

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

HHS Lab Reporting Requirements FAQs



Audience: Laboratory and TIS Leaders

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COVID-19 Response Team Owner: Planning

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What's Changed: Updated HHS FAQ document (updated September 23, 2020).

HHS Lab Reporting Requirements FAQs

On June 4, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced new Guidance that specifies what additional data must be reported to HHS by laboratories along with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) test results. The Guidance standardizes reporting to ensure that public health officials have access to comprehensive and nearly real-time data to inform decision making in their response to COVID-19.

The new reporting requirements will provide information needed to better monitor disease incidence and trends by initiating epidemiologic case investigations, assisting with contact tracing, assessing availability and use of testing resources, and anticipating potential supply chain issues.

In addition, Health Information Exchanges can have a valuable role in this process and when possible, all information should be collected using health information technology certified to the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) 2015 Edition certification criteria, and all information should be structured in accordance with the US Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI) when available or when possible. All data transmission should occur electronically using HL7 electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) implementation guides when possible but a predefined flat file format may also be acceptable.

HHS has posted four (4) documents with detailed information (attached):

- Laboratory data posting guidance
- COVID-19 Data Reporting of Non-Lab-Based Testing (updated September 23, 2020)
- Laboratory Data Reporting FAQs
- Lab Data Reporting Implementation Guide for COVID-19



5c



5b



5a



5d

laboratory-data-repo non-lab-based-covid19-covid-19-laboratory-chhs-guidance-implem

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/06/04/hhs-announces-new-laboratory-data-reporting-guidance-for-covid-19-testing.html>