

VDW PROGRAMMING RESOURCES

Health Care Systems Research Network (HCSRN) Web Portal

- The VDW began life as a CRN initiative. The HCSRN's VDW Operations Committee (VOC) maintains a wealth of detailed VDW documentation and tools on the Network's password-protected Web Portal. VDW information on the Portal includes:
 - Details on implementation of VDW datasets at HCSRN sites, including update frequency, dates of availability and known caveats for users
 - Metadata queries, including availability of specific data elements as well as IRB and other administrative processes at HCSRN sites
 - Guidelines for mapping claims and clinical data to VDW specifications
 - VDW Programmers Guide and other tips and tools
 - Library of SAS macros to improve programming efficiency
- Portal access is granted to HCSRN programmers, analysts and researchers involved in VDW implementation and quality improvement. This may be through the CRN Scientific Data and Resources Core (SDRC), the HCSRN VOC, the Kaiser Permanente Center for Effectiveness and Safety Research (CESR), or other initiative.
- Contact one of the VOC project managers ([Deb Multerer](#) or [Jeanette Bardsley](#)) to request access to the VDW site on the HCSRN private web portal.

VDW Email Lists

- Those using the VDW for proposal development or funded projects may wish to subscribe to the VDW Users listserv to ask questions and share information with other VDW users and site data managers.
- Those implementing local VDW tables should subscribe to the VDW Implementation Group listserv to benefit from the knowledge of the multicenter data area workgroups and learn how to participate in conference calls and meetings.
 - 1) Visit <http://listinfo.grouphealthresearch.org/lists>
 - 2) Select the list you want to join from within the "HCSRN" category
 - 3) Click Join this list and then click the subscribe here link and follow the prompts

VDW Programmer Tutorial

- Past training presentations are archived on both the [HCSRN website](#) and on the VDW site of the [HCSRN portal](#).