

Texas Immunization Registry: Disaster Event Consent Overview

Background

Texas Health and Safety Code [161.00705](#) requires healthcare providers to report individuals that receive antivirals, immunizations and other medications (AIMs) to the Texas Immunization Registry (ImmTrac2). This mandate requires that the individual's information be reported to the registry whether a registry consent form to participate in the immunization registry was signed.

Purpose

This document will assist healthcare providers in understanding the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Texas Immunization Registry program rules and state requirements to report disaster-related data to the registry and the retention period of the data that will be collected.

Types of Events

There are different types of events specific to reporting data to the registry:

- potential disaster,
- public health emergency,
- terrorist attack,
- hostile military or paramilitary action, or
- extraordinary law enforcement emergency.

Registry Consent During Disaster Events

Healthcare providers are not required by law to collect an individual's consent for the registry at the time an AIM is administered. An individual's demographic data is required to be collected and submitted to the registry within 30 days of the administration of the AIM. The following consent scenarios explain the retention period of the data collected during a disaster event:

Disaster Unconsented

When a healthcare provider administers an AIM to an individual during a disaster event regardless of whether or not a registry consent form is signed and collected by the provider, the information on the AIM administration is required by law to be submitted to the immunization registry.

This individual and AIM data will be stored within ImmTrac2 for a period of five (5) years after the declared end date of the event. Only disaster-related AIMs are stored for the indicated retention period.

Disaster Consented

When a healthcare provider administers an AIM to an individual during a disaster event and collects a fully completed and signed [Disaster Information Retention Consent Form](#) (Stock #F11-12956), the provider must ensure that the individual is added (affirmed) into ImmTrac2 with the Disaster Consented status.

This consent will allow all the information collected relevant to disaster AIMs to remain in ImmTrac2 beyond the five (5) year retention period.

The Disaster Information Retention Consent form only pertains to AIMs that were part of the disaster event which, in many cases, does not include "routine" vaccine administrations such as DTaP, pneumococcal or seasonal flu. Disaster Consented clients with these "routine" administrations will be automatically deleted from the registry.

Online videos and training guidance for disaster reporting and consenting client in ImmTrac2 can be found on our website
<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/immtrac>.

Registry Contact

For more information and support contact the Texas Immunization Registry:

Email: ImmTrac2@dshs.texas.gov

Phone: (800) 348-9158