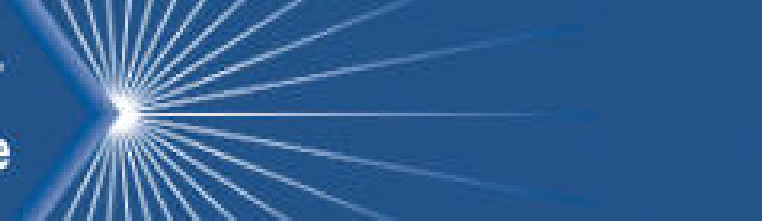


VSAC Users' Forum

**Thursday, April 16, 2015
2:00 – 3:00 PM**



Today's Agenda

- **Announcements: VSAC Code System Updates**

RxNorm 2015-04 (next week)

US Edition of SNOMED CT 2015-03 (next week)

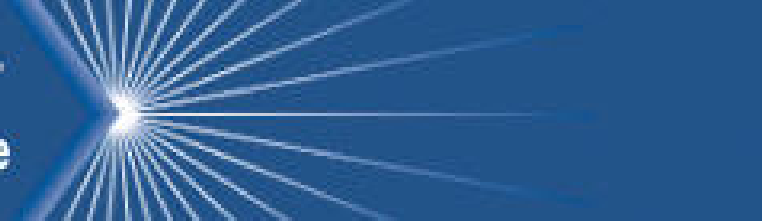
Updated style and functionality of VSAC Support Center

- **Today's Topics:**

Should We Have the Ability to Retire Value Sets?

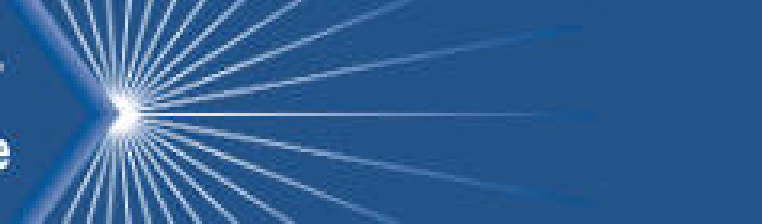
Discussion of 'Private until Published' Draft Value Sets.

Recent User Questions



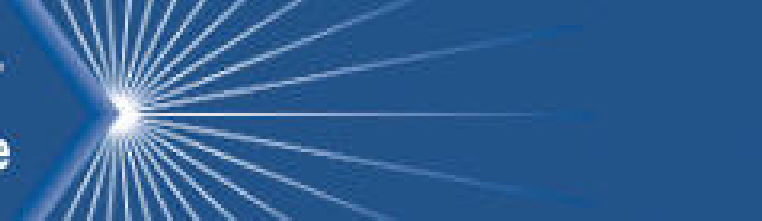
First, Let's Review Definition versus Expansion

The value sets shown on “Search Value Sets” tab are public **expansions** and these **expansions are generated from the definitions** created by authors in the “VSAC Authoring Tool.” In other words, expansions are snapshots-in-time of definitions using a particular code system version.



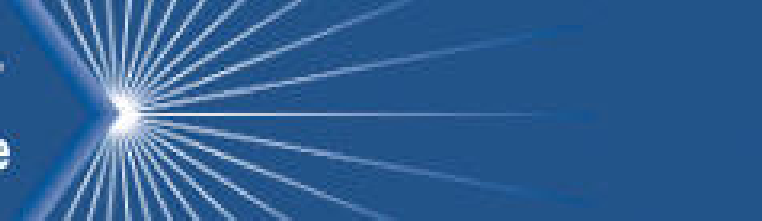
Should VSAC Authors or their Programs be Able to Retire Value Sets?

- What does “Retired” mean for a value set?
- “Retired” does not mean the same as “Deleted.”
- When we talk about “retired” value sets, are we referring to expansions or definitions, or both?
- Why would a author or program need to retire a value set from usage?
- What mechanism or workflow would a value set author use to indicate a value set is no longer recommended for use.
- Would “retired” mean the value set should not **OR** could not be used?
- We could set effective or expiration dates so the expansions are valid within the effective period of usage.



‘Private-until-Completed’ Draft Value Sets?

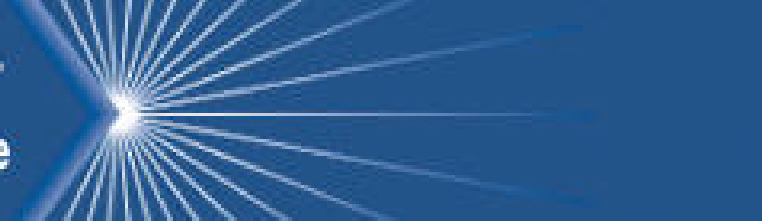
- Draft value sets cannot be viewed in the public VSAC repository.
- All draft value sets can be viewed in the VSAC Authoring Tool by anyone with VSAC Authoring/Stewarding permissions.
- Transparency is important in the VSAC Authoring Tool, as it promotes harmonization and non-redundancy of value sets.
- There is a user-concern that a VSAC Author/Steward might use another group’s draft value set OID within an application, before the value set has been completed and published.



‘Private-until-Completed’

Draft Value Sets: Issues to Consider

- We think the issue raised at the March VSAC Users’ Forum had more to do with a fear of draft value sets being put into public use, by fellow VSAC Authors, before the draft value sets were completed.
- It is important for VSAC Authors to be able to view others’ work in progress in order to avoid duplication and to promote collaboration.
- “Private drafts” defeats the purpose of value set harmonization. If the upcoming VSAC Similarity function checks “private” value sets, the similarity results are useless to the authors that cannot view these “private” value sets.

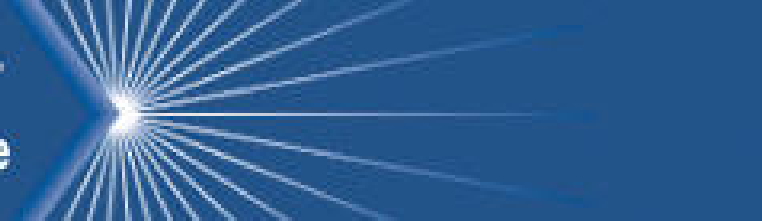


VSAC Users' Poll #1: Be Engaged!

It is important for VSAC Authors to be able to view others' work in progress in order to avoid duplication and to promote collaboration. Please select from the choices below whether you agree with the ability to hide your draft value sets.

YES: VSAC Authors should be able to hide their draft value sets from other authors, until completed.

NO: All drafts should be viewable to all VSAC Authors, reducing redundancy and promoting collaboration.

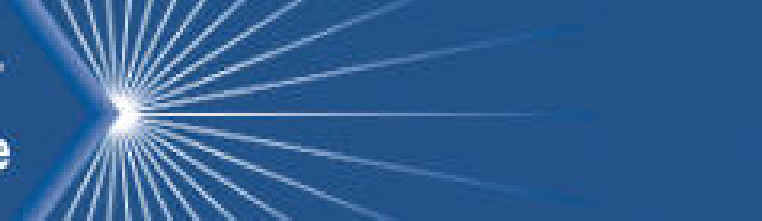


VSAC Users' Poll #2: Remain Engaged!

Technically hiding draft value sets is problematic with potential downstream unintended consequences. Please select your opinion on whether a written VSAC policy and warning within the VSAC Authoring Tool could be a sufficient method to warn people against use a unpublished value set in an application.

YES: a VSAC policy would be sufficient.

NO: a VSAC policy would not be sufficient .



Questions?

Send comments, questions, ideas to:

custserv@nlm.nih.gov

(place VSAC in the subject line)

Upcoming VSAC Users' Forum:

May 21, 2015