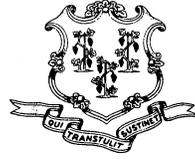


# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



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

Dannel Malloy  
Governor

July 19, 2012

### Connecticut Providers 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 (EHR) technology. Stage 1 meaningful use includes three public health measures that eligible professionals and eligible hospitals may demonstrate to be considered meaningful users of certified electronic health record (EHR) technology. Eligible professionals and eligible hospitals will be required under stage 1 meaningful use to choose at least one public health measure from the menu set of measures and demonstrate the capacity to submit electronic data for immunizations, reportable laboratory results, or syndromic surveillance unless claiming an exclusion.

The DPH is Connecticut's designated entity to receive public health data. However, the DPH currently does not yet have the capacity to receive data electronically from electronic health records. As development of the standards and infrastructure necessary to accept the electronic submission of public health Stage 1 meaningful use data continues, the DPH is allowing providers and hospitals to claim exclusion for Stage 1 public health meaningful use measure attestations for immunizations, laboratory results, or syndromic surveillance until these public health informatics systems become available. This letter will serve as the exclusion to the Stage 1 public health meaningful use measures. Eligible professionals and eligible hospitals should save and provide this letter when attesting through the CMS Registration & Attestation system or Connecticut's Medical Assistance Provider Incentive Repository (MAPIR) for meaningful use payments, under the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive programs respectively. For assistance with the Connecticut Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application process, providers may call the state's toll free help line at 1-855-313-6638.

Sincerely,

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

Jewel Mullen, MD, MPH, MPA  
Commissioner

