



# COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY

## Public Health Department

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**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Date: December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
RE: Attestation for Meaningful Use

Dear Health Care Provider:

The San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department is committed to the improvement of our health information systems and to ensuring our local providers and medical facilities attain meaningful use certification as defined by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act. As part of this process, this letter is to inform you that **SLO PHD is declaring readiness for Meaningful Use Stage 2** (hereafter *MUS2*). Incentive payments you may receive or will receive under meaningful use may be affected if you or your facility is not able to meet the requirements for MUS2, including the public health integration objectives. In addition, your Medicare payments may be adversely adjusted if you are not a meaningful user of electronic health record (EHR) technology, which include MUS2 requirements.

MUS2 has five public health objectives, three of which in San Luis Obispo County rest with California Department of Public Health. **Eligible professionals** (EPs) **must** meet the core public health objective of immunization reporting, and must meet three of six “menu set” requirements, three of which may be public health objectives. **Critical access hospitals** (CAHs) **must** meet three core public health objectives, namely immunization reporting, reportable lab results/electronic lab reporting, and syndromic surveillance. Even if an HIE transmits this information on your behalf, you alone are responsible for ensuring the objectives are met. Please note that if your facility covers or operates in multiple jurisdictions, you may be responsible for different implementation requirements in jurisdictions outside of San Luis Obispo County. The five objectives are implemented for San Luis Obispo as follows:

1. **Electronic immunization reporting is to be done to the California Immunization Registry (CAIR).** Your facility or medical office is responsible for the registration and onboarding process with CAIR if you are not already registered. You may submit this information yourself from your own EHR system; contact CAIR for technical requirements. SLO PHD cannot offer technical support for implementation. **If you are a “live” member of an HIE, this information may be submitted to CAIR for you; self-registration is still required. Registration for all submitters, including HIE members, is through the CDPH Health Information Exchange Portal.**

This objective is a Stage 2 core requirement for both EPs and CAHs. For more information, visit <http://cairweb.org/cair-regions/>

2. **Electronic laboratory reporting of reportable results is to be done to the California Reportable Disease Information Exchange (CaREDIE-ELR).** Your facility or medical office is responsible for the registration and onboarding process with CaREDIE-ELR if you are not already registered. You may submit this information yourself from your own ELR system; contact CaREDIE for technical requirements. SLO PHD cannot offer technical support for implementation. **If you are a “live” member of an HIE, this information may be submitted to CaREDIE for you; self-registration is still required. Registration for all submitters, including HIE members, is through the CDPH Health Information Exchange Portal.**

This process is *distinct* from the CalREDIE Provider Portal. *Enrollment for the Provider Portal is a separate process, does not meet this meaningful use requirement, and must go through SLO PHD.*

Please note that this requirement is *specific* to electronic *laboratory* reporting of reportable results under Title 17 §2505 et seq. **If your health care facility or medical office is not participating in reporting Title 17 reportable conditions through the CalREDIE Provider Portal, reporting must still occur via Confidential Morbidity Report.** The CalREDIE Provider Portal and reporting of Title 17 conditions is *distinct* from CalREDIE-ELR. Also, under all circumstances, SLO PHD still must receive telephone notification on conditions designated as “report immediately by telephone.”

This objective is a Stage 2 core requirement for CAHs only. For more information, visit <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/data/informatics/tech/Pages/CALREDIE.aspx>

3. **Syndromic surveillance reporting is not yet available.** This may change in the future. SLO PHD will provide advance notification of any process to report syndromic surveillance data via a system we implement or utilize. It is anticipated that we will utilize the CDC’s Biosense 2 system at some point in the future.
4. **Cancer reporting is not operated by SLO PHD.** The California Department of Public Health is coordinating all cancer reporting requirements for Meaningful Use and the California Cancer Registry (CCR). **Only** physician offices reporting for MU Stage 2 need to register their intent to send data through the HIE Gateway. Current entities reporting cancer cases to CCR that are **not** part of MU Stage 2 **do not** need to register intent with the HIE gateway. Current entities reporting cancer cases to CCR are to continue to report through the already existing CCR reporting system.

For questions regarding cancer case reporting, email [gasupport@ccr.ca.gov](mailto:gasupport@ccr.ca.gov). More information can be found at <http://www.ccrca.org/>. Regardless of whether you select this option, you are still mandated to report certain cancer diagnoses to the CCR in general.

5. **San Luis Obispo PHD does not currently operate specialized disease registries.** This may change in the future. SLO PHD will provide advance notification of any specialized disease registry we plan to operate and how to integrate with them. This does not change any existing reporting requirements to other state or federal disease registries which may still apply. This objective is a Stage 2 menu set option for EPs only.

Although SLO PHD does not offer technical support for implementation, we do wish to ensure that all providers and facilities in the county are able to comply. The PHD is available for questions regarding public health meaningful use requirements and may be reached by telephone at (805) 788-2095 or by E-mail at [amcdowell@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:amcdowell@co.slo.ca.us).

We look forward to our cooperatively improving the health of all county residents through the superior technical interaction and care coordination meaningful use will make possible.

Sincerely,

Penny Borenstein, MD, MPH  
Health Officer  
San Luis Obispo County