

2022 NPCR NORTH DAKOTA SUCCESS STORY

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Collaboration with Setting Up Quest Data Reporting Successfully

National Program of Cancer Registries SUCCESS STORY

SUMMARY

Case completeness is always one of the key goals for a Central Cancer Registry. Electronic reporting of laboratory data can help increase the reliability of case collection and avoid missing cases.

In 2021-2022, North Dakota Statewide Cancer Registry (NDSCR) participated in the Pathology Labs Cancer Registry Reporting Project, partnering with the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) and supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Program of Cancer Registries (CDC/NPCR). This project set up the automatic electronic transmission of Quest Lab data to NDSCR, which will potentially reduce missing cases.

CHALLENGE

The goal of the CDC/NPCR project is to secure the transmission of Electronic Laboratory Cancer Pathology Reports in NAACCR vol. V format from Quest pathology labs to all Jurisdiction CRs (Cancer Registries) via the AIMS Platform reusing the existing AIMS to Public Health Agencies (PHA, such as the ND Department of Health - ND DoH) connections. However, the NDSCR resides in the Department of Pathology with the University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences (UND SMHS). It became ND DoH's bona fide agent and assumed responsibility for the NDSCR's operation and maintenance in 2012. As a separate entity – operation-wise, it is not possible to have the PHA/ND DoH route case data directly to the Cancer Registry. The ND DoH needed to re-route the HL7 message to the Cancer Registry after taking 4 steps (Plan / Connect / Validate / CR Production), and the Registry systems required a new configuration to complete the connection.

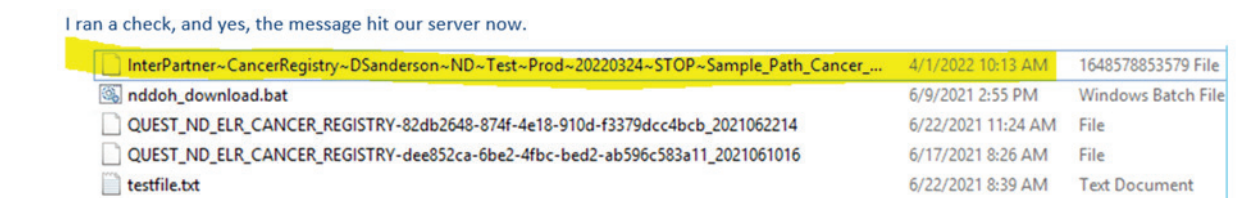
SOLUTION

After participating in webinars and meetings with APHL and reviewing relevant networking procedures, we answered the following questions and successfully established connectivity between ND DoH and NDSCR.

- Does the NDSCR currently have secure connectivity with the ND DoH?
- If yes, does NDSCR agree to start receiving cancer messages from ND DoH once this work commences?
- If not, could the NDSCR develop a connection to ND DoH?
- What is the APHL Informatics Messaging Services (AIMS) Platform and how does it work?
- How will NDSCR systems recognize and process InterPartner file naming conventions?

RESULTS

In April 2022, working with DoH IT staff, we finally completed the connection from DoH to our Med school. Now, messages from Quest Diagnostics/AmeriPath are automatically routed to NDSCR through a secure connection with the ND DoH. With this project, we could avoid missing cases from this data source and receive more detailed and accurate lab info.

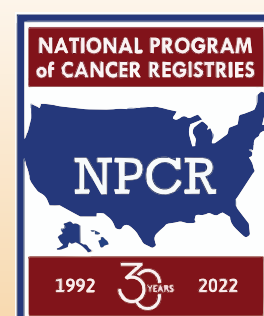


SUSTAINING SUCCESS

The NDSCR will continue participating in collaborative CDC/NPCR projects like this one, to further improve the reliability and completeness of ND cancer data reporting.

REGISTRY CONTACT INFORMATION

701-777-0791 (2868)
North Dakota Statewide Cancer Registry Website



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention