



Use Case: Public Health Disease Alerting

Overview

National, state and jurisdictional departments of health are required by law to monitor, investigate, treat, mitigate, and otherwise act to prevent the introduction or spread of infectious or contagious diseases, or other diseases or conditions that endanger public health in their jurisdiction^{1,2}. Public health authorities may share that information with providers who have a treatment relationship with the patient in accordance with the HIPAA Privacy Rule, 45 CFR 164.506.

There are some diseases with great public health significance, such that this information with providers and facilities treating patients may greatly reduce, or prevent the increase of, the disease burden at the population level. CRISP may obtain this information from a variety of data sources, including state and jurisdictional health departments or from CRISP participant data, and display it to those who access CRISP services.

Permitted Purpose Category

For a Public Purpose, as required or permitted by Applicable Law and consistent with the mission of the HIE to advance the health and wellness of patients in the CRISP service area (Permitted Purpose #2).

Technical Design

CRISP will receive data on a regular basis from State or District in a mutually agreed upon format and frequency. CRISP may also look for data with public health significance within existing data feeds. This data will be stored in the Alerts Registry and delivered to providers through a range of CRISP services, such as the Patient Care Overview, established delivery methods for In-Context Alerts, and the Encounter Notification Service (ENS).

Use Case Description

Public health alerting to providers is designed to identify patients who have a discrete set of diseases with clinical and/or public health relevance. By identifying these patients, care teams in the hospital, post-acute, and outpatient settings may be prompted to consult facility infection-control policies to inform care and treatment of the patient. This may prompt alternative treatments, isolation protocols, or other methods for preventing the spread of disease and caring for the patient. For example, when a bed coordinator at a hospital is alerted that a patient has Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE), they can make isolation decisions to prevent the spread of disease within the hospital.

Information to be displayed in the alert may include, but is not limited to:

1. Name of the infection
2. Date specimen collected

¹ Maryland Code Annotated, Health-General Article, Title 18 and COMAR 10.06.01

² D.C Municipal Regulations and D.C Register Title 22-B



3. Date resulted
4. Type of specimen (ex. Sputum, blood, stool, CSF, Pharyngeal swab, washing, discharge, other)
5. Lab name
6. Pregnancy status (if applicable)

CRISP will start with a restricted set of disease information that can be gathered reliably from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. CRISP may review additional disease information and approve additional disease data to serve as a Public Health Alert over time.

Opt Out Applicability

Opt out will apply to all public health alerts.

Eligible Participants

Any CRISP user with access to CRISP participant data will have access to this information.

Approval:

This Use Case Policy has been approved by the Clinical Advisory Board.

5/16/17

Chairperson

Dated