



Use Case Scenario Summary

Use Case Scenario Name:	Syndromic Surveillance
Use Case to Which Scenario Belongs	Health Information for State
Sponsor:	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Date:	March 20, 2019

Executive Summary

This brief section highlights the purpose for the use case and its value. The executive summary gives a description of the use case's importance while highlighting expected positive impact.

A syndromic surveillance system provides real-time situational awareness of potential public health threats and emergencies.

In Michigan, the Michigan Syndromic Surveillance System (MSSS) sends alerts to Michigan public health officials when unusual increases in symptom presentations are detected, allowing Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) epidemiologists to analyze findings, investigate further, and contact local public health agencies and providers.

Purpose of Use Case: The Syndromic Surveillance use case sets forth requirements for providers to send real-time, electronic syndromic surveillance data to a state syndromic surveillance system.

Overview

This overview goes into more details about the use case.

The Syndromic Surveillance use case leverages MSSS, the state's surveillance system that monitors the trends of chief complaints from healthcare providers. Currently, the state data



hub receives syndromic data from hospitals, doctors, care coordinators, and other community providers.

Receipt of this real-time data enhances situational awareness of potential public health threats and emergencies.

Additionally, to meet Meaningful Use requirements, Eligible Professionals, Eligible Hospitals, and Critical Access Hospitals must electronically send certain forms of public health data to various state public health registries. This includes syndromic surveillance messages.

Diagram

This diagram shows the information flow for this use case.

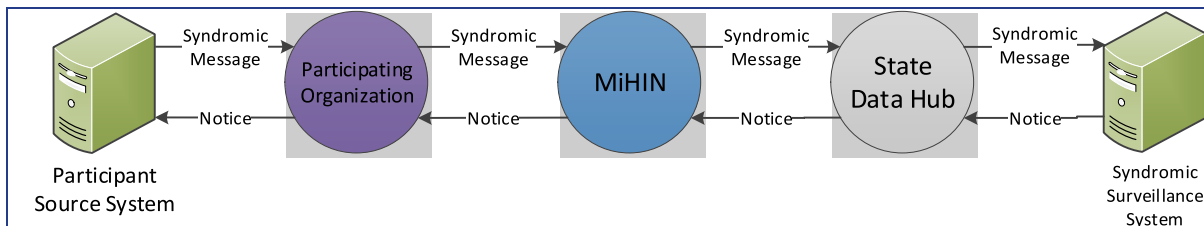


Figure 1. Dataflow of Syndromic Surveillance

Regulation

This section describes whether this use case is being developed in response to a federal regulation, state legislation or state level administrative rule or directive.

Legislation/Administrative Rule/Directive:

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

- Public Law 111-152 (Affordable Care Act)
- Public Law 111-5; Section 4104 (Meaningful Use)

Meaningful Use:

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) addresses the sharing of confidential medical information. Some physicians have raised questions about HIPAA confidentiality requirements and the reporting of confidential data related to public health surveillance.

As an accepted tool for public health surveillance, capturing syndromic information falls under HIPAA legislation that states that public health surveillance activities are exempt. This is addressed in section §164.512(b) of the HIPAA regulations.

Cost and Revenue

This section provides an estimate of the investment of time and money needed or currently secured for this use case.

Cost

This use case includes the following cost components:

- Development of message protocols compatible with certified electronic health record (EHR) systems to send routine reports
- Hospital and health system implementation, training, and integration
- Participant development and implementation to onboard for this use case

Revenue

Consists of cost savings in providing an available means to address Meaningful Use requirements in a consistent manner. The provision of one standard that is facilitated at the state level allows for participation with minimal investment on the provider side.

Implementation Challenges

This section describes the challenges that may be faced to implement this use case.

Implementation challenges are anticipated to be minimal because this use case draws on MiHIN and the syndromic surveillance message itself is relatively straightforward.

Healthcare providers' EHR systems must be able to send messages to MiHIN so the syndromic data can be forwarded to the state. Some development may be required for this functionality to be achievable.

Additional implementation challenges may arise later when healthcare providers begin adjusting to this new method of sending syndromic data electronically.

Vendor Community Preparedness

This section addresses the vendor community preparedness to readily participate in the implementation of this use case.

Implementing the Syndromic Surveillance use case will require software development on the part of EHR vendors. In particular, the following items will be required:

- Capability to create and send syndromic surveillance messages to MiHIN
- Set of triggers within the EHR system to flag data as ready to be sent

Support Information

This section provides known information on this support for this use case.

Political Support:

- Governor
- Michigan Legislature
- Health Information Technology Commission

- ☒ Michigan Department of Health and Human Services or other State of Michigan department
- ☒ CMS/ONC
- ☒ CDC
- ☒ MiHIN Board

Sponsor(s) of Use Case

This section lists the sponsor(s) of the use case

- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Metrics of Use Case

This section defines the target metrics identified to track the success of the use case.

- Number of syndromic surveillance messages sent to state through this use case
- Percentage of overall syndromic surveillance messages sent via this use case compared to all syndromic surveillance messages received by state
- Number of organizations and facilities sending syndromic surveillance messages via this use case
- Percentage of organizations and facilities sending syndromic surveillance messages via this use case as compared to all facilities sending syndromic surveillance messages to state

Other Information

This section is provided to give the sponsor(s) an opportunity to address any additional information with regard to this use case that may be pertinent to assessing its potential impact.

For a complete list of syndromic surveillance message criteria for reporting to public health, please see the *Michigan Syndromic Surveillance System (MSSS) Emergent/Urgent Data Submission Guide*.¹

¹ *Michigan Syndromic Surveillance System (MSSS) Emergent/Urgent Data Submission Guide*, (Lansing: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, 2016), accessed August 11, 2016, <https://michiganhealthit.org/wp-content/uploads/MSSS-Submission-Guide.pdf>