

VHA RTLS Instrument Tracking System Medical-Surgical & Dental Instrument Nomenclature Standard Guidance

1 Nomenclature Overview

Real Time Location System (RTLS) data analytics is increasingly important, not only within a VA medical center, but also between VISNs, and for national data calls (e.g. IUSS, Utilization Rates, etc.). The use of standards in alerts, messaging, and business rules requires a common nomenclature to facilitate these exchanges.

Nomenclature standards define the format or structure of information to be passed between disparate systems. Following an exhaustive search for an international nomenclature standard, none of the following sources currently possess or maintain a suitable medical-surgical and dental instrument data structure fully meeting VHA's requirements:

- American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
- Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI)
- Global Medical Device Nomenclature (GMDN)
- GS-1
- International Health Terminology Standards Development Organization (IHTSDO)
- International Standards Organization (ISO)
- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
- The Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine – Clinical Terms (SNOMED-CT)
- Universal Medical Device Nomenclature System (UMDNS)

The following specific standards have been developed for the VA enterprise to serve local needs in the absence of defined and accepted international standards.

In this case, nomenclature standards work by defining, in specific terms, the structure of medical-surgical and dental instrument descriptors between two or more locations or systems. It is necessary for all RTLS stakeholders to understand the importance of these standards and how they impact patient care.

The Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN)¹ recommended practices provides primary guidance to medical centers on performing sponge, sharps, and instrumentation counts in invasive procedural settings. Counts are performed to account for all items and lessen the potential for injury to the patient as a result of a retained foreign body.

AORN recommended practices establish “the gold standard for prevention of retained foreign bodies.” Det Norske Veritas (DNV) and The Joint Commission resources healthcare accreditation bodies consider retention of foreign bodies a Sentinel Event. The standardization of VHA RTLS Instrument Tracking System (ITS) nomenclature enhances usability of the system for all VA surgical team members, including SPS staff, and supports VHA's commitments to adhering to established policies and procedures related to surgical counts and safeguarding patients.

Within applicable VHA facilities, counts based on AORN recommended practices for surgical instruments, sharps, and sponges will be performed and recorded on all procedures in which the possibility exists that an item could be retained.

Generally, these counts should be performed:

¹ Recommended practices for prevention of retained surgical items. In: *Perioperative Standards and Recommended Practices*. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2015

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- before the procedure (to establish a baseline),
- before closure of a cavity within a cavity,
- before wound closure begins,
- at skin closure or end of procedure, and
- at the time of permanent relief of either the scrub person or the circulating nurse.

When counts are carefully completed and accurately documented by the perioperative team, related human-factor incidents can be significantly reduced, if not entirely eliminated. Complete and accurate count procedures promote optimal perioperative patient outcomes and demonstrate VHA's commitment to patient safety.

A full systematic review of the ITS exhibited divergent strategies related to medical-surgical and dental instrumentation. A focused review of VHA legacy ITS data provided the following highlights required for global VHA considerations:

- Surgical Count Sheets require the following key elements:
 - Instrument Supplier Name
 - Instrument Catalog Number
 - Instrument Specialty Descriptors
 - Quantity Required for Procedure

During the intraoperative phase of surgical procedures, substandard instrumentation nomenclature may complicate the efficient and effective counting processes. These recurrent findings relate directly to the lack of uniformity in instrument manufacturer's catalog terminology schemas. The constructs outlined within this document were developed to make database queries by staff simpler, faster, and more complete. Furthermore, the use of this nomenclature strategy will impart considerations for future RTLS decision support functionality.

Standards developed by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) impose some structure on instrument descriptions by requiring limited use of the GMDN:

Abbreviation Required: SCISSORS, MAYO, DISSECTING STRAIGHT, MIRROR_FINISH, 5-3/4IN



The following VHA RTLS Medical-Surgical & Dental Instrument Nomenclature Standard was developed to fill this critical need.

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2 VA RTLS Instrument Tracking System (ITS): Medical-Surgical & Dental Instrument Nomenclature

VHA is actively deploying four RTLS applications across all medical centers in the initial deployment phase; Temperature and Humidity Monitoring (TM), Sterile Processing Workflow (SPW), Asset Management (AM), and Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory Supply Management (CL).

The RTLS contract awarded to prime vendor Hewlett Packard Enterprise Services (HPES) includes Intelligent Insights™ as the base aggregated solution which integrates with other software programs such as the Censitrac® instrument tracking system (ITS) providing application-specific functionality. Intelligent Insights™ serves as the general interface within which users perform high level/visual searches for data contained within all RTLS-related applications. The RTLS system utilizes Centrak® active location technology data to transmit the real time physical location of tagged objects (e.g. Case Carts). Censis Technologies' Censitrac® software for the RTLS Instrument Tracking System (ITS) utilizes passive technology to electronically track processes, capture sterilization records, automate competency verifications, display SPS Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and/or electronic manufacturer instructions for use (IFUs), provide near real time instrument inventory, assist in education/training on instrumentation, and incorporate data management of instrumentation.

The following nomenclature standards specify the way information will be structured in SPS instrument libraries as well as exhibited on procedure tray inventory count sheets. Nomenclature is more directly concerned with the information itself, the general and specific medical-surgical and dental instrumentation descriptions. These standards assure consistency of information between the different systems within RTLS and across the VHA enterprise

The examples provided within this document are fluid, meaning that they are intentionally non-inclusive, while providing more than adequate guidance for the standard to be implemented. If you feel an omission or correction should be considered in the next enhanced version of this document, please email your VISN RTLS Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) with details.

2.1 Special Characters

The following 'Special Characters' should be avoided if at all possible:

>	Greater than sign	'	Apostrophe
<	Less than sign	%	Percent sign
\	Back Slash	&	Ampersand
“	Double Prime aka Quotation Mark(s)	/	Forward Slash

HPES has taken ownership of this topic and has already implemented enhancements, ensuring the quality and consistency of the data entry is maintained in strict accordance with VA expectations (as outlined in RTLS EDA Data Standards). If your VISN/VAMC has a specific need or critical constraint requiring the use of one of the aforementioned characters, please contact your VISN RTLS COR for guidance.

3 VHA RTLS ITS Count Sheets – Baseline Nomenclature Format

As previously mentioned, Surgical Count Sheets require the following key elements:

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- Instrument “Supplier” Name
- Instrument “Catalog Number”
- Instrument Specialty “Description”
- Quantity Required for Procedure

NOTE: Descriptions should NOT contain “Warning” statements or special notes (i.e. ‘Contains Latex’).

This section focuses and elaborates on the EDA nomenclature and data standards requirements (approved March 26, 2014) as they relate to Supplier (DS018), Catalog Number (DS019), and Description (DS020) as these three items make up the core nomenclature of the invasive procedure “Count Sheet.” Quantities are determined by specific facility and are therefore seen as a generally acceptable variable.

The RTLS EDA Data Standard 020 (DS020) provides a description and list of valid values for each field in the naming convention as well as examples of the use of this convention. For this standard, HPES will provide each VISN COR with instrument data via a Microsoft Excel workbook following the nomenclature standard as follows:

Censis Site ID	Manufacturer	Catalog Reference Number	Censitrac Product Name	Descriptors Parsed from Censitrac Product Name Field					
				Instrument Category	Instrument Common Name	Instrument Primary Descriptor	Instrument Special Descriptor1	Instrument Special Descriptor2	Instrument Dimension
1321	V MUELLER	SU1811	SCISSORS MAYO DISSECTING CURVED-ON-FLAT MIRROR-FINISH 6.75IN	SCISSORS	MAYO	DISSECTING	CURVED-ON-FLAT	MIRROR-FINISH	6.75IN
4053	AESCULAP	DE440R	BURNISHER-SPATULA BALL MICROSURGICAL ANGULATE 7IN	BURNISHER-S	BALL	MICROSURGICAL	ANGULATED		7IN
19998	SYMMETRY SURGICAL	08-0045I	FORCEPS HARDY BIPOLAR WITH-STOP 8.5IN	FORCEPS	HARDY		BIPOLAR	WITH-STOP	8.5IN
23271	APIARY MEDICAL	GS 59.8900	MALLET HE-MAN ORTHOPEDIC 38MM-24MM PHENOLIC-HANDLE 10.5IN	MALLET	HE-MAN	ORTHOPEDIC	38MM-24MM	PHENOLIC-HANDLE	10.5IN
30255	SYNTHE	399.062	PLIERS CRANIOMAXILLOFACIAL FLAT-NOSED POINTED 5.7IN	PLIERS		CRANIOMAXILLOFACIAL	FLAT-NOSED	POINTED	5.7IN

- ❖ **Supplier/Manufacturer** [Censitrac Vendor Name -Data Standard 018] **Maximum 40 Characters Total**
 - NOTE: Abbreviated ONLY as a LAST RESORT upon VA RTLS SPW Workgroup written approval.
- ❖ **Catalog_Reference_Number** (Data Standard 019) **Maximum 30 Characters Total**
- ❖ **Description** (Data Standard 020) **Maximum 80 Characters Total – Abbreviated as Necessary** (See Section 4) listed in hierarchical order as follows):
 - **Instrument_Category**
 - **Inst_Common_Name**
 - **Inst_Primary_Descriptor**
 - **Inst_Special_Descriptor1 & Inst_Special_Descriptor2**
 - **Inst_Dimension**

3.1 Censitrac Vendor Name [Data Standard 018]: Maximum 40 Characters Total

Based upon RTLS Data Standard 018, suppliers are generally defined as the community accepted company name of the supplying manufacturer or production source of a medical-surgical or dental device.

3.1.1 Special Considerations [Censitrac Vendor Name]:

- ITS Space limitation: 40 Characters or less.
- VA has agreed with HPES to permit Censitrac’s use of existing enterprise data. Therefore, this data is entered as currently exists in the Censis database and in some cases utilizes spaces or special characters.
 - Note, some existing Censis data is recorded in Mixed (UPPER/ALL-CAPS and lower) Case format. VA Prefers an UPPER-CASE standard, but understands the level of effort to change this for all VA sites. This (UPPER-CASE) enhancement has been requested of Censis, and will be fully implemented at a later date.
- Please see Section 4 (RTLS ITS Master Library Abbreviations) for directions on the appropriate use of abbreviations.

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4. If the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) cannot be readily determined, HPES/Sites will utilize “NVN” (No Vendor Name)
5. Facility SPS Chief will utilize the ‘NVM’ reference to monitor the expedited replacement and for required National Program Office for Sterile Processing (NPOSP) reporting purposes.
6. The supplier’s name will NOT be repeated as part of the item description.
7. Questions, concerns, additional terms or revisions should be forwarded directly to the VISN RTLS COR for consideration and action by the RTLS PMO.

3.2 Model Number [DS019]: Maximum 30 Characters Total

Defined as the specific supplier identifying catalog/model number as normally found marked on the side of the medical-surgical or dental instrument and published verbatim as a reference within the manufacturer’s catalog of products. Catalog Numbering schemas vary widely from manufacturer to manufacturer and are generally incorporated verbatim as presented in corporate catalogs inclusive of special characters, spaces, etc. The following example list of ‘Catalog Number’ strategies is generally accepted for use within the RTLS ITS database:

00-0032-015-00	02.306.20	10095	AS11105
00-0056-001-00	1000-15-000	1011-01-501	AS165
01-2003	1000-32-000	10161	AU11020
01-2703	1001	10640	AU11170
01-2703GP	10016-2	AA632R	SS01-2707
01-2707	10016-5	AA808R	SS01-2814
01-2709	10019	AA809	
02.001.320	1002	AA821C	

3.2.1 Special Considerations [Model Number]:

- 1) ITS Space limitation: 30 Characters or less.
- 2) Terms will always be loaded in UPPER-CASE/ALL-CAPS format as applicable.
- 3) When truncated with the Manufacturer, the risk of redundancy in Catalog Numbers is markedly reduced.
- 4) To the greatest extent possible, Catalog Numbers should be manually input or imported exactly as presented on the instrument or directly from the catalog.
- 5) If the Catalog Number cannot be readily determined, HPES/Sites will utilize “NMN” (No Model Number) plus
 - a) After entering ‘NMN’ will Barcode Scan the 10-digit Stencil ID into the ‘Catalog Number’ Field
 - i) Result: (example) “NMN1234567890”
- 6) Facility SPS Chief will utilize the ‘NMN’ reference to monitor the expedited replacement and for required National Program Office for Sterile Processing (NPOSP) reporting purposes.
- 7) Questions or concerns should be forwarded directly to the VISN RTLS COR for consideration and action by the RTLS PMO.
- 8) The terms SET, CASE, CASSETTE, TRAY, etc. should be avoided as they offer little value/benefit.
- 9) Questions, concerns, additional terms or revisions should be forwarded directly to the VISN RTLS COR for consideration and action by the RTLS PMO.

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3.3 Description [Description]: Maximum 80 Characters Total – Abbreviated as Necessary/Directed

The comprehensive aggregated description is the verbal or written account representing a mental picture of the product features, functions, and/or characterizes to the person who hears or reads it. The following subsections comprise the description (in aggregated hierarchical order):

3.3.1 Instrument_Category

i) General Instrument Classification; Examples as follows:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1) ADAPTER | 10) GRASPER | 19) SVEDOPTER |
| 2) ANOSCOPE | 11) GRASPER-DISSECTOR | 20) SYNDESMOTOME |
| 3) APPLICATOR | 12) RULER | 21) TAMP |
| 4) APPLIER | 13) SAW | 22) TREPHINE |
| 5) APPROXIMATOR | 14) SCALER | 23) TRIAL |
| 6) ARTHROSCOPE | 15) SCALER-CURETTE | 24) TRINKLE |
| 7) CURRETTE | 16) SCALPEL | 25) TROCAR |
| 8) CURVETTE | 17) SCISSORS | 26) TROCAR-CANNULA |
| 9) FORCEPS | 18) SCOOP | 27) WRENCH |

3.3.1.1 Special Considerations:

- (1) Abbreviations will NEVER be used on 'Instrument Category' identifiers.
- (2) Terms will always be loaded in UPPER-CASE/ALL-CAPS format.
- (3) Terms may NOT contain spaces. Compound terms normally requiring a space will be separated by a hyphen (-).
- (4) Some minor, yet industry accepted, spelling variations have been approved for VA use.
 - (a) Currette and Curette
 - (b) Orthopaedic and Orthopedic
- (5) Terms are always handled in a singular sense and never as multiples.
- (6) Drill "accessories" should be listed in order as the primary category (e.g. BIT DRILL CANNULATED).
- (7) For the sake of these standards, the following is an approved list of compound terms, similar in use as the word 'screwdriver.'
 - (a) DRIVE-SHAFT
 - (b) BENDING-IRON
 - (c) NEEDLE-HOLDER
 - (d) SUCTION-TUBE
 - (e) KNIFE-HANDLE
- (8) Forceps, Scissors, etc. are always considered plural words.
- (9) "Scope" should ONLY be used when combined with its Latin prefix (e.g. Laryngoscope, etc.)
- (10) "Screwdriver" is one word, not two.
- (11) 'Descriptions' are to be for individual items.
 - (a) The following descriptors **will NOT be utilized** in any way as they are deemed inefficient:
 - .1 Assembly
 - .2 Cartridge
 - .3 Case
 - .4 Instrument
 - .5 Instrument Kit
 - .6 Instrument Set
 - .7 Instrument System
 - .8 Instrument Tray

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.9 Kit

.10 Set

.11 System

.12 Tray

(12) Use of descriptor words of little value should be avoided for space considerations:

- (a) "FOR" does not provide enough detail to be included (proposing standard language to exclude its use in descriptions) or justify the space limitations
- (b) "Size"
- (c) "OR"

(13) Some terms have been approved for more than one dataset, others will be needed and added as submitted to the SPW WG from the field:

- | | | |
|------------|-------------|---------------|
| (a) Blade | (h) Holder | (o) Tissue |
| (b) Bone | (i) Hook | (p) Trephine |
| (c) Carver | (j) Implant | (q) Universal |
| (d) Chisel | (k) K-Wire | (r) Brown |
| (e) Drill | (l) Loop | (s) Black |
| (f) Gag | (m) Post | |
| (g) Green | (n) Tip | |

(14) Plural words should be avoided as singular items are contained within this list, examples as follows:

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| (a) Pliers | (c) Scissors |
| (b) Speculum | (d) Shears |

(15) Questions, concerns, additional terms or revisions should be forwarded directly to the VISN RTLS COR for consideration and action by the RTLS PMO.

3.3.2 Inst_Common_Name

Generally accepted name derived from Surgeon-Creator with examples as follows:

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1) AEBLI | 11) DEBAKEY-DIETRICH | 21) MAYO-HEGAR |
| 2) AGGRESSIVE-FRENCH | 12) DEBAKEY-POTTS | 22) NEW-ORLEANS |
| 3) AGRIKOLA | 13) DEBAKEY-SATINSKY | 23) OLD-DOMINION-UNIVERSITY |
| 4) DEBAKEY | 14) DEBAKEY-SEMB | 24) UNIVERSITY-OF-MARYLAND |
| 5) DEBAKEY-ALLIS | 15) HALSTED-MOSQUITO | 25) UNIVERSITY-OF-MICHIGAN |
| 6) DEBAKEY-BAHNSON | 16) HEGAR | 26) US-ARMY |
| 7) DEBAKEY-BAINBRIGE | 17) HEGAR-BAUMGARTNER | 27) VAN-BUREN |
| 8) DEBAKEY-CASTANEDA | 18) HEGAR-MAYO | 28) YANKAUER |
| 9) DEBAKEY-COOLEY | 19) JAFFE-CASTROVIEJO | |
| 10) DEBAKEY-DIETRICH | 20) LAFORCE-GRIESHABER | |

3.3.2.1 Special Considerations:

- (1) This section DOES NOT include Brand/Trade names. Please see Section 3.3.4 for additional details.
- (2) Abbreviations will NEVER be used on 'Inst_Common_Name' identifiers.
- (3) Terms will always be loaded in UPPER-CASE/ALL-CAPS format.
- (4) Terms may NOT contain spaces. Compound terms normally requiring a space will be separated by a hyphen (-).
- (5) Product 'Lines' or 'Type' will not be used.

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- (6) Some terms seen here may also be capable of use in other sections as appropriate (e.g. Black, Fox, Green, White, etc.).
- (7) Questions, concerns, additional terms or revisions should be forwarded directly to the VISN RTLS COR for consideration and action by the RTLS PMO.

3.3.3 Inst_Primary_Descriptor

- i) Primarily surgical procedure terminology and descriptors to include age, gender, anatomical references, etc. Examples as follows:

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. ACETABULAR | 6. CATARACT | 11. PHACO |
| 2. ACL | 7. ENDOCERVICAL | 12. THORACIC |
| 3. ADULT | 8. ENDODONTIC | 13. ZYGOMA |
| 4. BABY | 9. ORTHOPAEDIC | |
| 5. BARIATRIC | 10. ORTHOPEDIC | |

3.3.3.1 Special Considerations:

- (1) Please see the end of this document for directions in the use of abbreviations.
- (2) Terms will always be loaded in UPPER-CASE/ALL-CAPS format.
- (3) Terms may NOT contain spaces. Compound terms normally requiring a space will be separated by a hyphen (-).
- (4) Descriptions should NOT contain "Warning" statements or special notes (i.e. 'Contains Latex').
- (5) Questions, concerns, omissions, additional terms or revisions should be forwarded directly to the VISN RTLS COR for consideration and action by the RTLS PMO.
- (6) Questions, concerns, additional terms or revisions should be forwarded directly to the VISN RTLS COR for consideration and action by the RTLS PMO.

3.3.4 Inst_Special_Descriptor1 & Inst_Special_Descriptor2

- i) Up to two (2) additional terms reserved for brand/sub-brand names or to ascribe sub-categorization for general use, material, shape, texture, or otherwise miscellaneous secondary functional attributes (i.e. articulation, biological, chemical, physical, or zoological terminology; Examples as follows:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. ACCESSORY | 16. ENDO-RIGHT | 31. OPTIC-ZONE |
| 2. ACORN | 17. ETCHMASTER | 32. RECIPROCATING |
| 3. ALLIGATOR | 18. EXTRA-DELICATE | 33. RING-HANDLED |
| 4. ALUMINUM | 19. GIRAFFE | 34. RING-JAW |
| 5. AMALGAM | 20. HAWKBILL | 35. SILVER |
| 6. ANGLED-ON-FLAT | 21. HYDRAGRIP | 36. SILVER-POINT |
| 7. ANGLED-ON-SIDE | 22. KNURLED | 37. SLIDE-LOCK |
| 8. ANGLED-TIP | 23. LINVATEC | 38. STAINLESS-STEEL |
| 9. ANVIL | 24. MALE-FEMALE | 39. STINGRAY |
| 10. BALL-TIP | 25. MALE-LUER | 40. STITCH |
| 11. CLAW | 26. MALE-MALE | 41. SYNEA |
| 12. DOUBLE-HOOK | 27. MOSQUITO | 42. T-GRIP |
| 13. DOUBLE-SERRATED | 28. MRI-SAFE | 43. T-HANDLE |
| 14. DUCKBILL | 29. MULTIFUNCTIONAL | 44. TITANIUM |
| 15. EGG-BEATER | 30. OCTAGONAL | 45. TUNGSTEN-CARBIDE |

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- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 46. VERSA-TRAC | 48. ZIRCONIUM-OXIDE |
| 47. Y-HOOK | 49. Z-TYPE |

3.3.4.1 Special Considerations:

- (1) Please see the end of this document for directions in the use of abbreviations.
- (2) Terms will always be loaded in UPPER-CASE/ALL-CAPS format.
- (3) Terms may NOT contain spaces. Compound terms normally requiring a space will be separated by a hyphen (-).
- (4) Descriptions should NOT contain "Warning" statements or special notes (i.e. 'Contains Latex').
- (5) Animal, Character (e.g. D, S, Z, etc) or Nature references, most pertaining to shape, are included within this section.
- (6) Questions, concerns, omissions, additional terms or revisions should be forwarded directly to the VISN RTLS COR for consideration and action by the RTLS PMO.

3.3.5 Inst_Dimension

The characterizing dimension for which the item is primarily identified. May be in lengths (Metric or Imperial units), diameters (e.g. Gauge, French), etc.; Examples as follows:

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. 1.6MM | 6. 1MM | 11. 9.5CM |
| 2. 10.25IN | 7. 2IN | 12. 9.5MM |
| 3. 12.7CM | 8. 2.1MM | 13. 9FR |
| 4. 17GA | 9. 28.6CM | 14. 9GA |
| 5. 19FR | 10. 28FR | |

3.3.5.1 Special Considerations:

- (1) Terms may NOT contain spaces. Compound terms normally requiring a space will be separated by a hyphen (-).
- (2) Terms will always be loaded in UPPER-CASE/ALL-CAPS format.
- (3) Units of measure will be placed immediately next to the value (without a space added) and abbreviated as follows:

(a) Centimeter (CM)	(c) Inch, Inches (IN)	(e) Gauge (GA)
(b) Millimeter (MM)	(d) French (FR)	
- (4) A leading zero (0) will be placed on decimals to ensure clarity in specific data being communicated.
- (5) Additional values or questions should be forwarded directly to the VISN RTLS COR for consideration and action by the RTLS PMO.

4 ABBREVIATIONS: RTLS ITS Master Library

Instructions for Use:

1. The following abbreviations were derived from constraints encountered within the Censitrac ITS software limiting certain fields to 30-80 characters.

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2. Incoming instrument OEM's electronic catalogs will be converted utilizing this list of RTLS PMO-approved abbreviations as necessary.
3. This list may grow over time as needed to meet additional instrument OEM vendors character constraints.
4. The 'Master List' will be stored on the RTLS SharePoint and maintained by the VA RTLS SPW WG within the following documents:
 - a. VA RTLS National Instrument Data Quality Tool
5. Instrumentation "Category" and/or "Common Names" will **NOT** be abbreviated (e.g. FCP – Forcep).
 - a. **APPROVED Exceptions:**
 - i. NH: Needle Holder
6. These abbreviations shall **ONLY** be applied to the "Primary and Secondary Descriptors" as applicable to the instrument/device, and only in cases of extreme character space constraints.
7. Questions, concerns, omissions, additional terms or revisions should be forwarded directly to the VISN RTLS COR for consideration and action by the RTLS PMO.

4.1 RTLS ITS Master Library Abbreviations (Approved for Use)

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Anterior (ANT) | 20. Hemisphere/-ical (HEMI) | 39. Polyethylene (POLY) |
| 2. Anterior-Posterior (AP) | 21. Hexagonal (HEX) | 40. Popliteal (POP) |
| 3. Auxiliary (AUX) | 22. High Frequency (HF) | 41. Posterior (POST) |
| 4. Curved (CVD) | 23. Intramedullary (IM) | 42. Retrograde (RETRO) |
| 5. Degree (DEG) | 24. Intraocular Lens (IOL) | 43. Serrated (SERR) |
| 6. Cystoscopy (CYSTO) | 25. Intrauterine Device (IUD) | 44. Size (SZ) |
| 7. Delicate (DEL) | 26. Laparoscopic (LAP) | 45. Skin-related (DERM) |
| 8. Diameter (DIA) | 27. Large (LG) | 46. Small (SM) |
| 9. Double (DBL) | 28. Lateral (LAT) | 47. Standard (STD) |
| 10. Down (DN) | 29. Medium (Med) | 48. SuperCut (SC) |
| 11. External (EXT) | 30. Middle (MID) | 49. Thru-Cut (TC) |
| 12. Extra Extra Large (XXL) | 31. Millimeter (MM) | 50. Tibia/I (TIB) |
| 13. Extra Large (XL) | 32. Miniature (MINI) | 51. Titanium (TI) |
| 14. Femur/Femoral (FEM) | 33. Miscellaneous (MISC) | 52. Universal (UNIV) |
| 15. Fixation/-ator (FIX) | 34. Modular/Modified (MOD) | 53. Vascular (VASC) |
| 16. Flexible (FLEX) | 35. Needle Holder (NH) | 54. Vas Deferens (VAS) |
| 17. Fragment/ation (FRAG) | 36. Non-Perforated (NON-PERF) | 55. Vertical (VERT) |
| 18. French (FR) | 37. Obstetric (OB) | |
| 19. Gynecologic (GYN) | 38. Percutaneous (PERC) | |

4.1.1 Special Considerations: Abbreviations **NOT** Approved for Use

These lists of abbreviations are not approved for use by the RTLS PMO due to their non-intuitive nature or subsequent to guidance outlined earlier within this document.

1. COMM – Non-Intuitive
2. D – Non-Intuitive
3. FCP –Instrument/Device

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5 Data Quality

The VA Data Workgroup has developed a Data Quality Tool (DQT) for use upon receipt of instrument marking data after the commissioning process is complete. The [DQT is located on the RTLS SharePoint](#) and contains instructions for use. Data should be rejected if it contains any errors other than NMN or NVN.

If there are any questions, please coordinate with the VISN RTLS COR to present feedback or concerns to the VA SPW WG.