



**MBDR Newsblast: New Resources/Flatfile Specification (v.1.2)  
Monday August 29, 2022**

The Michigan Birth Defects Registry (MBDR) was established as part of the Public Health Code (Act 368 of 1978). Confidentiality of all data is required by law and strictly maintained by the Health Department staff. Section 2631 of the Public Health Code regulates procedures protecting confidentiality and regulating disclosure of data and records. Birth Defects Surveillance Authorization, Public Act 236 of 1988 established the statewide Birth Defects Registry.

**NEW MBDR RESOURCES**

The State of Michigan and Altarum would like to announce our new MBDR mailboxes:

[MDHHS-MBDR@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHS-MBDR@michigan.gov)

MBDR Reporting Requirements and Questions

[MichiganBirth.DefectsRegistry@altarum.org](mailto:MichiganBirth.DefectsRegistry@altarum.org)

Flat File Submission and Interoperability Questions

Both emails are now available for use.

We are also in the process of updating resources and materials, including the new flatfile specifications ("MBDR\_Flatfile\_Specification-V.1.2") and flatfile template. A MBDR Newsblast will be sent out when these resources are available on our website: [www.michigan.gov/mbdr](http://www.michigan.gov/mbdr) .

**FLATFILE SPECIFICATION (V.1.2)**

In the next week, some of Michigan's Birth Defects reporting entities will be receiving an email and survey "Action Required: MBDR Onboarding Survey-Flatfile Specification V.1.2" to gauge their facility's status about onboarding to the new MBDR flat file specifications (ver.1.2).

Please ensure you have our new email addresses (indicated above) added to your Safe Senders list, so you do not miss this communication.

If you would like to request the survey to be directed to a specific individual, please respond to this email with:

Facility Name

Name of Contact to receive email/survey

Contact Title

Department

Contact Email

Contact Phone

The role of MBDR is to collect and organize data, but the building blocks for the Michigan Birth Defects Registry come from the “reporting entity” (hospital, clinical laboratory, physician, genetic counselor, health clinic, and other health professional or health facility required to report birth defects) who identify and submit the cases. Thank you for your continued cooperation in submitting timely, accurate and complete data to the MBDR.