



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

NOTIFIABLE CONDITIONS IN TEXAS REPORTING PROTOCOL

Texas Law

Several Texas Laws (Health & Safety Code, Chapters 81, 84, and 87) require specific information regarding notifiable conditions to be provided to local and state health departments (City of El Paso Department of Public Health and Texas Department of State Health Services). Health care providers, clinics, hospitals, laboratories, schools, child day care centers and others are required to report patients who are suspected of having a notifiable condition (Chapter 97, Title 25, Texas Administrative Code). **Failure to report is a Class B misdemeanor that carries a sentence of up to 180 days and a fine of up to \$2000 under the Texas Health and Safety Code, §81.049.**

HIPAA

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) allows reporting without authorization for public health purposes and where required by law. Title 45 Code of Federal Regulations §164.512(a) and (b).

General Instructions

WHAT MUST BE REPORTED: The enclosed table lists notifiable conditions in Texas. In addition to these conditions, any **outbreaks, exotic diseases, and unusual group expressions of disease** must be reported by name, age, date of birth, sex, race/ethnicity, address, telephone number, disease, date of onset, method of diagnosis, and name, address, and telephone number of physician.

WHEN: The Notifiable Conditions List indicates when to report each condition. Cases or suspected cases of illness considered to be **public health emergencies, outbreaks, exotic diseases, and unusual group expressions of disease** must be reported to City of El Paso Department of Public Health immediately. Other diseases for which there must be a quick public health response must be reported **within one working day**. All other conditions must be reported to City of El Paso Department of Public Health **within 72 hours**.

HOW: Notifiable conditions are to be reported through our **24/7 Confidential Web-based Disease Reporting System** (<https://el Paso.phims.org/cmr/login.aspx>) or by calling the following programs:

- ◆ Epidemiology Program (212-6520)
- ◆ Tuberculosis Program (212-6559)
- ◆ STD/HIV Program (212-6619)

Special Instructions

To access the **Confidential Web-based Disease Reporting System** go to <https://el Paso.phims.org/cmr/login.aspx>. Click on the "Register Now" button. Fill in the spaces with the required information. The new users will have to be confirmed by an authorized user.

All HIV positive labs need to be reported to local health department. **AIDS** should only be reported once following the initial physician diagnosis. The report date, type, and results of tests including a CD4 + T lymphocyte cell count below 200 cells per microliter or a diagnosed opportunistic infection must be included with the report. Questions on reporting procedures may be directed to **(915) 212- 6619**.

Reportable Arbovirus infection include: California Encephalitis, Chikungunya, Eastern Equine Encephalitis, Dengue, St. Louis Encephalitis, West Nile Virus, Western Equine Encephalitis.

Chancroid, chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis reports must also include the report date, type, and results of tests. Submit electronically or using faxable S-27 (Fax **915-212-0174**). Questions on reporting procedures may be directed to **(915) 212-6619**.

Invasive streptococcal disease, invasive meningococcal infection, or *Haemophilus influenzae* type b infections refers to isolates from normally sterile sites and includes meningitis, septicemia, cellulitis, epiglottitis, osteomyelitis, pericarditis, septic arthritis, and necrotizing fasciitis.

Tuberculosis may be reported on Form TB-400, "Report of Case and Patient Services". Telephone reports may be directed to **(915) 212-6559**. Fax radiology and lab reports to **(915) 212-0172**.

Reportable tuberculosis disease includes the following: suspected tuberculosis disease pending final laboratory results; positive nucleic acid amplification tests; clinically or laboratory-confirmed tuberculosis disease; and all *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (M.tb) complex including *M. tuberculosis*, *M. bovis*, *M. africanum*, *M. canettii*, *M. microti*, *M. caprae*, and *M. pinnipedii*.

Reportable tuberculosis infection includes the following: a positive result from an Interferon-Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) test such as T-SPOT®.TB or QuantiFERON®-TB Gold In-Tube (QFT-G) or a tuberculin skin test (TST) plus a normal chest x-ray and asymptomatic.

Laboratories shall submit pure cultures of all *Bacillus anthracis*, *Clostridium botulinum*, *Brucella species*, *E. coli* 0157:H7, isolates or specimens from cases where Shiga-toxin activity is demonstrated, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Neisseria meningitidis* from normally sterile sites, *Yersinia pestis*, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex, *Francisella tularensis*, *Staphylococcus aureus* with a vancomycin MIC greater than 2 µg/mL (VISA and VRSA), and *Vibrio species* accompanied by a current department Specimen Submission Form to the Texas Department of State Health Services, Laboratory Services Section, 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, TX 78756-3199. Call **(512) 458-7598** for specimen submission information.