

## Immunization Data Submission to the Wisconsin Division of Public Health

The Wisconsin Division of Public Health (DPH) has an immunization information system, the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR), which is technically capable of receiving electronic immunization data from Health Care providers in HL7 version 2.5.1 message formats. Providers presently have two options to electronically submit immunization data to public health. Providers may send their immunization data directly to WIR. Alternatively, providers participating in the Wisconsin Statewide Health Information Network (WISHIN) have the option to electronically send immunization data to WIR via WISHIN. Regardless of which transmission path is used, any provider that wants to satisfy the Promoting Interoperability measure for immunization data submission and/or bi-directional exchange must conform to the HL7 2.5.1 standards and submit from EHR technology that is certified to the current federal standards for immunization data submission to public health.

### Administrative Checklist for providers (including hospitals) to onboard to WIR

- 1) **Provider eligibility.** Any provider or hospital that administers immunizations is eligible to submit data to WIR.
- 2) **Data submission options.** Providers need to evaluate two options for submitting immunization data to public health before proceeding to Step 3.
  - a. Option 1: Submit immunization data via WISHIN to WIR. For more information, contact WISHIN directly by email at [wishin@wishin.org](mailto:wishin@wishin.org) or by phone at 608-274-1820.
  - b. Option 2: Submit immunization data directly to WIR. The provider will work with WIR to initiate onboarding. For more information, email [immunizations@wisconsin.gov](mailto:immunizations@wisconsin.gov).
- 3) **Registration.** Provider initiates the onboarding process by visiting and following the instructions for registering on the Wisconsin Public Health Meaningful Use website at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/phmu/phreds-registration.htm>. When submitting a registration request, the provider will need to submit the following information:
  - a. Organization Name
  - b. Primary Technical Contact Information (phone number and email address)
  - c. Primary Business Contact Information, if applicable (phone number and email address)
  - d. Primary Address
  - e. Submission option (WISHIN or directly to WIR)
  - f. EHR Vendor name
  - g. EHR Product Name and Version of Product
  - h. HL7 Format: specify HL7 file format
    - ✓
    - 2.5.1 (Stage 1, 2 and 3)
      - ✓ Link to HL7 2.5.1 Implementation Guide:  
[https://www.dhfwir.org/docs/hl7\\_251r15\\_gts.pdf](https://www.dhfwir.org/docs/hl7_251r15_gts.pdf)
- 4) **Registration receipt.** DPH registers provider and emails provider to acknowledge registration. Providers participating in Promoting Interoperability must 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. WISHIN will contact you directly when they are ready to begin onboarding. The remaining steps apply to providers electing to submit data directly to WIR.

As a reminder, DPH has limited resource capacity to test with and onboard data exchange partners. DPH prioritizes immunization testing for all potential and existing data exchange partners. DPH is currently prioritizing the onboarding and testing process based on some of the following criteria (in no particular order):

- PHREDS registration date
- Organization type (i.e. Clinic, Hospital, Health Department, Pharmacy, etc.)
- Number of locations/facilities
- Data Volume
- Vaccines For Children (VFC) program participation
- Organization's participation in Promoting Interoperability
- General upgrade of the interface, whether due to new EHR system or sending additional data elements.

\* Prioritization is subject to change depending on DPH staff capacity and funding availability. Each prioritization criterion carries a different weighted value.

- 6) **Establish signed agreement.** Provider signs Confidentiality Agreement and/or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
    - a. Confidentiality Agreement (if not established from a previous WIR relationship)
    - b. MOU: Providers having data submitted on their behalf by another entity (e.g., provider's vendor).
  - 7) **Select transport method.** Provider works with WIR Data Exchange Specialist to determine transport method for HL7 messages. WIR supported methods are PHINMS and Web Services.
  - 8) **Testing and Validation**
    - a. **Send test message(s).** Provider sends test messages to test environment. Provider will be required to submit a determined minimum number of HL7 immunization messages, which need to be verified by provider's clinical staff.
    - b. **Acknowledgment message.** WIR generates acknowledgement messages to provider. ACK messages (with no errors) and ACK messages (with errors) which need to be reviewed by the organization (preferably a clinician) at provider site. Provider takes appropriate actions to address error messages.
- Validate test.** WIR Data Exchange Specialist will collaborate with provider team during the testing phase to provide guidance.
- c. **Determine production date.** WIR Data Exchange Specialist and provider establish a date to begin submitting production data.
- 9) **Go live.** Provider begins transmitting production data on go-live date.
  - 10) **Infancy Care.** WIR Data Exchange Specialist monitors and validates during the initial 2-3 weeks of production data from provider data feed.

- 11) **Promoting Interoperability acknowledgements.** As of January 2014, Promoting Interoperability acknowledgements for test submission and ongoing submission will be posted within the DPH Public Health Registration for Electronic Data Submission System (PHREDS). DPH will no longer be emailing these acknowledgements. 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](mailto:ehealth@wisconsin.gov).

For questions about the technical onboarding process, email [immunizations@wisconsin.gov](mailto:immunizations@wisconsin.gov).



**Wisconsin Department of Health Services**

Division of Public Health  
Office of Health Informatics  
P-00553A (12/2019)