

ED Reporting Requirements for Substance Use-Related Cases

FAQ

July 6, 2020

What is this requirement?

To improve the city's tracking of and response to today's drug overdose crisis, acute care hospitals in Philadelphia are now required to report to the Philadelphia Department of Public Health the aggregate number of individuals seen in their emergency departments for substance use-related reasons (e.g. drug overdose, withdrawal symptoms) and the disposition of those individuals.

When did this law take effect?

Philadelphia City Council passed Bill No. 190864 on December 12, 2019 and Mayor Jim Kenney signed it into law on December 30, 2019. The Philadelphia Board of Health approved regulations related to it on February 13, 2020. The requirement to report took effect April 13, 2020.

What information must be reported?

Hospitals are required to report the aggregate number of individuals seen in the ED for drug-related conditions, specifically:

- Number of patients seen in the ED for an **overdose**
- Number of patients seen in the ED for **withdrawal symptoms**
- Number of patients seen in the ED who were **referred to any substance use treatment**
- Number of patients seen in the ED who were **provided buprenorphine**
- Number of patients seen in the ED who were **referred to inpatient rehab**
- Number of patients seen in the ED who were **referred to intensive outpatient (IOP) or outpatient (OP) treatment**
- Number of patients seen in the ED who were **referred to inpatient drug detox**
- Number of patients seen in the ED who were **referred to medication assisted treatment**
- Number of patients seen in the ED who were **referred to an abstinence-oriented program (e.g. a 12-step program)**
- Number of patients seen in the ED who were **admitted to the hospital or placed on observation status for treatment**
- Number of patients seen in the ED who were **provided naloxone on discharge**

When is the information reported?

Reporting should occur on a quarterly basis and include all patients seen since the last reporting period. The reporting schedule is as follows:

- **Q1** (January 1 - March 31) is due **April 15**.
- **Q2** (April 1 - June 30) is due **July 15**.
- **Q3** (July 1 - September 30) is due **October 15**.
- **Q4** (October 1 - December 31) is due **January 15**.

Note that reporting is required quarterly, but within each quarter, each month's numbers should be reported separately. For example, on April 15, the numbers for January, February and March will be input separately.

How do I report this information?

Aggregate information related to the treatment and discharge of any patients fitting the criteria listed above should be reported to the Philadelphia Department of Public Health using this secure online reporting form:

<https://redcap.phila.gov/surveys/?s=XWW8FRJ3ET>

A reminder email will be sent at the end of each reporting period.

Who should I contact if I have questions?

Questions relating to this reporting requirement can be emailed to dph.opioid@phila.gov.