

I D S S



Quarterly A newsletter for Iowa Disease Surveillance System users

2011 Quarter 1

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Statistics

Statewide Totals	
Name	IDSS
Total Number of Logins	65,636
Avg. Minutes per session	20
Total Hours on System	60,947

*All statistics are from the beginning use of IDSS to December 2, 2010. Statistics in the next IDSS Quarterly (or IQ) will be reset to measure from November 2010.

Technical Tips for Initial Reporters

Searching for existing cases

Recommendation: Search for cases by entering only the last name and first name of the patient to avoid creating duplicate cases.

If you enter too much information when you are searching for a case, the search function may not find the correct case, even though it is already in IDSS.

Example:

A search for John Smith yields all cases named John Smith in the system. A search for John L. Smith, DOB 1/1/1970, may miss your actual case if it was originally entered as John Smith and no DOB was listed.

The Last Name and First Name fields use something called Soundex technology. A search will yield names that are spelled similarly and exactly as the names that were entered for the search.

A search for Last Name and First Name will usually return a manageable list. Then you can use the additional known information, such as date of birth and address, to determine if the person on the lab result matches any of the IDSS cases returned in the search.

Open Case Wizard

Please enter the information specific to the Case you would like to find.

Case #:

Date of birth:

Last Name:

First Name:

Middle Name:

Alias:

Maiden name:

Buttons: Help, Previous, Next, Finish, Cancel

When entering an initial laboratory result into IDSS, search for only the...

Last Name

First Name

This will yield better results and save time because less data entry will be needed.

Requesting Contributor Status

If your search yields records that are gray and cannot be selected, you do not have access to that record. To be granted access to that record, you must call the Disease Reporting Hotline (800-362-2736) and request "Contributor status" for the case # that appears gray.

Open Case Wizard

Please select one of the following

View/Edit existing Case (below)

Create new Case

In your search, it is possible for a match to display that cannot be accessed. This means you are not currently a contributor for that record. If this occurs, call IDPH's Disease Reporting Hotline.

Case #	Case name	Date of birth	Address
0000036917	Case 1, Test	09/18/1972	4546 Dryde
0000004847	Case 2, Test	04/14/1952	202 RIVER DRIVE
0000023565	Case 3, Test	09/03/1963	10 FRONTIER ST

These grayed-out records cannot be selected or opened by the current user.

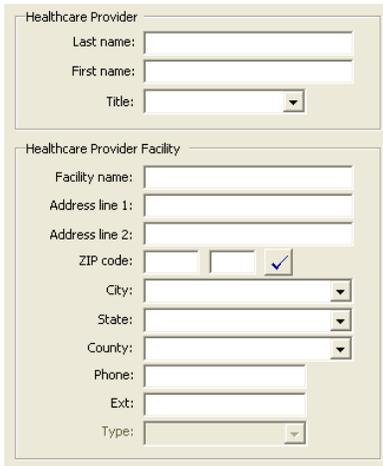
Bold records can be selected and opened by the current user.

Technical Tips for Investigators

Physician Information in the ELR Notes field

The State Hygienic Laboratory and the Iowa Department of Public Health implemented an electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) connection in March of 2010. Information received electronically typically includes the ordering physician name and telephone number, but it is not in the location where you might expect.

The Healthcare Provider and Healthcare Provider Facility sections are found on the “Event (cont’d)” tab in IDSS (see Image A below).



The screenshot shows two form sections. The top section, titled "Healthcare Provider", contains three text input fields for "Last name:", "First name:", and "Title:", with a dropdown arrow on the "Title:" field. The bottom section, titled "Healthcare Provider Facility", contains several fields: "Facility name:" (text), "Address line 1:" (text), "Address line 2:" (text), "ZIP code:" (text with a checkmark icon), "City:" (dropdown), "State:" (dropdown), "County:" (dropdown), "Phone:" (text), "Ext:" (text), and "Type:" (dropdown).

Image A

New laboratory results as well as second and sometimes third test results are received by ELR. Therefore, many ELR results are received after the investigation is underway and the most appropriate physician (maybe other than the original ordering physician) has been entered on the Event (Cont’d) screen - Image A.

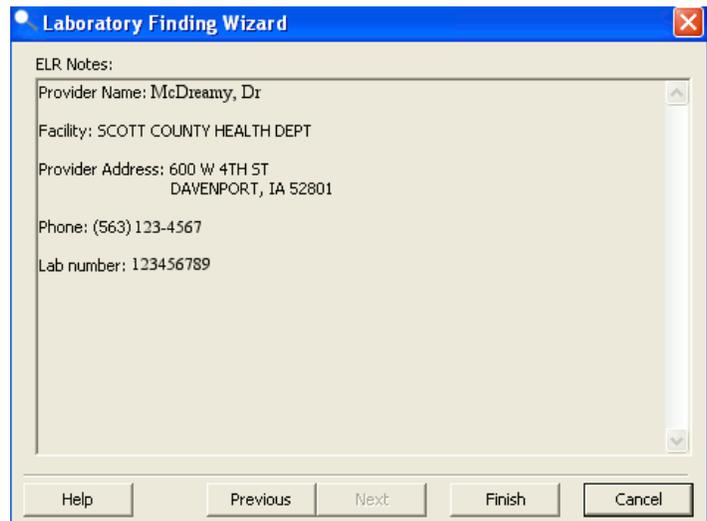
When the ordering physician information is received by ELR – often related to an ER visit – it is stored with the ELR lab result with which it was received. This information is found on the last screen of the Laboratory Findings Wizard associated with a specific result (see Image B below).

By saving the physician information in this location, it ensures that any physician information saved in the record is not overwritten and lost.

The ELR Notes contains:

- the name of the healthcare provider that ordered the laboratory test,
- the associated facility,
- the provider’s address,
- the healthcare provider phone number,
- additional information associated with the particular laboratory test, if applicable, and
- patient symptom information in some cases.

Image B



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Laboratory Finding Wizard" with a blue header and a close button (X) in the top right corner. The main area is labeled "ELR Notes:" and contains a scrollable text area with the following information: "Provider Name: McDreamy, Dr", "Facility: SCOTT COUNTY HEALTH DEPT", "Provider Address: 600 W 4TH ST DAVENPORT, IA 52801", "Phone: (563) 123-4567", and "Lab number: 123456789". At the bottom of the dialog box, there are five buttons: "Help", "Previous", "Next", "Finish", and "Cancel".