

Dear Healthcare Facility Leader,

I want to make you aware of changes by the Pennsylvania Department of Health (Department) regarding COVID-19 data collection. With the ending of the Federal Public Health Emergency (effective May 11, 2023) and subsequent reduced data reporting requirements (effective June 10, 2023), the Department's reporting requirements are being updated.

The Secretary of Health's Order requiring hospitals to make daily reports of specific data regarding supplies and equipment, dated March 24, 2020, and its subsequent amendments (Daily Reporting Order will be terminated, effective June 9, 2023. However, the CMS requirements for reporting will remain. Please reference CMS-1771-F for the remaining COVID-19 Data Elements that still need to be reported on a weekly basis.

In order to continue to support Pennsylvania facilities in this requirement, it is encouraged that data reporting via the current Health Incident Management System (HIMS) provided by the Department (Juvare EMResource) continue. Many health systems have invested in setting up an Automatic Data Uploader (ADU) which automates data reporting to ensure both compliance and reduced burden on staff members. Facilities may also report daily to EMResource manually. Please note that the Juvare EMResource platform does not support the passthrough of weekly data; data submitted through the state must be passed to NHSN daily. The Department encourages facilities that have not done so already to investigate the ADU option.

Reporting through the Department's HIMS platform helps ensure that our emergency preparedness and response team have data that will allow us to support your facility more effectively in a time of future need. Additionally, if your facility chooses not to report data through HIMS and provide data directly to the NHSN, the Department will not be able to assist with compliance notifications or data errors.

Finally, we ask that facilities voluntarily report COVID-19 associated hospitalization information into the PA-NEDSS system. This system provides state and local public health agencies more robust data to track the trends and patient level outcomes from an epidemiological standpoint. Additionally, COVID-19 will remain a reportable condition in some CMHD jurisdictions (currently Allegheny, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties). Facilities must follow local reporting requirements in these jurisdictions.

For questions on the order and changes, please contact the Department's healthcare preparedness section at <a href="mailto:ra-dhHCC-Ops@pa.gov">ra-dhHCC-Ops@pa.gov</a>. Please also reach out to this account for questions regarding the EMResource platform or setting up an ADU at your facility.

Sincerely,

Debra L. Bogen, M.D., FAAP Acting Secretary of Health

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Pennsylvania Department of Health