NDHIN Monthly Question & Answer February 18, 2021

Topic focus: Public Health Reporting and NDHIN

The monthly Q & A meetings provide a forum for sharing NDHIN updates and information. It also allows users an opportunity to ask questions. The team will present a specific topic each month, but welcome questions regarding any topic. Questions and Answers from the February session are below:

Q How does NDHIN and electronic public health reporting benefit my facility?

A NDHIN sends data on certain reportable conditions to ND Department of Health (NDDOH). There are several mandatory reportable conditions in North Dakota Century Code. There are timelines for which some must be reported. There is also guidance for who must report. These could be reported manually by filling out different report forms. Electronic Lab reporting eliminates the manual work. More detailed information can be found here. The NDDOH epidemiology team uses the information for case follow up.
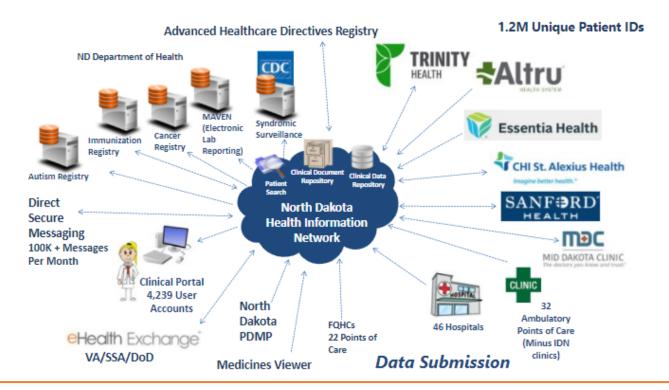
Q What is Syndromic Surveillance?

A Syndromic surveillance is the systematic collection, grouping, and tracking of reason for visit-type data.

Syndromic surveillance is not tied to reportable conditions or laboratory results, but rather is a set of information shared for all patient visits (or all visits of a certain type, such as all emergency department and urgent care visits). Health care visit information is de-identified and grouped into "syndromes". Syndromes are categories of visits that may be similar. Commonly used syndromes include: respiratory, gastrointestinal, neurologic, rash, sepsis, injury, animal bites, and severe illness/death. A typical syndromic surveillance system will alert the user when there are more visits of a particular syndrome than expected, based on past visits. The NDDoH follows up on any identified data anomaly to see if there may be a reason for the unexpected increase.   Source:

Syndromic Surveillance | Department of Health

This is an illustration of how data is exchanged between NDHIN, healthcare facilities, NDDOH and CDC.

For additional guidance on the NDHIN clinical portal, please access the NDHIN on-demand training videos found [here](#).

NDHIN Help Desk

Q I know NDHIN has data feeds for immunizations. I had a patient report that they received a COVID-19 immunization, but it is not showing up in NDIIS.

A Normally vaccines should appear as in the screen shots below. We did find a particular facility had an issue with the query timing out and couldn't be completed. If you are having issues viewing immunizations please reach out to NDHIN.