Stage 2 Meaningful Use: Impacting Public and Population Health for Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals

Provided By:
The National Learning Consortium (NLC)

Developed By:
Health Information Technology Research Center (HITRC)
The National Learning Consortium (NLC) is a virtual and evolving body of knowledge and resources designed to support healthcare providers and health IT professionals working towards the implementation, adoption and meaningful use of certified EHR systems.

The NLC represents the collective EHR implementation experiences and knowledge gained directly from the field of ONC’s outreach programs (REC, Beacon, State HIE) and through the Health Information Technology Research Center (HITRC) Communities of Practice (CoPs).

The following resource can be used in support of the EHR Implementation Lifecycle. It is recommended by “boots-on-the-ground” professionals for use by others who have made the commitment to implement or upgrade to certified EHR systems.

The material in this document was developed by Regional Extension Center staff in the performance of technical support and EHR implementation. The information in this document is not intended to serve as legal advice nor should it substitute for legal counsel. Users are encouraged to seek additional detailed technical guidance to supplement the information contained within. The REC staff developed these materials based on the technology and law that were in place at the time this document was developed. Therefore, advances in technology and/or changes to the law subsequent to that date may not have been incorporated into this material.
Description & Instructions

• This resource is intended for hospitals and critical access hospitals. It outlines the Stage 2 population and public health objectives and their potential national, community, and patient impacts.
## Stage 2 Meaningful Use: Impacting Population and Public Health

The Stage 2 definition of meaningful use includes three core population and public health objectives for eligible hospitals and critical access hospitals. To learn more about Stage 2 meaningful use, visit [www.HealthIT.gov](http://www.HealthIT.gov).

### Objective | Measure
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Core Objective 16 Immunization Registry | **Measure**: Successful ongoing submission of electronic immunization data from certified EHR technology (CEHRT) to an immunization registry or immunization information system for the entire EHR reporting period.  
**Examples**: Annual influenza vaccination history, immunization records for school requirements

Core Objective 14 Reportable Lab Results | **Measure**: Successful ongoing submission of electronic reportable laboratory results from CEHRT to a public health agency for the entire EHR reporting period.  
**Examples**: Lab results that confirm cases of disease (e.g., Tuberculosis, sexually transmitted infections, and Salmonella infections)

Core Objective 15 Syndromic Surveillance | **Measure**: Successful ongoing submission of electronic syndromic surveillance data from CEHRT to a public health agency for the entire EHR reporting period.  
**Examples**: Pandemic/seasonal influenza cases, bicycle accident injuries, heat-related illnesses, symptoms of bioterrorism

### How to Get Started:

1. **Determine** which data state/local public health agencies (PHAs) and/or registries are accepting.
2. **Register** to attest for a particular measure with the PHA or registry.
3. **Participate** in the onboarding process, which includes testing and validation prior to ongoing submission.
The Stage 2 population and public health objectives aim to improve public health by encouraging hospitals and critical access hospitals to use electronic health records to transmit information to state and local public health agencies (PHAs) and registries. By achieving the Stage 2 objectives, hospitals can improve and protect the health of patients, communities, and the nation.

**Patient Impact**

- Consolidate immunization information into one reliable source, helping families save time and money
- Enable providers to evaluate and improve patient care
- Inform, educate, and empower individuals to better manage their health and health care

**Community Impact**

- Help state and local PHAs develop targeted immunization communications and outreach programs for high-risk populations
- Enhance transmission of time-sensitive patient laboratory results to appropriate state and local PHAs to help identify reportable communicable conditions
- Inform, educate, and empower the community about community health issues (e.g., environmental health hazards)

**National Impact**

- Improve population health outcomes
- Improve population immunization coverage rates, federal public health situation awareness, emergency response management, and outbreak recognition
- Enhance transmission of time-sensitive patient laboratory results to appropriate Federal PHAs to help identify reportable communicable conditions and monitor widespread outbreaks, such as foodborne illnesses
- Inform, educate, and empower the public about national health issues (e.g., widespread epidemics)