

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Jewel Mullen, M.D., M.P.H., M.P.A.
Commissioner



Dannel P. Malloy
Governor
Nancy Wyman
Lt. Governor

September 5, 2014

Connecticut Eligible Professionals and Hospitals:

The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) is committed to helping Connecticut providers and hospitals achieve meaningful use as defined by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act. The HITECH Act authorizes the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to make incentive payments to eligible professionals and eligible hospitals demonstrating meaningful use of Certified Electronic Health Record (CEHR) and Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) technology.

As you know, CMS Repository is an electronic site for public health agencies to indicate meaningful use readiness and eligible hospitals (EHs), critical access hospitals (CAHs) and eligible professionals (EPs) to declare their intent to pursue public health measures. The [DPH Meaningful Use web page](#) is the site that will provide the link to the Repository when it becomes available.

The Department of Social Services (DSS), Department of Information Technology, DPH as well as other agencies are working together to develop a Health Information Technology Exchange for the State of Connecticut. The Department of Public Health recognizes the need to have this function developed as soon as possible for Public Health Reporting data.

DPH is Connecticut's designated authority to receive public health data. This letter describes the Meaningful Use Stage 2 readiness for Public Health reporting. Connecticut DPH does not have the capacity to accept electronic data for MU2 public health objectives at this time. This letter will be reviewed by the end of calendar year 2014 to determine if the readiness status is changed. Connecticut DPH wants to provide advanced notice to eligible hospitals (EHs), critical care access hospitals (CAHs) and eligible professionals (EPs) that wish to declare their intent to pursue public health measures. The measure affects the following reporting data categories:

- Immunizations
- Electronic Lab Reporting
- Cancer Reporting
- Syndromic Surveillance

For assistance with the Connecticut Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application process, please refer to [Stage 2 Overview Tip sheet](#) and related links from the CMS.GOV site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jewel Mullen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jewel Mullen, MD, MPH, MPA
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