TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Electronic Case Reporting Fact Sheet
For more information contact the CEDEP Surveillance Systems & Informatics Program

The Communicable and Environmental Disease and Emergency Preparedness Section (CEDEP) within the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) has programmatic oversight of the diseases and conditions that are reportable to the State of Tennessee and how they are to be reported from hospitals, providers, and laboratories. This information sheet outlines basic information for Eligible Hospitals interested in Electronic Case Reporting (eCR).

eCR is the automated generation and transmission of case reports from an electronic health record to TDH's disease surveillance system. The potential benefits of eCR include the automation & standardization of the case reporting process, freeing up resources used for manual documentation, reporting, and responding to public health follow-up. Additionally, eCR will improve infrastructure to aid in quick reporting of emerging conditions and outbreak situations. eCR can promote more timely reporting, and can ultimately improve the validity and reliability of information for better case detection, surveillance, and disease investigation activities. Reporting by hospitals does not nullify laboratories, including laboratories within hospitals, responsibility to report these diseases and conditions (https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/1200/1200-14/1200-14-01.20160621.pdf).

1. Any hospital interested in sending reportable cases electronically to the state of TN

a. Who may participate: Hospitals currently or interested in reporting conditions to TDH, who wish to explore sending these results electronically.

b. What is reportable: Reports of cases indicating diseases declared to be communicable and/or dangerous to the public are to be reported to TDH. Please visit https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/reportable-diseases.html for specific details on the list of diseases that are reportable in the State of Tennessee.

c. What will be sent and how: Those reporting can send case reports following the HL7 CDA® R2 Implementation Guide: Public Health Case Report, Release 2 – US Realm the Electronic Initial Case Report (eICR) to TDH. The Implementation Guide may be downloaded from hl7.org. Case reports can be sent via several different transport methods and we can discuss these options on a facility by facility basis during onboarding.

d. To learn more: Contact TDH CEDEP Surveillance Systems and Informatics program about eCR activities by calling (615) 532-6730 or emailing CEDS.Informatics@tn.gov.

2. Any vendor representing a hospital interested in sending reportable cases electronically to the state of TN, including eCR activities, for CMS Promoting Interoperability (PI) Programs

a. Vendors representing hospitals not currently participating in a local or regional Health Information Exchange may choose to send case reports directly to TDH from the Electronic Health Record (EHR).

b. Vendors representing hospitals belonging to a local or regional Health Information Exchange may choose to send case reports directly to TDH from the EHR or through their Health Information Exchange. We can discuss these options on a facility by facility basis during onboarding.

c. If you are a hospital or a vendor representing hospitals interested in electronic data exchange and eligible for CMS PI Programs: Tennessee is accepting eCR using interoperability standards for CMS PI Programs. The hospital must use the 2015 Edition of certified EHR technology. Results would be generated and sent from the EHR.

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