

# Iowa Department of Public Health

## Immunization Registry Information System (IRIS)

### IRIS Data Exchange with Electronic Health Records



#### Exchange Data with IRIS

Electronic health record (EHR) systems can exchange immunization data directly with Iowa's Immunization Registry Information System, IRIS. Data exchange allows health care providers to send and receive (bidirectional) immunization information for patients.

#### Save Time

- **Access consolidated immunization information directly in the EHR.** EHRs can automatically send immunization information to IRIS and query IRIS for patients' immunization records.
- **Access immunization forecasting directly in the EHR.** Data exchange allows comprehensive patient immunization records to be available in the EHR and does not require users to log in IRIS.

#### Save Money

- Once bidirectional exchange is established, it's free. IRIS does not impose fees to set up or maintain bidirectional exchanges. Note: Initial expenses may be imposed from technical staff and EHR vendors during the set-up process. Most EHRs include functionality to support electronic data exchange with immunization registries.
- Having a bidirectional connection with IRIS helps meet requirements for federal incentive programs. Stage 2 Meaningful Use attestation of immunization reporting requires a bidirectional connection with IRIS.

#### Support Immunization Practice

- **Prevent duplicate vaccinations.** Having information from IRIS in the EHR allows clinicians to easily assess a patient's consolidated immunization history and avoid receiving unnecessary vaccinations.
- **Ensure the right vaccines are given at the right times.** The immunization forecasting information in IRIS can feed directly into the EHR to support clinical decision-making. Forecasting assesses patient vaccine history and recommends vaccine patients are due or past due to receive.

#### Support Public Health

- **Support immunization improvement efforts and vaccine-preventable disease outbreak responses.** IRIS helps avoid disease outbreaks by providing accurate, up-to-date information about the immunizations individuals receive.

## **IRIS Data Exchange Resources:**

Information regarding data exchange specifications is available on the Forms tab of the [IRIS web page](#) and includes the following details.

- [IRIS Data Exchange Onboarding Form](#) - *This document must be provided to the Immunization Program to initiate electronic connections with IRIS.*
- [IRIS Data Exchange Onboarding Procedures](#) - *This document outlines the process to establish electronic connections with IRIS.*
- [IRIS Web Services Setup Guide](#) - *This document contains the process to establish a real time connection to IRIS.*
- [IRIS HL7 2.5.1 Implementation Guide](#) - *This document contains the HL7 2.5.1, 1.5 Implementation Guide file specifications.*
- [IRIS HL7 Error Message Reference Guide](#) - *This document contains references to errors in HL7 file formats.*
- [IRIS Query Process Guide](#) - *This document contains the process to query IRIS.*
- [IRIS Flat File Transfer Specification](#) - *This document contains IRIS flat file specifications.*