

Texas Department of State Health Services

Recruitment For Flu Surveillance

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An Overview of Flu Recruitment





Considerations Before You Start

- Understand Why Reporting is Important
 - Maintaining comprehensive and cohesive flu surveillance system
 - Better awareness for providers on community health
- Review currently reporting providers
 - Syndromic Surveillance (Essence), ILINet, NREVSS, Qualtrics Regional Reports
 - Can what they report already be used in flu surveillance (Essence)
 - Population Size and Geographic Spread

<u>Collaborative Effort (Local, Regional, Central Office)</u>

Influenza Surveillance Handbook



Sources for Identifying Potential Reporters

- Providers Already in Communication
 - Accustomed to reporting to public health agencies
 - IP's, overseeing physicians, lead nurses
- Internet Search

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- Texas Medical Board (TMB) website: http://www.tmb.state.tx.us/
- Texas Hospital Association: <u>http://www.tha.org/Services/Consumer-Information/Public-List-of-Texas-Hospitals</u>
- Find laboratories through hospitals and HCP's
- Public schools: <u>http://tea.texas.gov/</u>



Approaching Potential Reporters



• Regional/Local Health Departments are the experts here

- Know which providers are responsive
- Have more regular communication than Central Office
- Understand specific barriers to entry for reporting

• Phone Call/Email

- Ask to set up a meeting to discuss influenza surveillance
 - Usually overseeing physician, nurse, manager, etc.
 - Infection Preventionists
 - Lab and ER directors
 - School Nurse (principle, superintendent for admin support)



Key Discussion Topics

- Review influenza surveillance with point of contact
- Explain what information/data is being requested for reporting and how that data is used
 - This may be dependent on facility and/or surveillance system
- Time commitment of reporting
- If contact/facility shows interest, then identify who will oversee reporting



Appropriate Reporting Method



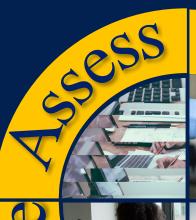
Following initial conversation

Gauge level of participation that best suits reporter

- Can be decided in first meeting or in a follow-up discussion
 - Use best judgment (i.e., was the provider receptive in initial talks)
- Is this a discussion or an offer of one system to participate in?

• This may have been a decision you made prior to talking with the provider.

- Aware of which system would work best for provider (Syndromic, ILINet, NREVSS, Qualtrics)
- Allows you to tailor discussion
- Consults with Central Office/Regional Flu Coordinator
 Here to help!



Determining Participation

Health and Human Services

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Syndromic **NREVSS** ILINet Qualtrics Surveillance • AKA Direct Regional Outpatient Laboratory Essence/TxS2 facilities facilities Reporting Hospital Providers and Enrolled Enrolled through Central school facilities outpatient through Central facilities Office Flu Office Flu Enrolled Coordinator w/ Coordinator w/ Enrolled through through RLHO CDC CDC Regional Weekly manual • Weekly Offices Onboarding can reporting of flu entry into take time More flexible and other ILINet system enrollment and Automated respiratory Incentive of short survey reporting diseases Viral Transport responses Media (VTM) and testing

Retention of Reporting Providers



Feedback

calling when drastic changes in reporting are noted

Recognition

- Letters of appreciation for participation
- Letters of appreciation for submitting reports for X number of weeks

Incentives

- Free testing of some flu specimens (through PHLs)
- Providing testing/shipping supplies (ILINet only)
- Certificates of Appreciation (currently only ILINet)



Retention of Reporting Providers

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Encouragement of continued reporting

- Demonstrate how their work benefits public health
- Provide copy of Weekly Flu Report

- Use of a regional highlight/report of Influenza
- Influenza Dashboard
 - Dashboard will provide interactive data at a more granular level



In Review



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Local/Regional HD's

- More direct communication with Providers
- Key in identifying partners and stakeholders

• Region/Central Office

- Key partners to assist with recruitment
- Can provide subject matter expertise
 - Surveillance Systems
 - Reporting
 - Enrollment

• Influenza Surveillance Handbook

- Best resource for enrollment
- Sample Tools & Examples



Health Services

Thank You!



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