

**ABSTRACT: Messaging and Security in the New Mexico EPHT System Prototype  
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**Title:**

Messaging and Security in the New Mexico EPHT System Prototype

**Keywords:**

PHIN messaging; system security; data integrity.

**Background:**

The New Mexico Department of Health has been funded through CDC's Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) Program to develop an EPHT System Plan. This presentation illustrates the transmission flow and tools used for messaging and security in the Prototype, which will serve as a method for testing and evaluating the System Plan.

**Objectives:**

Objectives are to present the messaging and security models that allow effective communications, protect the data providers' system and data integrity, and comply with PHIN specifications.

**Methods:**

The System Prototype incorporates ebXML and the PHIN Messaging System, as required by CDC. System security is achieved with SOAP and HTTPS Web services and connections, technologies specified in the PHIN functions.

**Results:**

This System Prototype provides a comprehensive approach to testing, evaluating, and modifying the New Mexico EPHT System Plan. Messaging and security functions form the basic structure for the Prototype, allowing the System Team to develop application tools for data exchange, integration, and analysis.

**Conclusions:**

New Mexico's Planning Consortium has consistently identified security and confidentiality as major concerns for participating in the EPHT System. These diagrammed models provide the information to address those concerns, as well as the infrastructure to the System.

**Evaluation:**

Security and messaging functions are the first components in the New Mexico EPHT Prototype. Building these components has made clear the upcoming needs, and difficulties, involved in developing and integrating the application functions.