



My Health, My Care: 24/7 ^{Online} Access to VA

The Blue Button Initiative: Increasing Consumer Access to Data VA Blue Button & My Health eVet Overview

Summer Institute in Nursing Informatics (SINI) Panel Presentation
July 23rd, 2011

Kim M. Nazi, FACHE, PhD Candidate
Veterans and Consumers Health Informatics Office
Chief Health Informatics Office





- Background
- Drivers
- Intended Outcomes
- Evolution
- My Health eVet
- VA Blue Button
- Next Steps

- **Markle Consumer Engagement Workgroup**

Determine how best to provide consumers with electronic access to data and to incent market innovators to create Health Information Technology (HIT) solutions

- **Breakthrough Idea**

Download button (i.e. , a “blue button” in the portal that would enable individuals to download their electronic health data)

- **Multi-agency Blue Button Initiatives**

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Department of Defense (DoD) integrate “Blue Button: Download My Data” feature on respective beneficiary portals

- **Health IT provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act)**
Set the expectation that individuals will be able to get electronic copies of pertinent health information about themselves
- **Investments in Health IT to Improve Health Care**
The Federal Government and the private sector are investing in HIT to improve health care quality and efficiency, enhance safety, promote patient engagement, and protect privacy
- **Increase Consumer Access To Data**
Compelling need for a simple and efficient way for individuals to get their own health information electronically (human readable, parsable)

Intended Outcomes



- Improve quality and accessibility of personal health information to Veterans using an incremental strategy to expand available data and features
- Foster consumer empowerment and Meaningful Use
- Enhance patient safety and improve co-managed care
- Support Open Government principles by posting sample data sets at Data.gov
- Partner with industry innovators

PHASE I

Demonstrate

- Develop Blue Button download capability for existing My HealthVet data classes
- Address data attribute requirements
- Provide human readable format and support data parsing
- Ensure alignment with CMS and DoD efforts via strong collaboration
- Address Markle policies-in-practice

PHASE II

Expand

- Expand data classes available for download to include additional extracts from VA Electronic Health Record
- Align with existing data standards as appropriate
- Ensure extensibility and sustainability
- Enable users to customize and choose file format
- Elicit user feedback and evaluate usage patterns and trends

PHASE III

Share

- Provide option for interoperable standardized format to enable Veterans to authorize sharing via health information exchange
- Support innovations to extend value of data for Veterans
- Ensure ongoing evaluation to determine impact and outcomes



www.myhealth.va.gov

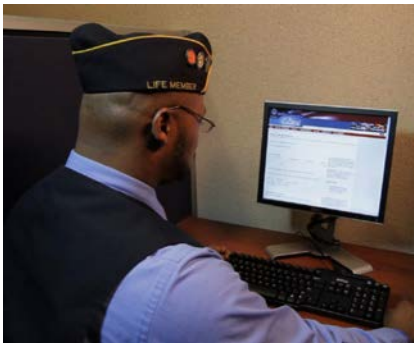
3-Tier Access Model:

- Visitors
- Registrants
- In-Person Authenticated (IPA)

May 2011

- More than 52 Million visits
- Over 1.32 Million registered users (76% are VA patients)
- More than 345,000 users have an authenticated account (IPA)
- Over 21.8 Million VA Rx refills since August 2005
- More than 260,000 unique Blue Button users
- More than 388,000 Blue Button file downloads

My Health eVet Features Today



- Personal information (contacts, providers, insurance, etc.)
- Personal, family, and military health history
- HealthLogs (blood sugar, blood pressure, weight, etc.)
- Medications (over the counter drugs, herbals, etc.)
- Allergies, Immunizations, Medical Events
- Food and activity journals
- Online VA prescription refills, VA prescription history
- My Complete Medications (printable summary)
- Health calendar
- Trusted health education information, online courses
- Self-assessment tools
- Mental health resources (including online courses)
- Secure Messaging (currently at participating VA sites)
- VA Blue Button: Download My Data
- VA Wellness Reminders
- VA Allergies
- VA Appointments (list, calendar, email reminders)

VA Blue Button Data Classes



Data Class	Source
Demographics (Includes Emergency Contacts)	Self-entered
Health Care Providers	Self-entered
Treatment Facilities	Self-entered
Health Insurance	Self-entered
VA Wellness Reminders*	VA Electronic Health Record
VA Appointments*	VA Electronic Health Record
VA Medication History	VA Electronic Health Record
Medications and Supplements	Self-entered
VA Allergies*	VA Electronic Health Record
Allergies and Adverse Reactions	Self-entered
Medical Events	Self-entered
Immunizations	Self-entered
VA Laboratory Results* (targeted for July 2011)	VA Electronic Health Record
Labs and Tests	Self-entered
Vitals and Readings	Self-entered
Family Health History (Self and Relatives)	Self-entered
Military Health History	Self-entered

*requires In-Person Authentication

VA Blue Button: Download My Data



May 2011
Memorial Day



VA Facility Locator | About MHV | RSS Feeds | Help | FAQs | Contact MHV | Search: **GO**

HOME | PERSONAL INFORMATION | PHARMACY | RESEARCH HEALTH | GET CARE | TRACK HEALTH | MHV COMMUNITY | SECURE MESSAGING

LEARN ABOUT | WHAT'S NEW? | COMING SOON

In the Spotlight



Updated Immunization Recommendations

May 2011

Pertussis, also known as "whooping cough," is a highly contagious disease that can cause serious illness. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and VA advise that most adults receive a Td (tetanus and diphtheria) booster every 10 years. For most people, one of these boosters should also include protection against pertussis. This vaccine is called **Tdap**. Getting **Tdap** is especially important for adults who are around infants 12 months of age or younger. The best way to protect them is to be sure that adults who are around them do not spread the infection to them. [Read More »](#)

Stroke: The Importance of Getting Help Right Away



Stroke affects people of all ages, race, gender and socio-economic status. It can happen very fast with little to no warning. Seeking medical attention right away can make the difference between life and death. [Read More »](#)

Treating PTSD Can Include 'Exposure Therapy'



Many Veterans suffer from posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Exposure therapy is a type of therapy that may help reduce the distress that symptoms of PTSD cause. Talk with your provider about what is right for you. [Read More »](#)

Medicine Cabinet Full? Too Many Pills?

Too often, you go to your provider and are put on one more pill. Ever stop and wonder, "What are all these pills for?" "What happens if I stop a pill or maybe add one extra?" In fact, getting answers to these questions could save your life. May is *Medication Reconciliation Awareness Month*, which means it is a good time to check what you have and what you need.

[Read More »](#)

New Caregiver Support Program Launched

On May 9th, 2011 the VA began a new program to help Veterans and their caregivers. This new program provides support to eligible post-9/11 Veterans. It is for Veterans who want to receive their care in a home setting from a Family Caregiver.

[Read More »](#)

[Download My Data](#)

[Prescription Refill](#)

[Emergency Contacts](#)

[Providers & Physicians](#)

[Vitals & Readings](#)

[Military Health History](#)

[Medical Library](#)

[VA Honors Veterans](#)

Getting the Most Out of My HealthVet

Decide where you can improve your health. Then use My HealthVet to help you get it done.

[Learn more»](#)
[Download \(PDF\) »](#)

[In-Person](#)

Member Logout
Logged On As: ONE


Logout

Quick Links


- [VA National Suicide Prevention Hotline](#)
If you are in crisis call:
1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- [In-Person Authentication](#)
- [Flu Information](#)
- [My HealthVet Learning Center](#)
- [VA Mental Health Services](#)
- [Getting the Most Out of My HealthVet](#)
- [Rx Refill Guide](#)
- [Rx Refill](#)
- [View your VA Medication Names](#)
- [Quality of Care](#)
- [MOVE!](#)
- [HealthierUS Veterans](#)
- [Most Requested Forms](#)
- [Message from the Under Secretary for Health](#)
- [Veterans Health Initiative](#)
- [Medicare](#)
- [HHS](#)

My Health eVet Personal Information Page






UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



March 2011
National Brain Month



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IN CASE OF EMERGENCY | PROFILES | DOWNLOAD MY DATA | ACCOUNT | HEALTH INFORMATION CARD

Personal Information


My Health eVet (MHV) has made it easy to keep track of your Personal Information. MHV is all about you and your health. Part of your personal online health journal is your identification. When you registered for My Health eVet, you entered important information about yourself. This is where you'll find it, along with other important facts like your login information, blood type and emergency contacts.

In Case of Emergency




Keep your emergency contacts in one place...
[More »](#)

My Profile




Your name, address and identifying information...
[More »](#)

Download My Data




Use the Blue Button to easily download your health information...
[More »](#)

My Account



Manage your account, in-person authentication...
[More »](#)

Change your Password




Change your My Health eVet password here...
[More »](#)

Member Logout

Logged On As: Joe

Logout

Quick Links

- [VA National Suicide Prevention Hotline](#)
If you are in crisis call: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- [In-Person Authentication](#)
- [Flu Information](#)
- [My Health eVet Learning Center](#)
- [VA Mental Health Services](#)
- [Getting the Most Out of My Health eVet](#)
- [Rx Refill Guide](#)
- [Rx Refill](#)
- [View your VA Medication Names](#)
- [Quality of Care](#)
- 
- [HealthierUS Veterans](#)
- [Most Requested Forms](#)
- [Message from the Under Secretary for Health](#)
- [Veterans Health Initiative](#)
- [Medicare](#)
- [HHS](#)
- [VA Kids](#)

View My Links Information (self-entered)
(Personal Health Journal of Joe Veteran)

You are viewing My Links information. If you would like to add an entry, click on the Add New button.

My Links

VA Blue Button: Download Request



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VA Home


My healthvet

May 2011 Memorial Day

VA Facility Locator | About MHV | RSS Feeds | Help | FAQs | Contact MHV | Search: Search: **GO**

HOME | PERSONAL INFORMATION | PHARMACY | RESEARCH HEALTH | GET CARE | TRACK HEALTH | MHV COMMUNITY | SECURE MESSAGING

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY | PROFILES | DOWNLOAD MY DATA | ACCOUNT | HEALTH INFORMATION CARD



Blue Button Download My Data

My Download Request

[Blue Button User Guide](#) | [Learn More](#) | [Protecting Your Personal Health Information](#)

The VA Blue Button is simple, safe, and reliable. You can download all of the personal health information currently available in your My HealtheVet account. You can get your information in two file formats. You can download it in a format that is easy to read and print (PDF file) or as a simple text format (.txt file). You may wish to review the information in your account first to be sure it is up to date before you download it.


Easy access to all of the information in your My HealtheVet account can help you to share your information with people you trust. Having this information in ways you can use and share may help you better manage your overall health and your healthcare. [Learn More >](#)

Remember that once you have downloaded your information from My HealtheVet, it is your responsibility to keep it safe and private. Learn more about [protecting your personal health information](#).

Download all of my available data from My HealtheVet

Download only my selected data from My HealtheVet

Continue **Cancel**

 Protect your information and your identity. Send to a safe site or device that you or someone you trust controls.


This is your personal health information. Your health care professional does not have access to this information unless you share it.

Member Logout

Logged On As: ONE

Logout

Quick Links

- [VA National Suicide Prevention Hotline](#)
If you are in crisis call: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- [In-Person Authentication](#)
- [Flu Information](#)
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- 
- [HealthierUS Veterans](#)
- [Most Requested Forms](#)
- [Message from the Under Secretary for Health](#)
- [Veterans Health Initiative](#)
- [Medicare](#)
- [HHS](#)

VA Blue Button: Customize Request



Blue Button Download My Data

Download My Selected Data

[Blue Button User Guide](#) | [Learn More](#) | [Protecting Your Personal Health Information](#)

There are many ways you can download your information. You can choose a date range, select the types of information you wish to include in your download, or both.

Select Date Range

- All Date Ranges
 Select Date Range

Start Date:	Apr	23	2011	
End Date:	May	23	2011	

Select Types of Information

- All Types of Information
 Select one or more types of information

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health Care Providers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allergies and Adverse Reactions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Treatment Facilities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Events |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health Insurance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Immunizations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VA Wellness Reminders* | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VA Laboratory Results* |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VA Appointments* (Future) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Labs and Tests |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VA Appointments* (Limited to past 2 years) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vitals And Readings |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VA Medication History (2 years unless date range selected) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family Health History (self and relatives) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medications and Supplements | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military Health History |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VA Allergies* | |

* Requires an [upgraded account](#).

VA Blue Button: Download Results



My Download Results

[Blue Button User Guide](#) | [Learn More](#) | [Protecting Your Personal Health Information](#)

The results of your Blue Button download request are shown below. You can use this information in two ways:

1. **Download:** You have a choice of two file formats when you download your personal health information currently available in My HealtheVet. You can download it in a format that is easy to read and print (PDF file) or as a simple text format (.txt file). If you choose to download your data as a PDF file, you will be able to view and print it before saving the file. Be sure to save the file to a safe place. If needed, you can obtain a free copy of the Adobe Reader for PDF files at the [VA Viewer Software page](#).
2. **View/Print** – You can view your personal health information and print it out.

You can also cancel your download at any time.

Note: Anytime you download information from the Internet it is possible to create a temporary file on the computer you are using. Please be aware of this when opening a file on a computer you do not control.

It is important to protect your personal health information. All requests to download your personal health information from My HealtheVet are tracked. You can see these requests in your [account activity history](#).

Personal Health Information of ONE MHVETERAN

DOWNLOAD YOUR DATA

File Contents	File Name	File Size	Request Date	Status	Option to Retrieve Data
Selected Health Data	mhv_MHVETERAN_20110523.pdf	46.4 kb	05/23/2011 08:18 PM EDT	Ready to Download	Download PDF File
Selected Health Data	mhv_MHVETERAN_20110523.txt	26.0 kb	05/23/2011 08:18 PM EDT	Ready to Download	Download View/Print

[Cancel](#)

Protect your information and your identity. Send to a safe site or device that you or someone you trust controls.

This is your personal health information. Your health care professional does not have access to this information unless you share it.

VA Blue Button: Download Results



My Download Results

The results of your Blue Button download request are shown below. You can use this information in the following ways:

1. **Download:** You have a choice of two file formats when you download your personal health information: as a PDF file or as a simple text format (.txt file). If you choose to download your data, please save the file to a safe place. If needed, you can obtain a free copy of the Adobe Reader for PDF files.
2. **View/Print** – You can view your personal health information and print it out.

You can also cancel your download at any time.

Note: Anytime you download information from the Internet it is possible to create a temporary file on your computer that you do not control.

It is important to protect your personal health information. All requests to download your personal health information are recorded in your [account activity history](#).

Personal Health Information of ONE MHHVETERAN

DOWNLOAD YOUR DATA

File Contents	File Name	File Size	Request Date
Selected Health Data	mhv_MHHVETERAN_20110523.pdf	46.4 kb	05/23/2011
Selected Health Data	mhv_MHHVETERAN_20110523.txt	26.0 kb	05/23/2011

Cancel

Protect your information and your identity. Send to a safe site or device that you or someone you trust can access.

This is your personal health information. Your health care professional does not have access to this information unless you share it.

```

mhhv_MHHVETERAN_20110523[1].txt - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
----- MY HEALTHEVET PERSONAL HEALTH INFORMATION -----
*****CONFIDENTIAL*****
Produced by the Blue Button (v11.3)
05/23/2011 20:51

This summary is a copy of information from your My HealtheVet Personal
Health Record. Your summary contains information that you entered and
may also include a copy of some of the information in your VA medical
record as it becomes available in My HealtheVet. Please let your health
care team know if you have questions about your health information.
Name: MHHVETERAN, ONE A Date of Birth: 03/01/1948
----- DOWNLOAD REQUEST SUMMARY -----
System Request Date/Time: 05/23/2011 08:51 PM CST
User Request Type: Download all of my available data from My HealtheVet
File Name: mhv_MHHVETERAN_20110523.txt
----- MY HEALTHEVET ACCOUNT SUMMARY -----
Source: VA
Authentication Status: Authenticated
Authentication Date: 08/19/2010
Authentication Facility ID: 979
Authentication Facility Name: SLC10 TEST LAB

VA Treating Facility Type
-----
AUSTIN HDR INT OTHER
AUSTIN PSIM OTHER
DAYT29 M&ROC
----- DEMOGRAPHICS -----
Source: Self-Entered
First Name: ONE
Middle Initial: A
Last Name: MHHVETERAN
Suffix:
Alias: MHHVET
Relationship to VA: Patient, Veteran, Employee
Gender: Male Blood Type: AB+ Organ Donor: Yes
    
```

My Health eVet Account Activity History



Account Activity History

[Printer Friendly](#) | [Help](#)

Account Activity Summary for ONE A. MHVVETERAN

With this feature, you can view and print up to **12 months** of your account activity (such as logins and password changes).

View Activities within a date range:

You can view activities dating back to **May 23, 2010**

From:

To:

Performed By:

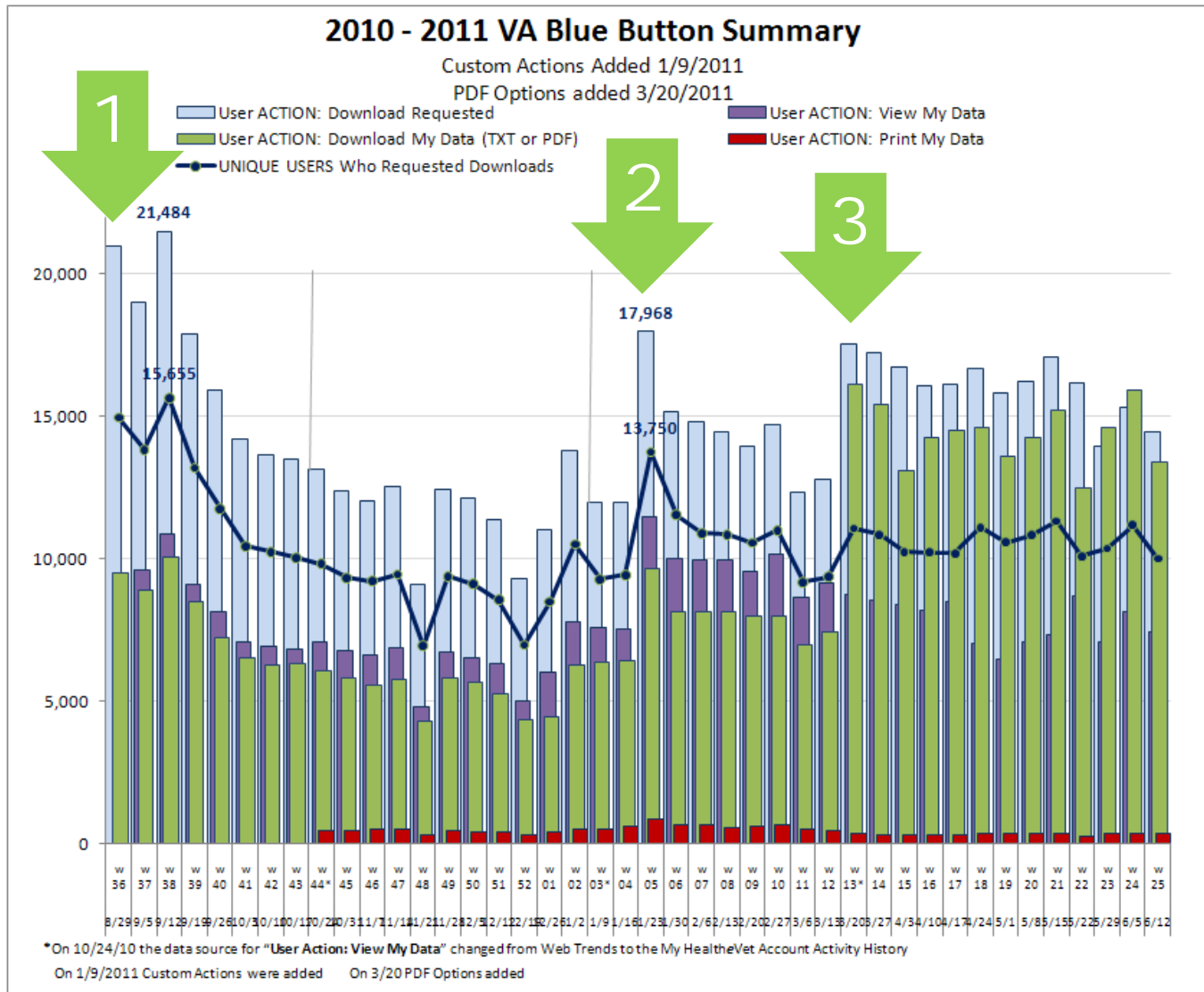
780 items found, displaying 1 to 10
[First](#)/[Prev](#) [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#), [8](#), [9](#), [10](#) [Next](#)/[Last](#)
 Number of rows to display per page: 10 [25](#) [50](#) [100](#)

Date/Time	Performed By	Activity	Action	Result
5/23/2011 8:51 PM EDT	Self	Download	Download My Data	Successful
5/23/2011 8:51 PM EDT	Self	Download	Download Requested	Successful
5/23/2011 8:50 PM EDT	Self	Login/Logout	Login	Successful
5/23/2011 8:30 PM EDT	Self	Login/Logout	Login	Unsuccessful
5/23/2011 8:22 PM EDT	Self	Download	View My Custom Data	Successful
5/23/2011 8:21 PM EDT	Self	Download	Download My Custom Data	Successful
5/23/2011 8:21 PM EDT	Self	Download	Download My Custom Data pdf	Successful
5/23/2011 8:18 PM EDT	Self	Download	Custom Download Requested	Successful
5/23/2011 8:18 PM EDT	Self	Download	Custom Download Requested	Successful
5/23/2011 7:33 PM EDT	Self	Login/Logout	Login	Successful

780 items found, displaying 1 to 10
[First](#)/[Prev](#) [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#), [8](#), [9](#), [10](#) [Next](#)/[Last](#)
 Number of rows to display per page: 10 [25](#) [50](#) [100](#)

- More than **260,000** unique registered users have submitted download requests since the launch of the VA Blue Button on August 29, 2010
- More than **388,000** Blue Button files have been downloaded
- More than **265,000** Blue Button outputs have been viewed in the browser
- Since the PDF file format option was added in March 2011, more than **130,000** Blue Button PDF files have been downloaded

VA Blue Button Trends



VA Blue Button Trends



VA Blue Button Returning Users and First-Time Users

