

# NNDSS Modernization Initiative Technical Assistance Coordination Team Update

January 30, 2015

Colleagues,

Please find below the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) Modernization Initiative (NMI) Technical Assistance (TA) Coordination Team Update for January 30, 2015. These e-mail updates are a collaboration among the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE), and the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) and will be sent biweekly in an effort to keep reporting jurisdictions and other partners and stakeholders updated on the progress of NMI.

For more information on NMI, please see the NMI FAQs at <http://www.cdc.gov/nmi/faq.html>. If you have questions not answered in the FAQs, please send them to [edx@cdc.gov](mailto:edx@cdc.gov).

## NMI Overall Updates

- The NMI team would like to reiterate that Message Mapping Guides (MMGs) in [Stages I, II, and III](#) are considered draft and may be revised until the time they are finalized.
  - Those jurisdictions selected for pilot testing of the test-ready versions (Stage III) of the MMGs should wait until contacted by the NMI Technical Assistance Team before using the test-ready MMGs, before implementing surveillance information system changes, and before submitting test messages to CDC.
  - All other jurisdictions should not plan to submit data to CDC or implement MMG-based updates to their surveillance information systems until the final MMGs (Stage IV) have been posted to the Public Health Information Network (PHIN) website.

## Message Mapping Guide Development Updates

- The CDC Message Mapping Guide Standardization Workgroup received comments from APHL regarding the revised Generic v2 MMG, test scenarios, and test messages and the revised Hepatitis core and Hepatitis A MMGs using the new HL7 message structure. CDC has reviewed the feedback and will incorporate it as appropriate into the MMGs and their related documents.
- The proposed next steps for the “Methods for Conveying Unknown or Missing Values in Case Notification Messages” instructions include the following:
  - The MMG Development Team has finalized a response to the comments received.
  - The MMG Development Team expects to post the final document on the [Draft MMG Web site](#) by the end of January 2015.
  - The MMG Development Team expects to incorporate the indicators into the MMGs in February 2015 and post the revised MMGs on the Draft MMG Web site as soon as possible.
- **Message Mapping Guide Status Updates:**
  - **Mumps and Pertussis MMGs ([Stage I—Draft Phase](#)):**
    - The MMG Development Team is incorporating indicators as mentioned above and revising the Mumps and Pertussis MMGs to reflect the new HL7 message structure.

- The team expects to post the revised guides in March 2015 for a second external review period of approximately 4 weeks.
- During the external review period, the Message Validation, Processing, and Provisioning (MVPS) Team will develop draft internal data provisioning requirements.
- **Congenital Syphilis and STD MMGs** ([Stage II—Reconciled Draft Phase](#))
  - The MMG Development Team is incorporating indicators as mentioned above and revising the STD and Congenital Syphilis MMGs to reflect the new HL7 message structure.
  - The team will post the STD and Congenital Syphilis MMGs as soon as possible as [Stage III—Pilot Test-ready Draft Phase](#) versions of the MMGs, along with their artifacts.
  - As the MMGs are updated, the MMG Development Team will provide them to the MVPS Team for implementation purposes.
- **Generic v2 and Hepatitis MMGs** ([Stage III—Pilot Test-ready Draft Phase](#))
  - The MMG Development Team has revised the Generic v2 MMG, test scenarios, and test messages to reflect the new HL7 message structure (incorporating core lab and vaccine variables).
  - The MMG Development Team is incorporating indicators as mentioned above and revising the Hepatitis MMG, test scenarios, and test messages to reflect the new HL7 message structure.
  - The MMG Development Team expects to post updated versions of the Generic v2 and Hepatitis artifacts to the Draft MMG Web site in February 2015.
- No guides are in [Stage IV—Final MMG Phase](#) at this time.

### Message Validation, Processing, and Provisioning System Updates

- The NMI TA Coordination and MVPS teams are working with CSTE and APHL to define the formal training process needs for MVPS for the jurisdictions. Discussions include the timing, ownership, and medium for the training and how it integrates with the NMI technical assistance processes.
- The MVPS Team is supporting the new MMG message restructuring effort:
  - The team has documented a detailed repeatable process flow to be followed for restructuring the MMGs.
  - To incorporate the changes resulting from MMG restructuring, the MVPS Team is doing the following:
    - Updating the MVPS and the Message Evaluation and Testing Service (METS) tool to support validation and processing of the new message structure and associated changes related to content and business rules.
    - Revising data provisioning capabilities to incorporate the changes associated with the new message structure and to streamline the number of tables required to support provisioning of data.
  - The MVPS Team hosted a site visit with Agilex at CDC on 1/22/2015 to discuss the MVPS Dashboard security requirements and to review the MVPS development schedule.

### Technical Assistance Updates

- On 1/21–22/2015, CDC, APHL, and CSTE held an NMI Technical Assistance Phase II kick-off meeting in Atlanta.

- Day 1:
  - NMI TA leadership met to discuss the status of NMI as it relates to technical assistance, develop technical assistance options going forward, and determine the measure of success that will be used to develop a scope of work, work plan, and timeline for technical assistance for February to June 2015.
  - The NMI Communication and Training and NMI Evaluation workgroups met to assess training needs for all NMI stakeholders and to develop a training plan to help jurisdictions transition from the current way of submitting case notification messages to CDC to submitting them by using MVPS. This work included documenting the entire end-to-end process during this transition and what technical assistance is needed.
- Day 2:
  - The leadership group and workgroups came together to share information and develop next steps.
- As they are finalized, more details about the next steps will be shared with NMI stakeholders and jurisdictions.
- Reminder about MMG status:
  - MMGs in Stages I, II, and III are considered draft and may be revised until the time they are finalized.
  - Those jurisdictions selected for pilot testing of the test-ready versions (Stage III) of the MMGs should wait until contacted by the NMI Technical Assistance Team before using the test-ready MMGs, before implementing surveillance information system changes, and before submitting test messages to CDC.
  - All other jurisdictions should not plan to submit data to CDC or implement MMG-based updates to their surveillance information systems until the final MMGs (Stage IV) have been posted to the PHIN website.
- For more information about technical assistance:
  - Please see the NMI FAQs at <http://www.cdc.gov/nmi/faq.html>.
  - For pilot jurisdictions: If you have questions specific to NMI TA, please contact Laura Carlton, contractor to APHL, at [lcarlton@TSJG.com](mailto:lcarlton@TSJG.com).
  - For non-pilot jurisdictions: If you have questions or would like to request TA for MMG implementation through the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Diseases (ELC) Cooperative Agreement, please email [edx@cdc.gov](mailto:edx@cdc.gov).

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