Syndromic Surveillance Data Submission

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services Division of Public Health (DPH) has syndromic surveillance in place for all healthcare facilities. Providers presently have two options to submit syndromic surveillance data to DPH. Providers may send their syndromic surveillance data directly to the state's secure servers which is routed to the BioSense Platform, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) secure public health tracking tool. Alternatively, providers participating in the Wisconsin Statewide Health Information Network (WISHIN) have the option to electronically send syndromic surveillance data to DPH and the BioSense Platform via WISHIN. Regardless of transmission path, any provider that wants to satisfy the Syndromic Surveillance Reporting Measure must use the required, federally certified, 2015 edition EHR technology, i.e., the technology that generates the syndromic surveillance messages has to meet HL7 2.5.1 standards and conform to the specifications found in the Public Health Information Network (PHIN) messaging guide for syndromic surveillance.

Administrative checklist for providers to submit syndromic surveillance data:

1. **Eligibility.** All providers can submit syndromic surveillance data to DPH. Find exceptions in Appendix B of Wisconsin Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program Eligible Professional Attestation Guidance for the Stage 3 Public Health and Clinical Data Registry Reporting Objective.

2. **Data submission options.** Providers need to evaluate two options for submitting syndromic surveillance data to DPH.
   - **Option 1**: Submit syndromic surveillance data via WISHIN to DPH and the BioSense Platform. For additional information, contact WISHIN directly by email at wishin@wishin.org or by phone at 608-274-1820.
   - **Option 2**: Submit syndromic surveillance data directly to DPH. The provider will work with DPH to initiate onboarding. DPH prefers to receive syndromic surveillance data submissions as an hourly batch HL7 file via SFTP. For any questions concerning this option, send an email to SyndromicSurveillance@wi.gov.

3. **Registration.** Providers initiate the onboarding process by visiting and following the instructions for registering on the Wisconsin Public Health Meaningful Use page. When submitting a registration form, the provider will need to submit the following information:
   a. Organization name
   b. Primary business contact information (phone number and email address)
   c. Primary technical contact information (phone number and email address)
   d. Primary address
   e. Current submission of syndromic surveillance data
   f. EHR vendor name, product name, and version of product
   g. EHR technology's HL7 capacity

4. **Registration receipt.** After successfully submitting a registration form within the Public Health Registration for Electronic Data Submission System (PHREDS), the system automatically sends a registration confirmation email to the first business contact (and second business contact, if provided). Providers participating in Meaningful Use are advised to save this email for audit purposes.

5. **Initiate onboarding process.** Providers that register to submit data through WISHIN will work directly with WISHIN for the remainder of the data submission process. The remaining steps apply to providers electing to submit data to DPH.

    DPH prioritization. As a reminder, DPH has limited resource capacity to test and onboard. DPH is prioritizing syndromic surveillance testing and onboarding by facility type and data volume.

6. **Establish signed agreements.** DPH will contact the provider to execute the relevant Data Use Agreement (DUA) to submit syndromic surveillance data.

7. **Schedule onboarding meeting with DPH.** The syndromic surveillance data exchange specialist will schedule an initial onboarding meeting between DPH and provider (and EHR vendor if applicable).

8. **Complete onboarding process.** The syndromic surveillance data exchange specialist will work with the provider to attain the facility attribute data, establish a secure data interface, send and validate test data, and sign the DUA.

9. **Go live.** After passing all validation testing, DPH will signal readiness to move to production. After the production feed has been established and validated, DPH will consider provider's data submission status as go-live for ongoing submission.

10. **Acknowledgements.** Promoting Interoperability acknowledgements for test submission and ongoing submission will be posted within PHREDS. To view acknowledgement information, providers will need to use the account set up in Step 3 to access PHREDS.

For questions about the registration process, email ehealth@wisconsin.gov.

For questions about the technical onboarding process, email SyndromicSurveillance@wi.gov or, if using WISHIN services, wishin@wishin.org.

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