Eligible Hospital and Critical Access Hospital Meaningful Use Menu Set Measures
Measure 10

Stage 1

Last updated: April 2013

Syndromic Surveillance Data Submission	
Objective	Capability to submit electronic syndromic surveillance data to public health agencies and actual submission according to applicable law and practice.
Measure	Performed at least one test of certified EHR technology's capacity to provide electronic syndromic surveillance data to public health agencies and follow-up submission if the test is successful (unless none of the public health agencies to which an eligible hospital or CAH submits such information has the capacity to receive the information electronically), except where prohibited.
Exclusion	No public health agency to which the eligible hospital or CAH submits such information has the capacity to receive the information electronically, or where it is prohibited.

Table of Contents

Definition of Terms

Public Health Agency — An entity under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, tribal organization, State level and/or city/county level administration that serves a public health function.

Attestation Requirements

YES / NO / EXCLUSION

- Eligible hospitals and CAHs must attest YES to having performed at least one test of certified EHR technology's capacity to submit electronic syndromic surveillance data to public health agencies (unless none of the public health agencies to which the eligible hospital or CAH submits such information has the capacity to receive the information electronically), except where prohibited, to meet this measure.
- EXCLUSION: If no public health agency to which the eligible hospital or CAH submits such information has the capacity to receive the information electronically, or if it is prohibited, then the eligible hospital or CAH would be excluded from this requirement. Eligible hospitals or CAHs

must select NO next to the appropriate exclusion, then click the APPLY button in order to attest to the exclusion.

Additional Information

- The test to meet the measure of this objective must involve the actual submission of information to public health agencies, if one exists that will accept the information. Simulated transfers of information are not acceptable to satisfy this objective.
- The transmission of actual patient information is not required for the purposes of a test. The use of test information about a fictional patient that would be identical in form to what would be sent about an actual patient would satisfy this objective.
- An unsuccessful test to submit electronic data to public health agencies will be considered valid and would satisfy this objective.
- If the test is successful, then the EP should institute regular reporting with the entity with whom the successful test was conducted, in accordance with applicable law and practice. There is not a measurement associated with this reporting.
- The transmission of syndromic surveillance information must use the standards at 45 CFR 170.302(l).
- This specification sheet has been updated to reflect the applicable Stage 1 provisions in the Stage 2 Meaningful Use Final Rule, published on September 4, 2012.

Related Meaningful Use FAQs

To see the FAQs, click the New ID # hyperlinks below, or visit the CMS FAQ web page at https://questions.cms.gov/ and enter the New ID # into the Search Box, clicking the "FAQ #" option to view the answer to the FAQ. (Or you can enter the OLD # into the Search Box and click the "Text" option.)

- To meet the public health meaningful use objectives (submitting information to an immunization registry, reporting lab results to a public health agency, or reporting syndromic surveillance information), does a provider have to send information directly from their certified EHR technology to the appropriate receiving entity or can they use an intermediary such as a HIE or another third-party software vendor? ***New ID #3461, Old ID #10764***
- If my certified EHR technology only includes the capability to submit information to an immunization registry using the HL7 2.3.1 standard but the immunization registry only accepts information formatted in the HL7 2.5.1 or some other standard, will I qualify for an exclusion because the immunization registry does not have the capacity to receive the information electronically? What if the immunization registry has a waiting list or is unable to test for other reasons but can accept information formatted in HL7 2.3.1, is that still a valid exclusion? ***New ID #3371, Old ID #10714***
- Will the requirement that EPs and eligible hospitals choose at least one public health objective among the meaningful use measures still apply to those States that ask CMS for approval to change the definition of meaningful use? ***New ID #3119, Old ID #10532***
- Where can I find a list of public health agencies and immunization registries to submit my data as required by the public health objectives? ***New ID #3605, Old ID #10841***
- What is the definition of "syndromic surveillance"? ***New ID #3615, Old ID #10846***

Certification and Standards Criteria

Below is the corresponding certification and standards criteria for electronic health record technology that supports achieving the meaningful use of this objective.

Certification Criteria	
§170.302(l) Public health surveillance	Electronically record, modify, retrieve, and submit syndrome-based public health surveillance information in accordance with the standard specified in §170.205(d)(1) or §170.205(d)(2).

Standards Criteria
Electronic submission to public health agencies for surveillance or reporting. ▪ §170.205(d)(1) - HL7 2.3.1. ▪ §170.205(d)(2) - HL7 2.5.1.

Related Certification FAQs

Click on the green numbers to view the answer to the FAQ.

- In the Initial Set of Standards, Implementation Specifications, and Certification Criteria for Electronic Health Record Technology Final Rule published on July 28, 2010, the Secretary adopted the following implementation specifications at 45 CFR 170.205(d)(2) for the HL7 2.5.1 standard: Public Health Information Network HL7 Version 2.5 Message Structure Specification for National Condition Reporting Final Version 1.0 and Errata and Clarifications National Notification Message Structural Specification. We believe that these implementation specifications may have been adopted in error because they only provide direction to public health agencies on how to report to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Therefore, their adoption does not appear to either provide the appropriate or requisite implementation guidance for the adopted standard, HL7 2.5.1, or more importantly, to enable the user to "electronically record, modify, retrieve, and submit syndrome-based public health surveillance information…," as required by the adopted certification criterion, 45 CFR 170.302(l). Please clarify whether these implementation specifications are appropriate for the intended capability specified by the public health surveillance certification criterion at 45 CFR 170.302(l). ***9-10-003-2***
- I use or would like to use an "interface" to submit data to a public health agency/registry. Does this interface need to be certified? ***9-10-018-1***