This is the sixteenth edition of a monthly broadcast email to the CRIS user community about CRIS capabilities and issues. In addition to the text version in this email, I've attached a PDF version that can be printed. I look forward to receiving your comments or suggestions at CIOnewsletter@cc.nih.gov

Topics of the Month

- CIO Remarks
- Prototype Upgrade
- ORS Upgrade
- VIASYS Go-Live
- Citrix Update
- Patient Transfers in CRIS
- Security Update
- User Training

CIO Remarks

The Clinical Research Information System (CRIS) provides integrated management of the NIH Clinical Center’s patient care, research, and resource utilization data.

CRIS:
- Improves the quality and efficiency of patient care, clinical research, planning, and hospital operations.
- Provides a standard format for data collection for patient care and research.
- Includes integrated protocol-based scheduling, order entry, data collection, and charting systems.
- Identified as the information infrastructure to support the intramural clinical research program, patient care services, and efficient hospital management.
- Provides the foundation for an electronic medical record.
- Incorporates security protocols to protect patient confidentiality.
- Provides a standards-based interface which allows for appropriate data retrieval for independent information systems.

It is important to understand that:
► CRIS is a Medical Device.
► Your training class is just the beginning.
► The more time you invest in learning CRIS, the better it will serve you.

CRIS is Your system, please use Your voice to identify improvement opportunities. In June you will receive a survey via email requesting feedback on the CRIS. Details about the CRIS User Satisfaction Survey will be in the May 2007 Newsletter. Also, please feel free to email me at CIOnewsletter@cc.nih.gov for any suggestions or comments.
ProtoType Upgrade

On April 11, 2007, the web-based protocol authoring tool ProtoType was upgraded to version 3.0. Developed by NIH Clinical Center Staff, ProtoType facilitates the protocol authoring process by employing a paperless system, standardizes the process while offering flexibility, and provides IRB defined templates. Version 3.0 offers single sign-on, intuitive screens, ability to add references from QUOSA, simplified version control, full text editing, and enhanced compare features.

Version 3.0 was completed through the efforts of Phil Lightfoot, Brian Chamberlain, Ryan Kennedy, and Kim Jarema with the support of Dr. John Gallin and Dr. Robert Nussenblatt. Development of a Computer-based Training module is in process by Kim Jarema, Mark Miller, and Charlotte Seckman.

For more information pertaining to the use of ProtoType please contact Kim Jarema, Protocol Services Office at 301.435.2401.
Occurrence Reporting System Upgrade

On April 30, 2007 the Occurrence Reporting System (ORS) upgrade was completed. Everything is the same except how you sign-on to the ORS has been streamlined. Now you can use your NIH User Name and Password just as you do in ITAS. The change in the sign-on process was made so that all clinical staff could have access to the ORS.

Automatic notifications will remain set as before. The Clinical Center’s Office of the Director and NPCS will review the notifications and ensure proper delivery of them throughout this initial time. If you think you are missing an ORS report or are receiving ORS reports in error, please email Mary Sparks.

![ORS Login Screen](image)

Figure 4: ORS Login Screen

VIASYS Go-Live

A new interface between Viasys (Vmax/Jaeger, NHLBI: Pulmonary Function Branch) and CRIS will be activated in May 2007.

This enhancement will allow the Pulmonary Function Test orders in CRIS to transfer to the Viasys system, and results of those tests will be viewed under the Results tab in CRIS. The interface is a continuation of the effort to automatically bring additional data from other clinical systems into CRIS.

After May 14, 2007 the following PFT orders will be sent to Viasys, and their accompanying results will be available in CRIS:

- PFT - CPET
- PFT - P-CCMB (Research)
- PFT - Pulmonary Function Test
- PFT - Special/Methacholine Test
- PFT – 6-Minute Walk Test
- PFT - Exercise Challenge
The **6-Minute Walk Test** and **Exercise Challenge** are new PFT orders that will be added to CRIS with the interface. As a reminder, if these orders are submitted as **Future**, they will not be sent to the Viasys system until they are released from their hold status.

If you have any questions about the new orders or Viasys, please contact Mr. Mark Barton in the Pulmonary Function Branch at 301-496-9154. If you have any issues with the interface, please contact the CRIS Support Desk at 301-496-8400.

**Citrix Update**

The Clinical Center (CC) will begin upgrading the CC Citrix beginning late Spring/early Summer 2007. The way you will access the new CC Citrix environment will be through a web browser instead of the Citrix Program Neighborhood. Information concerning how to access the new URL/address will be provided in a phased process.

The new version has many new features that improve: use, access, application security, and compatibility with other applications. The CC Department of Clinical Research Informatics (DCRI) will be leading this project. Stay tuned for more information.

**Patient Transfers in CRIS**

Inpatient transfers always require a medical order entered by the prescriber. The nurse activates the conditional transfer order from the **Worklist Manager** and suspends all active orders. The sending unit nurse also marks the transfer task as done on the **Worklist Manager** upon sending the patient to the new inpatient unit.

The **Transfer: Inpt to Inpt Unit Order** should only be used for inpatients. The **Transfer: Outpt to Outpt Order** should only be used for outpatients.

Use the Temporary Location Icon to assign an inpatient or outpatient to a temporary location (i.e. day hospital, clinic, etc.)

Please refer to the CRIS User Manual Chapter 1 Policies to get more detailed information about transfers and their requirements. This can be found at: [http://cris.cc.nih.gov/procedures/cris_user_manual.html](http://cris.cc.nih.gov/procedures/cris_user_manual.html)

**Security Update**

Memorandum M-06-15 from OMB dated **May 22, 2006** states:

“As you know, the loss of personally identifiable information can result in substantial harm, embarrassment, and inconvenience to individuals and may lead to identity theft or other fraudulent use of the information. Because Federal agencies maintain significant amounts of information concerning individuals, we have a special duty to protect that information from loss and misuse.

This memorandum reemphasizes your many responsibilities under law and policy to appropriately safeguard sensitive personally identifiable information and train your employees.
on their responsibilities in this area. In particular, the Privacy Act requires each agency to establish:

“rules of conduct for persons involved in the design, development, operation, or maintenance of any system of records, or maintaining any record, and instruct each such person with respect to such rules and the requirements of [the Privacy Act], including any other rules and procedures adopted pursuant to this [Act] and the penalties for noncompliance”, and “appropriate administrative, technical and physical safeguards to insure the security and confidentiality of records and to protect against any anticipated threats or hazards to their security or integrity which could result in substantial harm, embarrassment, inconvenience or unfairness to any individual on whom information is maintained.” (5 U.S.C. § 552a(e)(9)-(10))

With this said, we want to remind everyone that it is our duty to protect all sensitive information that has been entrusted to us. We have policies and procedures in place to ensure that we are protecting those systems that we know about. If you are planning to develop a system or application that will store, process or transmit sensitive data please contact the CC ISSO or CC Privacy Officer to evaluate that system or application, even if that application is an access type of database or spreadsheet. If you have a system or application and you are not sure if you have the proper documented policies and procedures to protect that data please contact the CC ISSO or CC Privacy Officer. Remember, we are required by law to protect all the information entrusted to us.

User Training

The CRIS website hosts many training resources/ reference material to assist you with utilizing CRIS. New materials are highlighted below and are available on the CRIS website at http://cris.cc.nih.gov/cristraining/training_materials.html

New training materials are available on how to create preference filters for viewing orders and documents. These filters are permanent and will be available for use, with any patient, every time you log on to CRIS to view information. These handouts include:

- Add New Documents Filter
- Add New Orders Filter

In addition, new training material is available on how to add yourself as a care provider to multiple patients at one time to create a criteria based role list. Steps are outlined on how to convert a Special List to a Criteria-Based Patient List. The handout is titled:

- Add Yourself as a Care Provider to a Patient List