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PINELLAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**February 2007 Syndromic Surveillance
Quality Assurance Report**

The Pinellas County Health Department has reviewed the data entered by all hospitals for the Syndromic Surveillance Program for the time period of February 1 through February 28 for quality assurance purposes. We would like to thank all the participating hospitals for efforts they are making to continue improving the accuracy and reliability of this important community health monitoring system.

The total number of patients entered in February was 26,453, and the average daily rate in February was 945 entries per day. This is a .12% increase over the total number of entries for last month. The performance of each hospital was compared to how it performed the previous 2 months, and an asterisk (*) after the entry indicates an improvement.

Average Time from Patient Arrival to Data Entry

Determined by averaging the period of time from when the data is entered versus the patient arrival time

Goal: Average 4 hours or less

Hospital	Average Entry Time (hours)		
	Dec 2006	Jan 2007	Feb 2007
All Children's	5	5	5
Bayfront Medical	17	1	2
Edward White	16	14	13*
Helen Ellis	5	6	6
Largo Medical	32	22	24
Mease Countryside	12	11	11
Mease Dunedin	10	8	8
Morton Plant	13	11	11
Northside Hospital	14	19	20
Palms of Pasadena	13	32	15*
St. Anthony's	8	10	9*
St. Pete General	12	10	8*
Sun Coast Hospital	22	20	20
VA Medical Center	N/A	N/A	N/A
All Hospitals	14 hours	11 hours	10 hours

No Box Checked Rate

The number of No Box Checked entries divided by the total patients entered

Goal: Less than 2% of records

Hospital	No Box Checked Rate		
	Dec 2006	Jan 2007	Feb 2007
All Children's	0%	0%	0%
Bayfront Medical	1.6%	0%	0%
Edward White	0.1%	0.23%	.139%*
Helen Ellis	15.8%	13.96%	9.56%*
Largo Medical	0.05%	0.13%	.10%*
Mease Countryside	0%	0%	0%
Mease Dunedin	0%	0%	0%
Morton Plant	0%	0%	0%
Northside Hospital	0%	0%	.05%
Palms of Pasadena	6.7%	4.30%	9.42%
St. Anthony's	0%	0%	0%
St. Pete General	4.9%	7.66%	11%
Sun Coast Hospital	0%	0%	0%
VA Medical Center	N/A	N/A	N/A
All Hospitals	1.7%	1.43%	1.68

Data Entry Rate

The number of patients entered into STARS divided by each hospital's total ER census for the month

Goal: At least 90% of ER visits entered into database

Hospital	Data Entry Rate		
	Dec 2006	Jan 2006	Feb 2007
All Children's Hospital	CNP**	81%	70%
Bayfront Medical	100%	CNP**	128%
Edward White Hospital	CNP**	81%	76%
Helen Ellis Memorial	92%	92%	89%
Largo Medical	CNP**	76%	73%
Mease Countryside	CNP**	71%	70%
Mease Dunedin	CNP**	75%	75%
Morton Plant Hospital	CNP**	66%	68%*
Northside Hospital	85%	CNP**	87%
Palms of Pasadena	CNP**	64%	62%
St. Anthony's Hospital	CNP**	CNP**	83%
St. Pete General Hospital	CNP**	73%	81%*
Sun Coast Hospital	CNP**	CNP**	100%
VA Medical Center	N/A	N/A	N/A
All Reporting Hospitals	88%	74%	82%

**Census Not Provided

Duplicate Record Entries

The number of data entries that are considered to be duplicates divided by the total patients entered

Goal: Less than 1% of records duplicated

Hospital	Duplicate Rate		
	Dec 2006	Jan 2006	Feb 2007
All Children's	0%	2.4%	3.57%
Bayfront Medical	1.6%	0%	0%
Edward White	1.5%	0.79%	2.05%
Helen Ellis	0.3%	1.48%	1.39%*
Largo Medical	0.9%	0.98%	.81%*
Mease Countryside	0%	0%	0%
Mease Dunedin	0%	0%	0%
Morton Plant	0%	0%	0%
Northside Hospital	0.6%	0.91%	1.20%
Palms of Pasadena	0.5%	1.33%	1.19%*
St. Anthony's	0%	0%	0%
St. Pete General	0.6%	1.17%	1.28%
Sun Coast Hospital	0%	0%	0%
VA Medical Center	N/A	N/A	N/A
All Hospitals	0.4%	0.57%	.69%

Discussion

The average amount of time it takes to enter the patient information into the STARS website after the patient has arrived at the facility decreased to 10 hours for all participating hospitals. Sun Coast Hospital, Bayfront Medical, St. Anthony's Hospital, Morton Plant Hospital, Mease Dunedin Hospital and Mease Countryside Hospital have their data automatically sent to the STARS website, and are therefore unable to control the entry time.

Entering the correct date and time of patient arrival is important for linking patients during an epidemiologic investigation. Each hospital may check its own data through the "Reports" tab on the STARS website. Some hospitals use the triage time as the time of patient arrival and others use the time of disposition, which could make the time lapse appear to be smaller.

The overall No Box Checked rate increased to 1.68%, with 10 hospitals below 2% for the month, which is the goal for the No Box Checked category. Having the majority of the forms filled out when the patient first arrives, usually in the triage area, will help to reduce the number left blank. The hospitals that have the data sent automatically do not have duplicate entries or No Box Checked cases because these features are specific to the manual data entry system.

There was a reduction in the duplicate entry rate for 3 hospitals this month, with 7 hospitals reaching

the goal of less than 1%. One way to reduce the number of duplicate entries is to use the "CORR" function when entering corrected records. Please remind all data entry personnel to type "CORR" before the MRN of the corrected entries to prevent them from being counted as duplicates. Duplicates for March 1st and 2nd were added into the duplicate count and will not be recounted for next months report.

There were 162 flags reported by the statistical analysis program during the month of February. It was necessary to contact a hospital 8 times as a result of flags (5.8% of cases reviewed) and 7 calls were made without a flag present.

Aberrant Flags by Hospital, February 2007

Hospital	Total Reported Flags	Non-significant Flags	Flags Reviewed by CHD	Hospital Contacts
All Children's	14	0	14	0
Bayfront Medical	18	2	16	6**
Edward White	6	1	5	1
Helen Ellis	3	1	2	0
Largo Medical	9	1	8	0
Mease Countryside	11	0	11	0
Mease Dunedin	16	0	16	3**
Morton Plant	10	0	10	2**
Northside	6	1	5	0
Palms of Pasadena	7	3	4	0
St. Anthony's	13	3	10	2
St. Pete General	12	6	6	0
Sun Coast	13	0	13	1
Multiple Hospital/ Cumulative Flag	24	7	17	0
TOTAL	162	25	137	15

** Contact was made to the hospital without a flag present: Bayfront = 5; Dunedin=1; Morton Plant=1.

If you have any questions about any aspect of this report, or if you have any ideas about what you would like to see included in the report, please contact Treva Davis, STARS Coordinator, at the Pinellas County Health Department at (727) 507-4336 x1313.