



Health Alert



City of Chicago
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Public Health Order 2020-4: Updated Guidance Public Health Order 2020-6: COVID-19 Testing Facilities April 30, 2020

Public Health 2020-4 Electronic Data Submission Progress: Last month, the Commissioner of Health for the City of Chicago signed Public Health Order 2020-4 requiring acute and long term hospitals to provide the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) access to electronic health records for the purposes of collecting essential data on patients tested for COVID-19. Since that time, a governance committee has met weekly, and the informatics teams have continued to refine the secure approaches for data submission. The role of the governance committee is to provide leadership and stewardship of the COVID-19 data assets, including oversight for the development and implementation of the policies and processes which govern the collection or creation, management, use, and disclosure of data. Remarkable progress has been made since this time, with over 24,000 Continuity of Care Documents (CCD) now submitted for COVID-19 tested patients, with a growing number of acute care facilities now electronically submitting.

The intent of this order and the CDPH owned COVID-19 dataset is to better understand the epidemiology of this pandemic, ensure timely, complete case information submission that informs public health response, as well as enable better care and capacity management during the COVID-19 response.

Updated Guidance for Public Health 2020-4: Today, we released updated guidance to address questions regarding the minimal standards and timeframe to meet Public Health Order 2020-4. Based on the guidance from the Governance Committee, we are defining **May 6, 2020**, as the date by which the minimal standards for reporting should be in place. The most recent technical guidance on data transmission to meet this Public Health order is linked below, and can be found at the CDPH HAN page.

Additionally, we provided clarity for all healthcare providers regarding necessary data to be collected and submitted with all COVID-19 tests, which is also summarized below:

- 1.) All health care providers shall collect at time of SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 testing and submit with all laboratory results the following information regarding the test subject: name, date of birth, race/ethnicity, phone number, provider name and number, whether the individual is hospitalized, date of symptom onset, if the individual is a healthcare worker, whether the individual lives or works in a long term care facility or other congregate setting, and whether the individual works as a first responder.
- 2.) All health care providers that are unable to establish an electronic laboratory reporting feed to the Illinois National Electronic Disease Surveillance System ("I-NEDSS") shall use another electronic mechanism to submit such data, which may include a Health Level Seven (HL7) electronic data feed, or submit through an established REDCap electronic case submission form. These submissions shall be completed within 24 hours of ordering a COVID-19 laboratory test, and within 24 hours of a laboratory result. To establish an HL7 feed, please reach out for assistance at: CDPHCovidDataHub@rush.edu. A REDCap case report form can be submitted at: <https://redcap.dph.illinois.gov/surveys/?s=FR7MAJAY84>.

Public Health Order 2020-6: As more entities are testing for COVID-19, CDPH has identified that not all testing sites are fulfilling public health reporting requirements. Further, not all sites are connected to electronic laboratory reporting (ELR), or I-NEDSS, limiting the ability to report COVID-19 tested patients to public health. Testing sites perform a crucial function, and timely reporting is essential for productive contact tracing, and prompt guidance on isolation and quarantine.

As such, CDPH has issued public health order 2020-6 requiring all providers and entities offering testing to update their websites in machine readable formats which will enable CDPH to identify sites offering testing. Additionally, entities that are not reporting through I-NEDSS need to notify CDPH via email of the location of testing and type of test offered at: covid19pui@cityofchicago.org.

References

Public Health Orders:

<https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid-19/home/health-orders.html>

Data Submission Technical Guidance:

<https://www.chicagohan.org/documents/14171/304569/20200415CDPH+COVID-19+Data+Sharing+Overview.pdf>