

Public Health Reporting Online in 2017

REDCap Case Reporting

Beginning in 2017, reporters will be given the option to report suspected or known cases of reportable diseases, conditions, or events via the new paper PH-1600 form or online through the Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap) software at <https://is.gd/TNReportableDiseases>. Please see below for REDCap Case Reporting features and benefits. For more detailed instructions on reporting cases via REDCap, see the Reportable Diseases website at <https://apps.health.tn.gov/ReportableDiseases>.

REDCap Case Reporting Features

- Customized pre-filled form with reporter's name, phone and fax number, facility name, and county (by request)
- Upload laboratory reports
- Upload additional documentation including face sheets, notifiable diseases reports, and relevant electronic health records
- Generates confirmation email with a reference number for reporter's records in order to follow up on cases reported if needed
- Space to add additional comments/medical history pertaining to case being reported
- No REDCap account setup needed to report cases

Benefits

- Cuts out time needed to manually complete and fax paper PH-1600
- Cuts out time used finding fax numbers and faxing paper PH-1600 reports
- Reduce the amount of follow-up calls from Public Health requesting more information on case reports with missing information
- Reporting to one place (TDH Central Office) instead of multiple locations
- Request an audit of case reports submitted through REDCap

Laboratories Reporting via REDCap

Laboratories should report to Public Health via electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) or a printed laboratory report, rather than by completing this form in REDCap. However, if the provider information and patient demographics are missing in the lab report, complete the provider information and patient demographics sections on the form and upload the lab report. Laboratories are not required to report information in the Clinical Information section.

Providers Reporting via REDCap

The provider information, patient demographics, and clinical information should be completed in the REDCap form. This information is required to report, if available. Public Health will follow-up with the reporter for the patient demographics and lab report, if missing. Additional forms can be uploaded (e.g., patient cover sheet, notifiable diseases report, or relevant electronic health records) to the form.

Electronic Initial Case Reports (eICR)

In 2018, the Tennessee Department of Health will begin accepting electronic Case Reports from Eligible Professionals, Eligible Hospitals, and Critical Access Hospitals under Stage 3 of the Medicaid Meaningful Use EHR Incentive Program. These electronic initial case reports (eICRs) will allow healthcare providers the opportunity to report suspected cases to the Tennessee Department of Health for further investigation instead of waiting on lab test results to confirm a suspected case. Unlike the REDCap web entry form where reporters will still be required to enter data into an online electronic form, eICRs will all be generated and sent electronically from Certified Electronic Health Record Technology (CEHRT) to the Tennessee Department of Health integrated surveillance system. eICRs will capture critical clinical and demographic patient data from CEHRT not otherwise included in laboratory reports. Utilizing eICRs will not only reduce the burdensome paper-based and labor-intensive administrative process associated with manual data entry, it will also increase the quality and timeliness of case reporting to public health.