



November 8, 2013

RE: "Recovery Act" Standard and Reusable Solutions for Hospital  
Laboratory Submission of Reportable Laboratory Results to  
Public Health  
Cooperative Agreement Program  
Funding Opportunity Number: CDC-RFA-HK11-1102AARA11

To Whom It May Concern,

The Public Health Informatics Program Office of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced through a published cooperative agreement (CDC-RFA-HK11-1102AARA11) that funding was available for the purposes of establishing a Laboratory Interoperability Cooperative (LIC). The cooperative agreement project period was January 31, 2011 through September 30, 2013. Surescripts was the primary awardee under the cooperative agreement. As part of the cooperative agreement work, Surescripts established the LIC as a partnership between Surescripts, the American Hospital Association and the College of American Pathologist.

The primary goal of the cooperative agreement was to provide technical assistance to hospital labs to meet the Meaningful Use (MU) Stage 1 objective of electronically transmitting reportable laboratory results to Public Health (PH). The grant required supporting 500 hospital laboratories, including 100 critical access and rural hospitals to achieve MU Stage 1 Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR).

Each organization in this partnership provided the following expertise:

American Hospital Association (AHA): *hospital outreach*

College of American Pathologists (CAP): *terminology education*

Surescripts: *overall management and administration, connectivity and transport*

Education, training, and technical assistance were provided in the following areas:

- State Reportable Diseases and Conditions
- ELR Tools and Resources
- LIC ELR Laboratory LOINC Mapping Best Practices Guidelines v1.0
- LIC ELR Laboratory LOINC Mapping Table v1.1 with field descriptors
- SNOMED CT and ELR – LIC Best Practice Guidelines
- Meaningful Use Stage 1 & 2
- Connectivity and Transport Options

In addition to technical assistance provided to hospital laboratories, the LIC engaged other stakeholders involved in the ELR workflow. This engagement included:

- National, state and local, public health agencies and organizations
- Health Information Exchanges (HIE)

- Regional Extension Centers (REC)
- Laboratory Information System (LIS) software vendors
- Hospital IDNs and Hospital systems
- Third party software vendors
- State hospital associations
- Other HITECH funded entities

During the funding period, the LIC provided technical assistance to over 1,100 hospital laboratories which included over 350 critical access and rural hospitals resulting in a commitment to achieve ELR.

Best regards,



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