



6<sup>th</sup> Regional Coordination Meeting  
of the Virtual Health Library

VHL6

20 - 21, October 2012  
Washington DC, USA

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# 6<sup>a</sup> Regional Coordination Meeting of the VHL (BVS6)

## Preparatory Meeting

BIREME/PAHO/WHO

August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012



**CRICS4** (1998) – IV Meeting of the Latin-American System of Health Science Information -  
Declaration of San José

“Towards the Virtual Health Library”

**BVS1** (1999) – PAHO, in Washington, D.C.

**CRICS5 - BVS2** (2001) – Declaration of La Habana

“Towards the equitable access to health information”

**CRICS6 - BVS3** (2003) – Declaration of Puebla

“Knowing to decide: scientific and technical information for the health decisions”

**CRICS7 - BVS4** (2005) – Declaration of Salvador

“Commitment to equity”

**CRICS8 - BVS5** (2008) – Declaration of Rio de Janeiro

“Information and Knowledge for Health Innovation”

**CRICS9 – BVS6** (2012) – Declaration of Washington

“eHealth – Reaching universal access to health”

## About the VHL6



### 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Coordination Meeting of the Virtual Health Library

*Central theme: eHealth and the development of the VHL*

#### Welcome to the VHL6

The Regional Coordination Meeting of the VHL is the most important forum for sharing experiences and knowledge among the VHL institutions network that produce, intermediate and use scientific and technical information in health.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Coordination Meeting of the Virtual health Library (BVS6) will have as central theme **eHealth and the development of the VHL** that will be held in Washington, D.C. on 20 and 21 October 2012.

<http://bvs6.crics9.org/en/>

## *eHealth Strategy and Plan of Action (2012-2017) for LA&C*

21. The Region is making continuous efforts to construct the Virtual Health Library (VHL), a scientific network and network of websites on technical information in health that uses information and communication technologies. However, **the VHL must be consolidated as a venue for integrating information sources and achieving greater interoperability with the available applications and online health services, such as mobile devices.** Political support is needed to carry these integration efforts forward and promote their development and sustainability. Progress in **evidence-based health care demands the efficient production, organization, management, collection, and dissemination of scientific and technical knowledge through information and communication technologies.**

28. Proposal: ... **promote the exchange, access, and use of evidence-based information through the virtual health libraries (VHL)**

Indicators:...**Number of Member States with a national virtual health library with information sources and services that address the topics of education for health, disease prevention, and the health priorities identified in their national health plans and strategies and that are clearly and systematically available in the VHL.**

1. To prepare projects in favor of the **assignment of yearly funds** to promote **training activities** in the countries, considering the recognized strengths in ICT, the opportunities to make alliances, and the weaknesses in training capacity,
2. To guarantee the **indexing of the contents** of VHL in **Google**, since is not a threat the echo of Google as the users' first search option, it is actually an additional form to allow users to reach the VHL
3. To increase the **use of EaD (eLearning)** and have workshop multipliers in the countries, in order to cope with the weakness of lacking **trained professionals in the VHL information methodologies and technologies**
4. To promote and intensify the **use of network communication channels** and to seek the incorporation of more informatics professional acting in the VHL in the countries in order to decentralize support and system development activities aiming to reach the necessary updating velocity and other network needs
5. To promote national **outreach activities** in order **to strengthen/consolidate the VHL** as a source of ICT, overcoming the threat of lack of dissemination and difficulty in maintaining the **institutions' and cooperating centers' commitment**
6. To document and map explicitly **processes and necessary workflows** for the development of the VHL, in order to facilitate the incorporation of new members in the network as well as persistently justify its importance (regarding information production and access indicators) to new authorities regarding political changes threats



7. To include **articulated and effective advisory committees** in order to guarantee the support the development of the VHL, including the improvement and/or strengthening ICT policies.
8. To coordinate study/work groups among the network to identify sources that can be incorporated in the VHL and to study the **mechanisms of interoperability** and means to achieve it
9. To seek the **contents' alignment of VHL national entities** with the agendas and priority subjects of global, regional and national public health. **VHL is part of PAHO's eHealth strategy**, and it is recommended that national VHL entities that prioritize contents aligned to the countries' health priorities, pointing out to users these subjects (F2, F3, F5, F8, O2, O4, A2, A5)
10. To guarantee the **alignment of the existing thematic country entities** as a strategy towards the lack of resources and to promote greater union of the national networks. It is recommended that the countries with more than one thematic VHL should be brought together, at least once a year, in order to share experiences and develop cooperation activities. Let the national VHL be incubators for new thematic areas and that the later commit to strengthen the national entities
11. To ensure or **registry of scientific and technical production in the health area** in LILACS, strengthening it as a regional index and improving the country representativeness. Every country must have its national, country-specific database, to bring together the contributions of different thematic areas and to guarantee the registry of the national production in LILACS, in order to increase its VHL visibility
12. To prepare **projects and/or strategies to obtain financial resources** in order to support the **financial sustainability** of the VHL



## BVS6 Meeting Objectives

To promote an extensive discussion on the development of the VHL oriented to the

[eHealth Strategy and Plan of Action \(2012-2017\)](#) for LA&C

and from [VHL Meetings 2011](#) recommendations



### Working Groups - GTs

- To promote a debate with the Network on the principal challenges and preparatory proposals for the development of BVS
- Preparatory on line meetings in order to analyze the challenges and to suggest proposals for action (prior to the BVS6)
- Live Meeting of the working groups (in the morning of October, 21) for proposals consolidation
- Presentation of the proposals of the GT in plenary session, contributing to the "Declaration of Washington"





## Working Groups

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### [GT1 – management and collaborative networks](#)

Strategic management of the VHL networks and mobilization of the network participation in the formulation of health and information policies.

### [GT2 – products and services](#)

Products and information services of the VHL that contributes to the access and use of scientific and technical information in health at all levels (management, research, education and health care).

### [GT3 – technology and interfaces](#)

Use, development and innovation technologies in the context of the VHL.



## Working Group 1 (WG1)

Strategic management of the VHL networks and  
mobilization of the network participation in the  
formulation of health  
and information policies



## Background documents:

- [eHealth Strategy and Plan of Action \(2012-2017\) for LA&C](#)

available at:

[http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=5723&Itemid=4139&lang=en](http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5723&Itemid=4139&lang=en)

- [VHL Meetings 2011](#) recommendations

available at:

[http://wiki.bireme.org/es/index.php/Resultado\\_SWOT-Propuestas\\_accion\\_Red](http://wiki.bireme.org/es/index.php/Resultado_SWOT-Propuestas_accion_Red)

## Proposed topics for discussion:

- Organization of national and thematic networks;
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- Development of information and health policies;
- National, political and institutional support to the VHL and to PAHO technical cooperation as well as other international agencies;
- Functions of Advisory Committees;
- Sustainability of the VHL;
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- Alignment of contents of the VHL with agendas and health priority topics.

## Target audience:

- VHL instances coordinators
- Managers of Institutions in the health area
- Decision making professionals responsible for information and health public policies in LA&C
- Anyone who identifies with the subject matters on discussion
- e-mail of GT1: [gt1.bvs6@bireme.org](mailto:gt1.bvs6@bireme.org)

## Agenda and topics of on line meetings:

- **August, 14<sup>th</sup>** – How to strengthen and articulate national networks, and how to ensure the sustainability for development of the VHL?
- **September 4<sup>th</sup>** – How can the VHL network contribute to meet the countries' health priorities?
- **September 25<sup>th</sup>** – How can the VHL network contribute to formulation of public policies on information and health?

## Methodology of work

- There will be no country/institution individual presentations;
- Any member of the VHL network who has successful experiences may subscribe to socialize them at the online meetings (choose meeting according to the themes);
- A WG support group (3 VHL network members) is responsible for presenting its own experience (30 min) and moderate the discussions at the three on line meetings;
- After each on line meeting, the support group member is responsible for writing conclusions/recommendations and publish them in a wiki;
- At **BVS6** in Washington, on the morning of October 21<sup>st</sup>, each member will present the conclusions, which will be discussed with the audience, consolidated and written a set recommendations.



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# 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group (WG2) Products and Services Objectives, dynamics and agenda



# Objective - GT2

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Promote a debate on the quality and innovation of information products and services of the VHL to expand access and use of information at all levels of health - management, research, education and health care.

# Specific Objectives - GT2

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- ❖ Systematize the main challenges identified with regard to the quality and innovation of VHL products and services
- ❖ To characterize the challenges identified - causes, impact, context and indicators
- ❖ Identify and prioritize solutions and innovations to face these challenges
- ❖ Propose ways of implementing the solutions and innovations prioritized, given the participation of the VHL Network
- ❖ Contribute with recommendations to the "Washington Declaration"

# Dynamics - GT2

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- ❖ Presentation and discussion of specific topics in online meetings with participants of the working group - three online meetings have been scheduled
- ❖ Report of the contribution of the Group to the topics discussed at each online meeting. After the meetings, distribute the report to be reviewed by the group (by e-mail or discussion group)
- ❖ Consolidation of the analysis of the Group and proposals for presentation and validation in BVS6 (meeting in Washington)

All Network members who identify with WG2 proposed topics are welcome to participate and contribute in the analysis and discussion of GT2

[gt2.bvs6@bireme.org](mailto:gt2.bvs6@bireme.org)

# Agenda - GT2

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## Preparatory online meetings

- ❖ **August 15** - Discuss the quality and innovation of information products and services of the VHL
- ❖ **September 05** - How to improve quality and innovation of products and services? What are the possible options for improvement of products and services of the VHL?
- ❖ **September 26** - What are the actions / resources needed for implementation of prioritized options?

## Washington meeting – BVS6

- ❖ **October 21** – Presentation of the results of the work and proposals of the WG2

# Agenda - GT2

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Online Meeting – August 15

- ❖ **Task:** Identification, characterization and systematization (causes, impact, context indicators) of the main challenges related to the quality and innovation of products and services of the VHL

All VHL Network members who identify with WG2 proposed topics are welcome to participate and contribute in the analysis and discussion of GT2

Those interested should send a message to  
[gt2.bvs6@bireme.org](mailto:gt2.bvs6@bireme.org)

# Participants of WG2

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## ❖ **Coordination:**

Verônica Abdala

## ❖ **Team from BIREME:**

Arthur Treuherz

Elisabeth Biruel

Fabricio Lima

Juliana Sousa

Júlio Takayama

Luciano Soares Duarte

Marcelo Bottura

Marcia Barretto

Rosemeire Pinto

[gt2.bvs6@bireme.org](mailto:gt2.bvs6@bireme.org)

All VHL Network members who identify with WG2 proposed topics are welcome to participate and contribute in the analysis and discussion of GT2



Developer Network Meetings  
to prepare to the  
**III Meeting of Developers from VHL**  
to be held at **Crics9/BVS6**

WG 3 - Technology and interfaces



## Aim

- To strengthen the Network of Developers and its technical staff of VHL and associated networks;
- To promote the upgrading and innovation of scientific and technical information products and services of the VHL and its associated networks in a collaborative manner;
- To respond to the recommendations of the VHL Meetings 2011 as well as to the challenges related by PAHO's eHealth Strategy and Plan of Action (2012-2017) for Latin America and the Caribbean;





## Specific Aims

- To identify, prioritize and implement actions that can contribute to overcome the problems identified on the evaluations and recommendations from VHL Meetings 2011;
- To promote the continuous development of interoperability among sources and flows of information of VHL and associated networks, as well as of the accessibility and mobility of their interfaces;
- To establish the use and dissemination of standards, processes and tools of collaborative and participative work for VHL and associated networks developers;
- To mobilize people, groups and institutions to participate in the collaborative development of information products and services of the VHL and associated networks.



# Work Methodology

- 2 people are responsible for WG3 thematic, one is the WG leader
- Main Activities
  - Define Terms of Reference;
  - Identify people from RedDes or outside it that might be invited to present their experiences;
  - Present TR and thematic agenda to approval by the Committee;
  - Conduce and moderate the online Elluminate meeting on the thematic;
  - Consolidate the questions in order to orient the answers, during the Elluminate session
  - Stimulate and facilitate discussions after Elluminate sessions
  - Write and publish conclusions and recommendations

# Schedule

Date	Panel	Leader
09/08	Search engines and VHL content indexing	Vinicius Antonio (BIREME/OMS/OPSOMS/)
16/08	Data mining and text mining	José Villanueva (OPS-PERU)
23/08	Accessibility	Julio Takayama (BIREME/OPS/OMS)
30/08	Content Management Systems	Madgledis Almanza (CVSP)
06/09	Governance, portal, open source and RedDes communication channels	Rosane Mendes (ENSP/Fiocruz)
13/09	NoSQL	Fabio Batalha (SciELO Brasil)
20/09	Library automation	Nelson Oro – (OPS Bolívia)
27/09	Interoperability among information sources and flows from VHL and associated networks	Renato Murasaki (BIREME/OMS/OPS)
04/10	SaaS (Software as a Service) e IaaS (Infrastructure as a Service)	Luiz Cobo (ITS/PAHO)
11/10	Digital repositories, open data and digitalization	Robert Loaiza (OPS Colombia)



- On line meetings (1 hour duration) will happen every Thursday starting from August 9. Participants may contribute by asking questions/making comments to invited speakers.
- Links to Elluminate sessions will be informed previously to each meeting
- The agenda of each meeting will be disclosed at <http://redde.bvsalud.org>



- Target Audience
  - IT professionals who use and collaborate on the development of technological and methodological solutions for VHL and associated networks. Professionals from other knowledge areas with interest of participating on these discussions are also welcome.
- Language
  - The official language of the meetings is Spanish. However, there may be participants speaking in Portuguese or in English without simultaneous translation.



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## RedDes Mailing list

<http://listas.bireme.br/mailman/listinfo/reddes.bvs-tech/>



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Thank you!