

Minutes from National iMedConsent™ VANTS Call

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

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1. April POC Call

Paul Miller from Dialog Medical will facilitate the April 4th POC call. Please hold policy questions until the May POC call (or send them to me directly at ray.frazier@va.gov).

2. DUSHOM Information Letter

There should not be anything that is “new news” in this communication. If you have questions or concerns, please let me know. (The Information Letter is available on the web at: http://vaww.patientdecisions.va.gov/docs/iMed_DUSHOM_IL_20070222.pdf)

3. Q1 FY2007 Monitor Report

This report was sent to the DUSHOM on March 28, and should be made available to the field in the next week or two.

4. “Fox Release”

The latest iMed release (now they are named after animals) includes the following:

- Spanish Multi lingual forms available to all VA facilities
- Locking of content—“Facility Specific Procedure Notes” field still editable for consents in the standard library.
- New Local Usage Report Within iMedConsent—Summary of consents by Specialty
- New Advanced Directives Form available
- Content Update—New Nuclear Medicine Specialty (to be expanded in future releases)

For more information about this release, please review the release notes.

5. Next Release (“Gopher”)

- Mostly new content
- Revisiting administrative forms for Spanish
 - Use of Picture and/or Voice
 - Autopsy
- Anatomical Location moved from item 10 to item 5 in the consent form
- Removing patient signature in Pictures and Diagrams
- Updating Content Admin Guide to include to Spanish

6. Q&A/Discussion

- Are the local reports generating English/Spanish consents?
 - Not yet—In the development queue.
- Missing header file in documents—Is this a patch issue?
 - Dialog Medical will investigate

- Facilities need to review the language inserted in the “Facility Specific Procedure Notes” field. Note the difference between this and the Additional Information field. Revisit the text being used for both fields (e.g. tissue disposal—take out of Additional Information and put in Facility Specific Treatment Notes for the applicable procedures). Whenever appropriate, remove information from the Additional Information field and insert in the Facility Specific Procedure Notes field for the applicable treatments/procedures. Dialog and the Ethics Center will be reviewing this information together to provide further clarification and guidance.
- Is there a way to report the Facility Specific Procedure Notes field across documents?
 - Currently, no. This will be added to DM development queue.
- CCOW User Context enhancement to eliminate second sign-on: proposed enhancement for 2008 contract.
- Will an “Emergency Department” consent form be added to the iMedConsent library?
 - The specificity of the conversation is a key requirement for the patient/surrogate to be truly informed. Consent forms that list a slate of treatment/procedures/interventions that *may be* performed ask the patient/surrogate to give their consent without the essential knowledge of the particular condition that warrants the intervention. Thus, such prospective consent practices lack the specificity that is ethically required. Aside from the lack of specificity, bundling of procedures is also problematic in that it does not give the patient/surrogate the opportunity to accept/reject one or a number of the bundled procedures. Thus, it removes the patient/surrogate from the shared decision making process—of which he/she should be an active, integral participant. A good resource on this topic can be found on the Ethics Center website:
http://vaww.ethics.va.gov/ETHICS/docs/infocus/InFocus_20060801_Informed_Consent_Dos_and_Donts.pdf.
- A few practitioners are making edits to the English, but not the Spanish sections of the consent form. Is this OK?
 - No. The program prompts the user that edits, when made, must be reflected in the English and Spanish sections.
- What is the status of the new installer?
 - Not quite ready for production (DM will notify field as soon as it is ready)
- Facilities still experience problems with Sentillion. I am continuing to pursue a solution with OI&T.
- The group continued to discuss wireless equipment and network issues for the remainder of the call. I am going to attempt to have someone from OI&T attend the April POC call to address these issues directly.