

Colleagues,

Please find below the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) Modernization Initiative (NMI) Technical Assistance (TA) Coordination Team Update for November 6, 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 are 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).

## **NNDSS Modernization Initiative Biweekly Update**

**November 6, 2015**

### **NMI Overall Updates**

- **NMI Provided Update to State Epidemiologists:** CDC Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance (DHIS) Director Paula Yoon and NNDSS Program Manager Lesliann Helmus provided updates on the CDC Surveillance Strategy and NMI on the CSTE state epidemiologists monthly call, held on 10/26/15. During the call, the Michigan Department of Health shared their experience as an NMI pilot state and spoke highly of the assistance they received from APHL and of the learning opportunity for their staff.

### **Message Mapping Guide Development Updates**

- **Six Priority Guides Undergoing Final Quality Assurance (QA) Review:** The Message Mapping Guide (MMG) development team has developed QA checklists and continues to make minor updates to the MMGs, test scenarios, and test messages for Generic v2, Hepatitis, STD, Congenital Syphilis, Mumps, and Pertussis to improve consistency in format and wording across these documents. When the QA process is complete, the team expects to post updated pilot test-ready versions of the six priority MMGs and their associated artifacts to the [Draft MMG Web Site](#), targeting late November.
- **MMG Status Updates:**
  - **Arboviral MMG (Message Design and Development)**
    - The team sent the draft MMG to the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System Base System (NBS) team, APHL, Varicella MMG team, and CDC program for review and comment.
    - Feedback from APHL and NBS is expected by 11/4/15.
  - **Varicella MMG (Message Design and Development)**
    - The NBS team reviewed the Varicella MMG and provided feedback on 10/20/15.
    - The MMG development team has begun a preliminary review of the draft MMG by using the new MMG QA checklist.
  - **Mumps and Pertussis MMGs ([Stage I—Draft Phase](#))**
    - The program is currently reviewing a proposal to include three additional vaccine-preventable disease (VPD)-specific data elements in the interpretive lab sections of the Mumps and Pertussis MMGs to support linkage of case

notification messages to lab findings that the CDC programs receive directly from the reference labs funded to provide testing for VPDs.

- The MMG development team will forward mock-ups of the Mumps and Pertussis MMGs that incorporate the proposed changes to the guides to the CDC programs for review and approval after the QA review has been completed for these MMGs.
- **Congenital Syphilis and STD MMGs** ([Stage II—Pilot Test-ready Draft Phase](#))
  - The team completed updates to the test scenarios and test messages for the lab and vaccine templates.
  - The Message and Vocabulary Team (M&V) provided updated Congenital Syphilis test messages, which contain the new Generic v2 LOINC codes.
- **Generic v2 and Hepatitis MMGs** ([Stage II—Pilot Test-ready Draft Phase](#))
  - The MMG development team completed updates to the Hepatitis test scenarios and test messages to show how data would appear in the lab and vaccine templates. The Message Validation, Processing, and Provisioning System (MVPS) developer requested population of the templates to provide insights into use of the templates.
- No guides are in [Stage III—Final MMG Phase](#) at this time.

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

- **New MVPS Developer Completes First Sprint:**
  - The new MVPS developer completed their first development sprint on Friday, 10/30/15.
    - As part of this sprint, the developer released MVPS 2.0.0 in the development environment.
    - The sprint confirmed that the new developer can use previously developed MVPS source code in their own development environment.
    - The new developer resolved some defects of the previously developed data provisioning code for Generic v2 and Hepatitis.
      - The MVPS team expects to deploy this resolution this week.
      - When the code is deployed, the team can move forward with additional testing of Generic v2 and Hepatitis data provisioning.
- **MVPS Continues to Plan for Transition of Requirements Vendor:**
  - CDC has executed a 2-month extension through 12/21/15 for the outgoing requirements vendor contract to complete requirements tasks already in process and to transfer knowledge to CDC now that the new contractor is working with NMI.
  - Transition planning activities are in process.
- **MVPS Continues Data Provisioning and MMG Support:** The MVPS team continues to participate in development of the Arboviral and Varicella MMGs.

### Technical Assistance Updates

- **Update on Jurisdiction Implementation:** The NBS team provides technical assistance for NBS pilot jurisdictions, and the APHL TA team provides technical assistance for non-NBS pilot jurisdictions.
  - **Alabama:**
    - Alabama is testing STD messages by using the Message Evaluation and Testing Service (METS) and migrating STD data.

- **Arkansas:**
  - Arkansas is ready to conduct end-to-end testing with CDC for Hepatitis when MVPS is ready.
- **California:**
  - California is currently creating the data extract for Generic v2 to accompany their completed draft data extracts for Hepatitis and STD.
  - APHL continues to build the customized Rhapsody route for California that will create HL7 messages based on their data extracts.
- **Florida:**
  - APHL continues to work with Florida to refine their Hepatitis test messages.
  - Florida is currently working on generating Generic v2 test messages.
- **Idaho:**
  - Idaho is testing STD messages by using the METS tool.
- **Kentucky:**
  - Kentucky is ready to conduct end-to-end testing with CDC for Hepatitis when MVPS is ready.
- **Louisiana:**
  - Louisiana is ready to conduct end-to-end testing with CDC for Hepatitis when MVPS is ready.
- **Michigan:**
  - Michigan has completed test message suites for Hepatitis, Generic v2, and STD and is ready for end-to-end testing with MVPS.
- **Minnesota:**
  - Minnesota has produced a draft data extract for Hepatitis, STD, and Generic v2.
  - APHL reviewed detailed requirements for a data warehouse that will be used to generate HL7 messages with the Minnesota team. These requirements are pending final approval.
  - APHL is currently building a customized Rhapsody route for Minnesota that will create HL7 messages based on their data extract.
- **New York State:**
  - APHL held a kick-off call with New York on 10/28/15 to begin providing additional technical assistance.
  - New York provided an initial suite of Generic v2 messages and mapping documents to APHL for review.
- **Oregon:**
  - Oregon is making minor revisions (i.e., LOINC codes for Generic v2) to the full suite of Generic v2 and Hepatitis test messages. Once these revisions are made, they will be ready for end-to-end testing with MVPS.
- **Tennessee:**
  - Tennessee has completed porting their legacy Hepatitis data to the new template. They are currently testing creation of case notifications from the new module.
- **Texas:**
  - Texas is ready to conduct end-to-end testing with CDC for Hepatitis when MVPS is ready.
- CSTE will work with all of the pilot jurisdictions to evaluate the NMI TA efforts.

- Reminder about MMG status:
  - MMGs in Stages I and II 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 II) of the MMGs should wait until contacted by the NMI TA 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 III) have been posted.
- 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, APHL, at [laura.carlton@aphl.org](mailto:laura.carlton@aphl.org).
  - For non-pilot jurisdictions: If you have questions or would like to request TA 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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