

Onboarding Process for Electronic Case Reporting (eCR) in Virginia

In 2018, electronic case reporting (eCR) became an official Meaningful Use (MU) option for Stage 3. Eligible providers (EPs) and eligible hospitals (EHs) are able to register their intent to onboard for eCR through the Meaningful Use Registration System (Note eCR was available for providers to register intent starting Jan 2017). The following are steps for eCR reporting to VDH:

Key Considerations for eCR participation:

- Check with all relevant stakeholders regarding how your facility or system currently identifies when a diagnosed condition qualifies as being reportable to the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), and how your facility reports this morbidity to VDH.
- Assess how eCR would replace and automate the process of identification and reporting of morbidity in terms of current clinical workflow and your electronic health records (EHR) system.
- During the onboarding process, standard reporting via Epi-1 or the online morbidity reporting portal should continue until Production status is reached for eCR.

1 Registration: Eligible Hospital (EH) or Eligible Professional (EP) registers intent to submit electronic case report data for MU.

- Register using the [VDH MU Registration System](#) to document your intent to work with VDH on electronic case reporting (eCR).
- In some instances, EHs and EPs may have an exploratory call with VDH to discuss eCR before they register. If registration occurs first, EHs/EPs are strongly encouraged to schedule a planning call with VDH.
- VDH will provide an acknowledgement of successful registration.
- Your MU status will be “Registered.”

2 Message Structure Validation: EH/EP generates electronic case report messages with test data for structural validation by VDH.

- Submit the list of all codes that will be used by your EHR to trigger case reports for reportable conditions. We strongly recommend use of ICD 10 codes for diagnoses as well as LOINC and SNOMED combinations for laboratory results. Please use the **LOINC/SNOMED table and ICD10 list** as a sample template when developing your list.
- Prepare message content and structure according to either:
 - [HL7 CDA® R2 Implementation Guide: Public Health Case Report, Release 2 – US Realm the Electronic Initial Case Report \(eCR\)](#)
 - [HL7 Consolidated – Clinical Document Architecture \(C-CDA\)](#)

- Before submitting messages to VDH, consider submitting sample messages for validation to the [Health IT C-CDA Scorecard](#). Use the scorecard feedback to refine messages. Be aware that use of this validation tool does not assure that all message requirements will be met.
- Submit 3-5 eICR or C-CDA messages (a mix of STD/HIV and general reportable conditions, e.g., Lyme, Salmonellosis, Elevated blood lead) to VDH through the **CCDA Upload** feature in the VDH MU Registration System. VDH recommends uploading production messages for optimal feedback.
 - The CCDA Upload feature validates messages against the national standard and VDH required elements.
 - The CCDA Upload also provides style sheet views of the data.
- (VDH strongly prefers the CCDA Upload feature be used, but facilities can send sample messages via email to MeaningfulUse@vdh.virginia.gov instead. If messages contain real patient data, the email must be sent encrypted).
- Use VDH feedback to refine the message structure to meet the national standards cited and **VDH's Key eCR Data Elements**.
- Once sample messages are submitted and you are working with VDH on their refinement, your MU status will be *"Testing and Validation."*

3 **Connectivity:** EH/EPs sets up transport option with public health.

- [Select a transport method](#).
- Work with [ConnectVirginia](#) to establish and test transport.
- VDH will provide the EH/EP with acknowledgement of successful submission of test message(s) at the completion of this step.

4 **Message Content Validation:** EH/EP submits electronic case report messages to public health for content validation using selected transport method.

- Submit messages for content validation through the selected transport method.
- Messages should be sent in real time or batched daily.
- Messages for content validation must use data from the production environment.
- Refine trigger codes and message elements based on VDH feedback and obtain approval.

5 **Production:** EH/EP initiates ongoing submission of electronic case report data and participates in periodic quality assurance activities.

- Initiate regular production transmission of electronic case report messages to VDH.
- Your MU status will be updated from *"Testing and Validation"* to *"In Production."*
- Use VDH feedback as necessary to ensure quality of data.
- VDH will provide the EH/EP with acknowledgement of ongoing data transmission for their attestation period at the completion of this step.
- Standard case reporting via Epi-1 or the online morbidity reporting portal may be discontinued since Production status has been achieved.