

# ELECTRONIC CASE REPORTING

Electronic case reporting (eCR) is the automated, real-time exchange of case report information between electronic health records (EHRs) and public health agencies. These timely data are more complete than manual reporting and include patient demographics (such as race and ethnicity), diagnoses, comorbidities, occupation, travel history, immunizations, medications, pregnancy status, and other treatments.

eCR runs securely and seamlessly behind the scenes in the EHR to automatically capture and report required information, reducing provider burden. eCR also enables immediate feedback from public health agencies to healthcare providers about reportable conditions and possible outbreaks.

## HOW IT WORKS ELECTRONIC CASE REPORTING



Patient is diagnosed with a reportable condition, such as COVID-19



Healthcare provider enters patient's information into the EHR



Data in the EHR automatically trigger a case report that is validated and sent to the appropriate public health agency if it meets reportability criteria



The public health agency receives the case report in real time and a response about reportability is sent back to the provider



State or local health department reaches out to patient for contact tracing, services, or other public health action



U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention

# BENEFITS OF ELECTRONIC CASE REPORTING

eCR replaces manual case reports that are generally done by mail, phone, fax, or through an online portal.



## FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

- Saves time by eliminating manual data entry and reporting
- Streamlines reporting to multiple jurisdictions
- Fulfills the [CMS Promoting Interoperability Program](#) requirements for eCR
- Can fulfill legal reporting requirements
- Can be implemented for all reportable conditions

## FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES

- Enables bidirectional data exchange
- Provides more complete data to support outbreak management
- Efficiently monitors the spread of reportable diseases
- Reduces response time with automated information
- Supports submission of case-based data (without identifiable information) to CDC through the [National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System](#)

# ELECTRONIC CASE REPORTING BY THE NUMBERS

On January 20, 2020,  
**187 facilities** were using eCR.



On January 31, 2022,  
**over 10,300 facilities** were using eCR.



Since the beginning of the pandemic, public health agencies have received **more than 18.6 million** COVID-19 reports.