Security and Confidentiality

- The MDSS provides for the secure transfer, maintenance, and analysis of communicable disease surveillance information.

- Security standards address the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).

- The MDSS contains protected health information on individuals reported into the system. Data is protected by system security and role defined access, but participants will continue to be bound by rules of confidentiality while accessing system information.

Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS)

INFORMATION FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

Vision

The vision of the MDSS is the implementation of an integrated surveillance system that can transfer appropriate public health, laboratory, and clinical data efficiently and securely over the Internet. The MDSS revolutionized public health in Michigan by allowing information to be gathered and analyzed quickly and accurately. This helps to improve our abilities to identify and track emerging infectious diseases and potential bioterrorism attacks as well as to investigate outbreaks and monitor public health trends.

What is the MDSS?

- A web-based communicable disease reporting system developed to national data standards for the State of Michigan.
- The MDSS facilitates coordination among local, State, and Federal Public Health Agencies.
- Provides for the secure transfer, maintenance and analysis of communicable disease surveillance information.
- Promotes participation from a variety of stakeholders including public health, healthcare providers and medical laboratories.
- Addresses needs in different areas of traditional disease surveillance, emergent infectious diseases, and biological terrorism.

Benefits of the MDSS

- A web-based interface provides real-time access for data entry and analysis, improving timeliness so that public health interventions can be implemented.
- Electronic routing of cases facilitates rapid referral of information to the appropriate Local Health Jurisdiction.
- The use of State and industry standards allows for creating and maintaining a stable surveillance platform.
- Facilitation of electronic submissions from the healthcare and laboratory communities promotes a greater inclusion of reportable diseases with a higher degree of accuracy.
- Instantaneous retrieval of summary reports of diseases permits more thorough analysis of disease trends.

Who should I contact for more information?

- Your Local Health Department: www.malph.org/directory
- Communicable Disease Reporting and the MDSS (including HIPAA considerations): www.michigan.gov/mdss
- Meaningful Use Public Health Reporting: https://michiganhealthit.org/public-health Questions can be sent to: MDHHSPublicHealthMU@michigan.gov
- Questions regarding the MDSS can be sent to: **MDHHS_MDSS@michigan.gov**

Why should I use the MDSS?

- Using the MDSS fulfills the physician reporting requirement under the Michigan Communicable disease Rules (PA 368, MCL 333.5111).
- The MDSS is a single point-of-access for reporting all communicable diseases.
- Communicable disease reports are automatically routed to the correct local health department for follow-up.
- The MDSS reduces the volume of necessary telephone communications for additional information between public health and health care providers.
- Physicians have access to all case follow-up information for cases they report through the MDSS (reported by their affiliated facility).