



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**This is an official  
MS Health Alert Network (MSHAN) – Health Update**

**MESSAGE ID:** MSHAN-20230525-00596-UPD (Health Update)  
**RECIPIENTS:** All Physicians, Hospitals, ERs, ICPs, NPs, PAs, and  
Healthcare Providers – Statewide  
Thursday, May 25, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** Changes to Required COVID-19 Reporting

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you to all providers, healthcare facilities and laboratories that provided surveillance reports to the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the ending of the Federal COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) declaration on May 11, 2023, the MSDH is modifying the reporting requirements for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus causes COVID-19).

The following changes to SARS-CoV-2 required reporting are immediately effective:

**What is not reportable?**

- **Individual SARS-CoV-2 test results (positive, negative, or inconclusive) from any testing methodology are no longer reportable to MSDH.** This includes point of care tests (e.g., rapid antigen or rapid PCR) and laboratory based Nucleic Acid Amplification (NAAT) tests.
- **COVID-19 associated deaths in non-pregnant adults do not require reporting to MSDH.**

**What is reportable?**

- **Pediatric COVID-19 associated deaths and COVID-19 associated deaths in pregnant women.** Class 1A-requires reporting by telephone to MSDH within 24 hours of first knowledge or suspicion.
- **Suspected or confirmed COVID-19 associated Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C).** Class 1B-reporting by telephone to MSDH Office of Epidemiology within one business day of first knowledge or suspicion.
- **Suspected and confirmed COVID-19 outbreaks.** Class 1A- requires reporting by telephone to MSDH within 24 hours of first knowledge or suspicion.

MSDH will also continue to monitor sustainable surveillance methods to include syndromic and emergency department surveillance, hospitalization, and wastewater surveillance to support awareness and public health action.

To report COVID-19 associated pediatric deaths and deaths in pregnant women, MIS-C, or outbreaks, or for questions or concerns, call the MSDH Office of Epidemiology at 601-576-7725 (601-576-7400 after hours, holidays and weekends).

Regards,

Paul Byers, MD  
State Epidemiologist



### *Alerting Message Specification Settings*

|                            |                                         |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Originating Agency:</b> | Mississippi State Department of Health  |
| <b>Alerting Program:</b>   | <b>MS Health Alert Network (MS HAN)</b> |
| <b>Message Identifier:</b> | CDCHAN-20230525-00596-UPD               |
| <b>Program (HAN) Type:</b> | <b>Health Update</b>                    |
| <b>Status (Type):</b>      | Actual ()                               |
| <b>Message Type:</b>       | Message/Information                     |
| <b>Reference:</b>          | MSHAN-00596                             |
| <b>Severity:</b>           | Unknown                                 |
| <b>Acknowledgement:</b>    | No                                      |
| <b>Sensitive:</b>          | Not Sensitive                           |
| <b>Message Expiration:</b> | Undetermined                            |
| <b>Urgency:</b>            | Undetermined                            |
| <b>Delivery Time:</b>      | 600 minutes                             |

### *Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings*

|                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Originating Agency:</b>  | A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Alerting Program:</b>    | The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.                                                                    |
| <b>Message Identifier:</b>  | A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT ( <b>ALT=Health Alert</b> , <b>ADV=Health Advisory</b> , <b>UPD=Health Update</b> , <b>MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service</b> )). |
| <b>Program (HAN) Type:</b>  | Categories of Health Alert Messages.                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Health Alert:</b>        | Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Health Advisory:</b>     | Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Health Update:</b>       | Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Health Info Service:</b> | Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.                                                                                                            |
| <b>Status (Type):</b>       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Actual:                     | Communication or alert refers to a live event                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Exercise:                   | Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert                                                                                                                                                       |
| Test:                       | Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Message Type:</b>        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Alert:                      | Indicates an original Alert                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Update:                     | Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded                                                                                                                                                               |
| Cancel:                     | Indicates prior alert has been cancelled                                                                                                                                                                               |



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**Reference:** For a communication or alert with a Message Type of “Update” or “Cancel”, this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. “n/a” = Not Applicable.

**Severity:**

|           |                                          |
|-----------|------------------------------------------|
| Extreme:  | Extraordinary threat to life or property |
| Severe:   | Significant threat to life or property   |
| Moderate: | Possible threat to life or property      |
| Minor:    | Minimal threat to life or property       |
| Unknown:  | Unknown threat to life or property       |

**Acknowledgement:** Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

**Sensitive:**

|                |                                                |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Sensitive:     | Indicates the alert contains sensitive content |
| Not Sensitive: | Indicates non-sensitive content                |

**Message Expiration:**

Undetermined.

**Urgency:**

Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

**Delivery Time:**

Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).