Santa Barbara County
PUBLIC Health
D E P A R T M E N T

Public Health Administration

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Dear Local Provider,

Meaningful Use provisions of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act was enacted as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Under this Act, Eligible Hospitals (EHs), Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs), and Eligible Professionals (EPs) that provide clinical services to Medicare and Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California) patients and commence the transmission of electronic health data are eligible to receive Meaningful Use financial incentives from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

One of the Public Health objectives is the successful transmission of electronic syndromic surveillance data. Currently, neither Santa Barbara County nor the State of California has the capability to receive syndromic surveillance data. In addition, any and all Specialty Registry acceptance of electronic data currently available in Santa Barbara County is through the Department of Public Health's Health Information Exchange (HIE) Gateway. For more information regarding the submission of electronic reportable laboratory results, and submission of electronic data to immunization registries and cancer registries, visit the State website http://hie.cdph.ca.gov/.

If an EP, EH or CAH does not have other applicable objectives; they may be eligible for an exclusion for their Public Health Meaningful Use attestation for the submission of electronic syndromic surveillance to public health agencies.

If you have any questions regarding the Public Health Meaningful Use measures, please contact Dan Reid at (805) 681-5173 or by email at dan.reid@sbcphd.org.

Sincerely,

Daniel Reid, MPA
Assistant Deputy Director