before the corresponding prompt appears. Type-ahead is a shortcut for experienced users who can anticipate an expected sequence of prompts.
UP-ARROW JUMP	In the menu system, entering an up-arrow (^) followed by an option name accomplishes a jump to the target option without needing to take the usual steps through the menu pathway.
USER ACCESS	This term is used to refer to a limited level of access, to a computer system, which is sufficient for using/operating a package, but does not allow programming, modification to data dictionaries, or other operations that require programmer access. Any option, for example, can be locked with the key XUPROGMODE, which means that invoking that option requires programmer access.

The user's access level determines the degree of computer use and the types of computer programs available. The Systems Manager assigns the user an access level. |
USER INTERFACE	The way the package is presented to the user—issuing of prompts, help messages, menu choices, etc. A standard user interface can be achieved by using VA FileMan for data manipulation, the menu system to provide option choices, and VA FileMan's Reader, the ^DIR utility, to present interactive dialogue.
VA	The Department of **V**eterans **A**ffairs, formerly called the **V**eterans **A**dministration.
VA FILEMAN	A set of programs used to enter, maintain, access, and manipulate a database management system consisting of files. A package of on-line computer routines written in the M language which can be used as a stand-alone database system or as a set of application utilities. In either form, such routines can be used to define, enter, edit, and retrieve information from a set of computer stored files.

VERIFY CODE (SEE PASSWORD)   An additional security precaution used in conjunction with the Access Code. Like the Access Code, it is also 6 to 20 characters in length and, if entered incorrectly, will not allow the user to access the computer. To protect the user, both codes are invisible on the terminal screen.

VistA   **V**eterans Health **I**nformation **S**ystems and **T**echnology **A**rchitecture.