

## Example Strategy for Collecting Weekly Influenza Alternate (non-PHL) Data

### Lessons from Minnesota on Collection of Alternate Data

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The Minnesota Laboratory System (MLS) is a statewide, voluntary network of public and private clinical laboratories that provides electronic communication to over 500 members. Through the MLS, there is a subgroup of over 100 laboratories that volunteer to participate in weekly influenza testing data submission. Laboratories that participate complete a brief survey that collects information about the number of rapid tests for influenza and RSV performed each week and also PCR testing and collects Respiratory Virus Panel (RVP) results, if laboratories have that testing capacity. An alternate data flow chart describing the flow of data from the clinical/commercial laboratory network to MDH and CDC is shown in Figure 1. The questions contained in the 2013-2014 influenza testing survey used to collect these data can be found in Appendix A.

Data provided by these volunteer MLS labs are incorporated into MDH's weekly influenza statistics page found at: <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/flu/stats/flustats20.pdf> and attached (appendix C). Our participation rates ranges from 80% to 90% during the influenza season. During the peak month of the 2013-14 influenza season, we received data on over 1,500 molecular tests and over 3,800 rapid antigen tests per week.

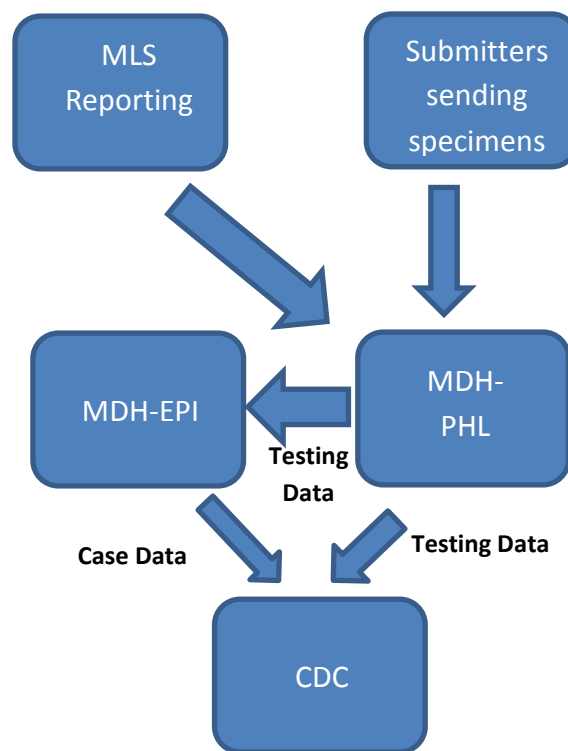


Figure 1. Minnesota Alternate Data Flow

## Appendix A: MDH Weekly Flu 2013-2014 Survey

Facility

Submitter Number (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

Please enter your facility's county. We are using this information to group the results into regions. (If you are entering data for more than one facility, please choose the county that is most representative of the data)

Rapid Influenza and RSV

Reminder: Use whole numbers only, please report only one result per specimen tested.

Please indicate **rapid Influenza** test results for the past week (Sunday thru Saturday):

Total number of rapid Influenza tests performed \_\_\_\_\_

Number of rapid Influenza A positive: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of rapid Influenza B positive: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of rapid Influenza A and B positive (i.e. dual infection): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of rapid Influenza A/B (not differentiated) positive: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate **rapid Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)** results for the past week (Sunday thru Saturday):

Total number of rapid RSV tests performed: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of rapid RSV positive: \_\_\_\_\_

Influenza PCR (Answer this section when testing for Influenza only)

Reminder: Use whole numbers only, please report only one result per specimen tested.

Please indicate the **PCR Influenza** test results for the past week (Sunday thru Saturday):

Total number of specimens tested for Influenza by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Number of PCR positive Influenza A - not typed: \_\_\_\_

Number of PCR positive Influenza A H1 (2009): \_\_\_\_

Number of PCR positive Influenza A H1 (seasonal;not 2009): \_\_\_\_

Number of PCR positive Influenza A H3 (seasonal): \_\_\_\_

Number of PCR positive Influenza A non-typeable: \_\_\_\_

Number of PCR positive Influenza B: \_\_\_\_

Number of PCR equivocal/indeterminate by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Respiratory PCR (Answer this section when testing for other respiratory pathogens **as part of a commercial RVP assay including influenza**)

Please indicate **the Respiratory Virus PCR** test results for the past week (Sunday thru Saturday):

Total number of specimens tested for respiratory viruses by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Number of PCR positive Influenza A - not typed: \_\_\_\_

Number of PCR positive Influenza A H1 (2009): \_\_\_\_

Number of PCR positive Influenza A H1 (seasonal;not 2009): \_\_\_\_

Number of PCR positive Influenza A H3 (seasonal): \_\_\_\_

Number of PCR positive Influenza A non-typeable: \_\_\_\_

Number of PCR positive Influenza B: \_\_\_\_

Number of positive RSV by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Number of positive Human Metapneumovirus by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Number of positive Rhinovirus by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Number of positive Parainfluenza 1 by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Number of positive Parainfluenza 2 by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Number of positive Parainfluenza 3 by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Number of positive Adenovirus by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Number of positive Coronavirus HKU1 by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Number of positive Coronavirus NL63 by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Number of positive Coronavirus 229E by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Number of positive Coronavirus OC43 by PCR: \_\_\_\_

Number of equivocal/indeterminate by PCR: \_\_\_\_

#### Influenza and RSV Cultures

Please indicate the **Respiratory/Virus culture** test results for the past week (Sunday thru Saturday):

Total number of specimens set up for respiratory viral cultures, etc.: \_\_\_\_

Number of Adenovirus positive cultures: \_\_\_\_

Number of CMV positive cultures: \_\_\_\_

Number of Enterovirus positive cultures: \_\_\_\_

Number of Influenza A positive cultures: \_\_\_\_

Number of Influenza B positive cultures: \_\_\_\_

Number of Human Metapneumovirus positive cultures : \_\_\_\_

Number of Parainfluenza type 1 positive cultures : \_\_\_\_

Number of Parainfluenza type 2 positive cultures : \_\_\_\_

Number of Parainfluenza type 3 positive cultures : \_\_\_\_

Number of Rhinovirus positive cultures : \_\_\_\_

Number of RSV positive cultures: \_\_\_\_

Number of Other viruses cultured: \_\_\_\_

If other, specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

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