



N.J.A.C. 8:57 Updates: Information for Healthcare Professionals and Administrators

Date: February 3, 2026

Public Health Message Type: ☐ Alert ☐ Advisory ☒ Update ☐ Information

Intended Audience: ☐ All public health partners ☒ Healthcare providers ☒ Infection preventionists
☒ Local health departments ☒ Schools/childcare centers ☐ ACOs

☐ Animal health professionals ☒ Other: Institutions of higher education, correctional facilities, youth camps, farm or migrant labor camps, healthcare facilities

Introduction:

The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) formally adopted updates to New Jersey Administrative Code Title 8, Chapter 57 on January 20, 2026. The NJDOH Communicable Disease Service (CDS) provides this notification to inform stakeholders of updates to the N.J.A.C. 8:57 reporting requirements. The newly adopted provisions in N.J.A.C. 8:57-2.1-2.4 establish the current statutory requirements, timelines, and methods for reporting communicable diseases and conditions to public health authorities. The requirements for healthcare professionals and administrators are available at <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/reporting/healthcare-professionals/>.

Timely and accurate disease reporting remains essential to protect community health. All healthcare professionals and administrators are expected to be familiar with these requirements and to ensure compliance with the applicable reporting timelines and processes.

To view the full regulations, LexisNexis provides free public access to the [New Jersey Administrative Code and the New Jersey Register](#). If you need help using the Lexis Nexis site, please refer to the Instructions for Viewing Regulations link: [Instructions for Viewing Regulations](#).

Key Points or Updates:

- **Updates to the reportable disease list**
 - Several diseases and conditions have been added or amended to the [list](#) (also see below for new additions).
- **Immediate reporting requirements remain in effect**
 - [Diseases and conditions listed in N.J.A.C. 8:57-2.3\(a\)](#) require urgent health department action to prevent spread and must be reported immediately.
 - These diseases, along with suspected or confirmed acts of bioterrorism, suspected or confirmed outbreaks of any communicable disease, and diseases or conditions reasonably believed to pose a potential public health emergency must be reported **by telephone to the local health department** as soon as they are suspected based on clinical information, even if laboratory tests are pending.

- **Revised timeframe for non-immediately reportable conditions**
 - Conditions that were previously required to be reported within 24 hours must now be reported **by the close of the next business day following confirmation.**
- **Reporting of positive point-of-care tests**
 - Positive point-of-care test results for [any condition](#) listed in N.J.A.C. 8:57-2.3(b) must be reported **electronically by the close of the next business day.**
- **New electronic case reporting (eCR) requirements**
 - Healthcare professionals practicing in hospitals or facilities that are onboarded by NJDOH for electronic case reporting (eCR) are required to submit reports via eCR for [diseases currently supported by NJDOH's eCR program](#).
 - If eCR submissions for a specific facility or disease are not yet established with NJDOH, providers must continue to use other reporting methods (fax, secure email, or CDRSS, as applicable).

Action Items:

- Review updated communicable disease reporting guidance for healthcare professionals and administrators at <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/reporting/healthcare-professionals/>
- Ensure familiarity with [reportable diseases](#), reporting timeframes, and reporting methods, with particular attention to conditions requiring immediate telephone reporting.
- Healthcare organization and facility administrators should ensure that all affiliated providers are informed of the updated requirements and are familiar with internal procedures for meeting reporting obligations, including electronic reporting where applicable.
- Providers should confirm eCR implementation and onboarding status with their administrator or EHR vendor.

Further information:

The updated [list of reportable diseases in New Jersey](#) includes the following additions of immediately reportable (suspected or confirmed) cases: **biological intoxications (including harmful algal blooms), free-living amebic infections [*Acanthamoeba* (excluding *keratitis*), *Balamuthia mandrillaris* and *Naegleria fowleri* causing primary amebic meningoencephalitis], melioidosis, and mpox.**

Other new conditions (including positive point of care test results) which must be reported by the next business day include: **alpha-gal syndrome, anaplasmosis, bacterial tickborne diseases (e.g., *Borrelia miyamotoi*), *Candida auris* infection or colonization, carbapenemase-producing organism (CPO) infection or colonization, Coccidioidomycosis ("Valley Fever"), COVID-19, invasive *Cronobacter* infections in infants <12 month, extrapulmonary nontuberculous mycobacteria infection, leptospirosis, and RSV-associated pediatric mortality.** In addition, **brucellosis, pertussis and tularemia** which were previously immediately reportable, are now reportable by the next business day.

The revised reporting requirements are intended to improve the timeliness and quality of public health surveillance while reducing administrative burden by transitioning to electronic case reporting (eCR).

NJDOH is continuing to expand eCR implementation; however, eCR is not yet available for all providers or for all reportable conditions. Facilities which are onboarded for eCR are required to submit reports via eCR for diseases currently supported by NJDOH's eCR program. The current list of eCR-reportable diseases is available at https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/eCR_list_of_diseases.pdf and will be updated as additional conditions are implemented. Providers should confirm their facility's eCR authorization status with their administrator or EHR vendor.

When eCR is not available, most non-immediately reportable conditions should continue to be reported via the Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System (CDRSS), or by fax or secure email, to the [local health department](#) (LHD) where the patient resides. If the patient's residence is unknown, report to the LHD for the healthcare facility. Exceptions include [sexually transmitted diseases](#) and [tuberculosis](#), which should be reported directly to NJDOH via CDRSS, and HIV, which should continue to be reported to NJDOH via electronic lab reporting (ELR) as per <https://www.nj.gov/health/hiv/for-professionals/for-providers/>. **In addition, immediately reportable conditions require a telephone report to the local health department, and should not be reported via fax, email or other electronic methods.**

Although multiple healthcare professionals or entities may have a reporting obligation, only one report per case or point-of-care test result is required. **Each healthcare professional or organization subject to N.J.A.C. 8:57-2.1 remains responsible for ensuring that a report is submitted, even when reporting responsibilities are delegated.** To ensure compliance, healthcare facilities and organization administrators must ensure that all affiliated or employed healthcare professionals who are subject to N.J.A.C. 8:57 are informed of and follow the organization's communicable disease reporting procedures.

Information on disease reporting requirements, including required report elements, how to report, and reporting timeframes can be found at <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/reporting/healthcare-professionals/>. The health department may request additional clinical information or medical records as necessary to conduct a disease or outbreak investigation. In addition, reporting regulations for [clinical laboratories](#) may also apply if your practice or facility includes a laboratory.

Contact Information:

- NJDOH Communicable Disease Service: (609) 826-5964
- NJDOH Sexually Transmitted Disease Service: (609) 826-4869
- NJDOH Tuberculosis Service: (609) 826-4878
- NJDOH HIV Surveillance: (609) 984-5940

Resources:

- NJDOH Communicable Disease Reporting Website for Healthcare Professionals and Administrators
<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/reporting/healthcare-professionals/>
- NJDOH Communicable Disease Reporting Website for Clinical Laboratories
<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/reporting/clinical-laboratories/>
- Diseases currently reportable via eCR
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/eCR_list_of_diseases.pdf
- NJDOH eCR resources
<https://www.nj.gov/health/meaningfuluse/ecr/>