

# THE NATIONAL SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

The National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP) is a collaboration among CDC, federal partners, local and state health departments, and academic and private sector partners who have formed a community of practice. They collect, analyze, and share electronic patient encounter data received from emergency departments, urgent and ambulatory care centers, inpatient healthcare settings, and laboratories. The electronic health data are integrated through a shared platform—the BioSense Platform. The public health community uses analytic tools on the platform to analyze data received within 24 hours of patient visits to participating facilities. These timely and actionable data are used to detect, characterize, monitor, and respond to events of public health concern.

## HOW WE CONDUCT SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE



**People seek treatment** in a medical facility, such as emergency department or urgent care.



Medical facility sends de-identified data including chief complaint, diagnosis codes, patient characteristics, and location to state and local health departments or to data aggregators such as Health Information Exchanges.



**CDC provides**

- Analytic tools, services, and system infrastructure
- Funding to health departments
- Technical assistance and training
- Data analysis support
- Collaboration on specific projects



**DATA**

**Public health departments and Health Information Exchanges** contribute data to the NSSP BioSense Platform.

**NSSP Community of Practice**



- Conduct syndromic surveillance to monitor public health
- Share data via NSSP BioSense Platform
- Share knowledge
- Build skills via webinars, trainings, and workgroup participation
- Collaborate to develop methods and respond to emergencies



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

