



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES  
Bureau for Public Health  
Commissioner's Office

Jeffrey H. Coben, MD  
Interim Cabinet Secretary

Matthew Q. Christiansen, MD, MPH  
Commissioner & State Health Officer

January 13, 2023

Dear Healthcare Provider:

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health (BPH) is committed to protecting the health of West Virginia residents by providing public health oversight and monitoring of health events according to federal and state law. The West Virginia Reportable Disease Rule 64 CSR 7 requires the reporting of diseases of public health concern by healthcare providers. Historically, because most of these diseases are also required to be reported by laboratories, healthcare providers relied upon laboratories to report these conditions to BPH. This letter is intended to clarify that a laboratory's submission of a reportable condition does not negate a healthcare provider's responsibility to report the disease for that patient, even if the laboratory and healthcare provider are a part of the same facility.

BPH has begun implementation of electronic case reporting (eCR) from healthcare providers. eCR is the generation and transmission of case reports from an electronic health record (EHR) to public health for review and action. This allows healthcare providers and facilities to report cases to BPH for further investigation directly from their EHR rather than manually reporting via paper and/or fax. eCR supplies critical clinical and demographic patient data not included in laboratory reports submitted to public health and fulfills the healthcare provider's legal reporting requirement.

eCR builds on interoperability work begun with earlier stages of Meaningful Use. The initial stage of eCR focuses on the initial case report; later stages may include a response from public health to the reporting clinician that may include outbreak information for providers, links to treatment guidelines and recommendations, and other clinically relevant information.

BPH has contracted with Inductive Health Informatics to work directly with healthcare providers and facilities to implement eCR transmission. For additional information, please visit [Meaningful Use Webpage on eCR](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew Q. Christiansen, MD, MPH".

Matthew Q. Christiansen, MD, MPH  
Commissioner & State Health Officer

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