What is a VNA?

Vendor Neutral Archive “VNA” – is an information technology that archives digital medical images with documents and files in a standards-compliant way in a central storage infrastructure that meets patient-centred clinical needs both within and across multiple medical specialties regardless of the health IT systems provider.

A VNA is a technology based upon standards that provide healthcare enterprises system interoperability and data ownership through system and data format neutrality. IMAGE Information Systems VNA practice is to apply a DICOM Part 10 header to non-DICOM objects which enables facilities to archive from multiple disciplines in a standard format.

Advantages of a VNA

- Fast and easy health data exchange within seconds with anybody connected
- Prevents double examinations
- Efficient data security system

Object Formats Incorporated

- DICOM - imaging studies
- Non-DICOM
  - PDF – for example, reports
  - General Text
  - Videos
  - Waveform objects, e.g. ECG

Medical Specialties

- Radiology
- Cardiology
- General Medicine
- Pathology
- Laboratory
- Dermatology
What is an XDS?

Cross-Enterprise Document Sharing “XDS” – Is a set of IHE-defined components that enable the standards-compliant sharing of digital medical documents with images and files across multiple healthcare enterprises. “XDS-I” is the branch of XDS dedicated to medical images.

XDS operation is through federated Document Repositories and a Document Registry to create a record of information about a patient from different healthcare facilities within a given clinical affinity. XDS defines the information to be shared and how it is to be effected, with appropriate levels of consent for sharing.

iQ-XDS Profiles

Despite its commonly being referred to as a product, XDS is, in fact, a defined set of IHE standards (actors and transactions). The XDS roles can be fulfilled by a number of applications such as PACS and VNA. For example, iQ-WEBX, at the heart of the iQ-SYSTEM PACS, is enabled to act as an XDS Repository with XDS-I modules such as iQ-4VIEW, as well as other third-party XDS-I enabled HTML5 medical image viewers, as XDS Consumer.

XDS Profiles Supported

- XDS Document Repository
- XDS Document Registry
- XDS Document Consumer
- XDS Document Source

iQ-SYSTEM PACS

While the differences between VNA and XDS become clear on examination, superficially the technologies can appear quite similar. In fact, VNA and XDS are two comparable and complementary approaches to a single problem.

IMAGE VNA and XDS Consultancy

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IMAGE Information Systems is pleased to offer clients consultancy and advice as well as supply products and services adapted to the exact needs of individual clients.