



**TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Public Health Informatics Office**

For more information contact the Tennessee Meaningful Use Coordinator

Introduction

In Tennessee, the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) oversees the testing and on-boarding of four public health Meaningful Use (MU) measures. Under the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Program, eligible health care professionals and hospitals can qualify for MU incentive payments when they Adopt, Implement, or Upgrade to certified electronic health records technology and use it to achieve specified meaningful use objectives.

TDH is working with providers, hospitals, electronic health record (EHR) vendors, and Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS) vendors to accept reportable diseases and conditions information, immunization data, and cancer case reports in a meaningful manner to improve public health in Tennessee using certified EHR technology.

Registration of Intent for Meaningful Use Public Health Objectives

Eligible Professionals (EPs), Eligible Hospitals (EHs), and vendors seeking to participate in the EHR Incentive Program, and who are pursuing progressive stages of Meaningful Use, can register their intent for Public Health Meaningful Use measures using the Trading Partner Registration (TPR) system at <https://apps.tn.gov/tpv>.

TPR is an online registration system that should be used by all potential trading partners to register their intent to exchange data electronically with the TDH, including those potential trading partners participating in Meaningful Use. Once the registration has been submitted, the program area responsible for on-boarding will review the submitted registration and approve if submitted accurately. After being approved, users can continue to use the TPR System to monitor progress through the on-boarding and meaningful use processes.

New users may request training online for the TPR system. [Click here](#) to see a listing of training dates and times.

Testing

MU testing will begin after the registration of intent has been completed and approved by TDH program area staff. Once the registration process has been completed, TDH staff will contact the potential trading partner with further instructions or requirements for testing. Program area fact sheets, checklists, and onboarding documents can be found at the TDH MU web page - <http://tn.gov/health/topic/meaningful-use-summary>.

At some point during the onboarding process, potential trading partners may be required to sign a Trading Partner Agreement (TPA). TDH requires the use of Health Level 7 (HL7) messaging for the electronic transmission of immunization data, syndromic surveillance, electronic laboratory reporting, and cancer case reporting from EPs and EHs for Meaningful Use modified stage 2 and stage 3 testing.

Note: The amount of time until live data exchange can start varies and depends upon the quality and speed of data exchange testing.

TDH Meaningful Use Program Areas:

1. **Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR):** Reports of laboratory results indicating diseases declared to be communicable and/or dangerous to the public are to be reported to the TN Department of Health. A list of these conditions, diseases, and events can be found by visiting the Tennessee Department of Health Reportable Disease site – <https://apps.health.tn.gov/ReportableDiseases>.

To learn more: Please visit <http://tn.gov/health/article/laboratory-reporting> for specific details related to on-boarding and testing. Contact the TDH Surveillance Systems and Informatics Program (SSIP) for additional information at CEDS.Informatics@tn.gov.

2. **Syndromic Surveillance Messaging (SSM):** is the electronic submission of standards based inpatient and ambulatory clinical care EHR data for the purpose of public health syndromic surveillance. TDH implemented a standardized and centralized SSM system for which TDH declared readiness for EH's (*w/Emergency Room*) in October of 2015.

To learn more: Please visit <http://tn.gov/health/topic/meaningful-use-summary> for specific details related to on-boarding and testing. Contact the TDH Surveillance Systems and Informatics Program (SSIP) for additional information at CEDS.Informatics@tn.gov.

3. **Tennessee Immunization Information System (TennIIS):** TennIIS gives authorized immunizing providers the ability to submit and obtain comprehensive vaccine records on any patient(s) in the TennIIS system. TennIIS accepts immunizations administered in **any** clinical setting by **any** authorized immunizing provider to recipients of **all ages**.

To learn more: Please visit <https://www.tennesseeiis.gov/tnsiis/> for specific details related to on-boarding and testing. Contact the TennIIS team for additional information at TennIIS.MU@tn.gov.

4. **Cancer Case Reporting:** The TN Cancer Registry (TCR) is legislatively mandated to collect all reportable cancer diagnoses in TN, including non-residents diagnosed in TN, and to provide a statistical report annually to the TN General Assembly on the cancer burden in TN. For information about TN Cancer Case Reporting, please visit <http://tn.gov/health/article/tcr-legislation> for specific details.

To learn more: Please visit <http://tn.gov/health/section/tcr> for specific details related to on-boarding and testing. Contact the TDH Cancer Registry for additional information at TNCancer.Registry@tn.gov.

Note: At this time, TDH is not currently participating in testing Specialized Registry reporting for Meaningful Use Modified Stage 2.

Transport Options:

1. **Secure File Transport (SFTP)** can be used to electronically exchange batched messages with **ELR, SSM, TennIIS** and **TCR**.
2. **Web Services:** Current implementation of Web Services supports **Asynchronous** communication to the **TennIIS** system and is implemented by Basic Authentication over SSL. For copies of the **TDH WSDL** please send an email request to the TDH MU Coordinator at MU.Health@tn.gov.
3. **Direct secure email:** Providers who have an EHR with Direct capability and/or who are connected to a certified Health Information Service Provider (HISP) can attach or insert HL7 messages into a direct secure e-mail. The Direct secure e-mail will be routed through the state HISP to **TCR** and an acknowledgement message routed back to the sender.

Note: The sender's HISP has to be an EHNAC/Direct Trust accredited HISP (www.directtrust.org).

To learn more please contact the TDH Meaningful Use Coordinator at (615) 253-8945 or email MU.Health@tn.gov.