

Subject: Notice: Effective January 1, 2016 Michigan Syndromic Surveillance System Stops Accepting Non-Urgent Care Data

The Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Stage 3 Final Rule eliminates the option for eligible professionals in non-urgent care settings to select the public health syndromic measure. In an effort to save providers' time and resources configuring EHRs for syndromic submissions when it will be obsolete in Stage 3, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has updated the definition of providers eligible to submit data to the Michigan Syndromic Surveillance System (MSSS). Effective January 1, 2016, MSSS will only be accepting data from eligible professionals working in urgent care settings.

The following provides guidance for:

Eligible Professionals in non-urgent care settings registered and testing with MSSS prior to the October 16, 2015 published Modified Stage 2/Stage 3 final rule

- Keep record of communications with the syndromic team during the 2015 program year. This is proof of active engagement enabling attestation to the syndromic measure for a 2015 reporting period and should be retained for a period of 6 years to support a subsequent Meaningful Use audit.

Eligible Professionals in non-urgent care settings registering with MSSS after the October 16, 2015 published Modified Stage 2/Stage 3 final rule

- Evaluate your eligibility to qualify for an alternate exclusion. Providers who did not intend to attest to the syndromic measure prior to the final ruling can attest to an [alternate exclusion for the 2015 program year](#).

Eligible Professionals in non-urgent care settings intending to select the syndromic surveillance measure in 2016 and beyond

- Attest to an exclusion for the syndromic surveillance measure. According to the final rule, eligible professionals can claim an exclusion if the eligible professional is not in a category of providers from which ambulatory syndromic surveillance data is collected by their jurisdiction's syndromic surveillance system. As of 1/1/16, Michigan is only accepting data from the urgent care setting category.
- Consider selecting a specialized registry to meet the public health objective. The Michigan Birth Defect Registry and Michigan Cancer Registry are available options to meet the specialized registry measure.

More information on cancer reporting and meaningful use can be found at:

<https://michiganhealthit.org/public-health/cancer-registry/>

More information on birth defect reporting and meaningful use can be found at:

<https://michiganhealthit.org/public-health/birth-defects-registry/>

For questions regarding syndromic surveillance and meaningful use contact:

MDHSPublicHealthMU@michigan.gov

For questions regarding eligible professionals' current syndromic surveillance registration and testing status contact: MSS.Help@altarum.org

Thank you,

Jim Collins

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Meaningful Use Coordinator

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