



Communicable Disease Surveillance & Reporting

Overview

Health Current is pleased to introduce Communicable Disease Surveillance & Reporting (CDSR), a new service designed to submit case reports from hospitals to the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), by developing a standardized approach to use Health Current's statewide health information exchange (HIE) as an intermediary between Arizona hospitals and ADHS. CDSR will support ADHS by **improving the timeliness, accuracy, and**



completeness of communicable disease reporting, especially during emergencies such as a pandemic and will **reduce hospital and health system burden** related to state reporting requirements.

In accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Message Mapping Guides (MMG), the scope of this project includes an approach to standardize and normalize electronic case reports from hospitals' electronic health record (EHR) systems, capture the conditions and move them through the Health Current HIE network and deliver data in a single feed to ADHS' electronic surveillance systems. Hospitals will receive financial compensation from Health Current by achieving specific project-related milestones.

Background

ADHS receives communicable disease reports for several different conditions and syndromes from healthcare providers, facilities, and laboratories per AZ administrative code. These reports are received through a variety of methods, including fax, phone, emails, or direct duplicative entry by users into the integrated system, the Medical Electronic Disease Surveillance Intelligence System (MEDSIS). To reduce the reporting burden, ADHS is proposing a partnership with Health Current using the statewide HIE to provide support for electronic case reporting. Health Current will work with ADHS and develop a method in which data currently housed in the HIE system will be standardized in an HL7 message (CDA or FHIR) and transmitted to ADHS on behalf of healthcare facilities.

Work Plan

The project will consist of a two-phased approach.

- **Phase 1** will include selecting two (2) hospitals/health systems and no more than six (6) reportable conditions. The hospitals, Health Current and ADHS will work collaboratively to normalize the selected conditions, move them through the Health Current HIE, and deliver the case notifications in a standard format to ADHS' electronic surveillance systems.
- **Phase 2** will include identifying six (6) additional hospitals/health systems and scaling the project to include transmission of case notifications for these facilities, based on the reportable conditions, format and integration processes established in Phase 1. Health Current will work in collaboration with ADHS to select 10 reportable conditions from which hospitals can choose to contribute up to 6 conditions for the project.

Benefits of participating in this project include:

- Reduce hospital burden of manual reporting
- Improve timeliness, accuracy, and completeness of reporting
- Demonstrate the value of using HIE as an intermediary to report to state tracking systems
- Participate in improving public health efforts, which will allow the optimization of delivery of high-quality healthcare to all Arizona residents, regardless of residence, race or ethnicity, age, or income level.

If you are interested in participating, these are some of the expectations:

- Must have current interfaces with HIE sending real-time ADT and lab data
- Must have commitment and involvement of EHR vendor, to complete necessary data mapping and standardization according to ADHS and CDC specifications
- Must participate in regular project status calls with Health Current
- Must contribute to monthly project status updates that are required for project reporting
- Must commit resources for entire project period, which is anticipated to not exceed 12 months

Financial support is available. Health Current will provide participating hospitals with milestone payments for achieving progressive connectivity milestones. Please contact Health Current for more details.

Contact Us

For additional information on how your facility can participate in the CDSR project, contact: Peter Steinken, Director of Community Engagement, at (602) 464-9641 or peter.steinken@healthcurrent.org.