

Options for Secure Transport of Syndromic Surveillance Data to the Washington State Department of Health

Washington State Department of Health supports three secure transport options for submission of syndromic surveillance data: Washington State Health Information Exchange, Secure File Transport, and Public Health Information Network Messaging System. Additional information about implementing each transport mechanism follows.

Washington State Health Information Exchange (HIE)

The Washington State HIE is administered by OneHealthPort. The Washington State HIE provides services that allow health care providers to securely send and receive health information electronically.

Facilities interested in using the HIE that do not have an existing connection should visit the [OneHealthPort website](#) to get started and to learn about contracting, costs and policies.

Facilities that have an existing connection to the Washington State HIE, or who anticipate establishing a connection for other purposes, are encouraged to use the HIE to send syndromic surveillance data to the Washington State Department of Health. If you have an existing connection to the HIE, please work with OneHealthPort to make any final preparations required to send syndromic surveillance data to the department.

Secure File Transport (SFT)

SFT refers to several standards for transferring data between computers. WaTech (Washington State government's central technology group) operates a host running "Secure Transport" by Axway. This host can handle several variations of SFT protocols including HTTPS and FTP over SSH.

Facilities interested in using SFT may contact syndromic.surveillance@doh.wa.gov for assistance in establishing connectivity with the agency.

Public Health Information Network Messaging System (PHINMS)

PHINMS is the public health standard for reporting to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and is a standard for national laboratories reporting to states. The [software](#) is freely available from the CDC.

Facilities interested in using PHINMS may contact syndromic.surveillance@doh.wa.gov for assistance in establishing connectivity with the agency.