

State of Hawai'i, Department of Health

Electronic Laboratory Reporting Technical Standards

Required messaging standard.

Laboratories must electronically transmit laboratory data, consistently with the [HL7 v2.5.1 compliant](#) messages.

Required vocabulary.

[Electronic Laboratory Reported \(ELR\)](#) messages must use standardized code sets, including (see linked standards):

- [LOINC](#) for test orders/observations
- [SNOMED CT](#) for organisms, result values, and specimen types (as applicable)
- [UCUM](#) for units of measure

Core data elements.

Messages must include, non-exhaustively, patient demographics, ordering provider and facility information, performing laboratory CLIA number, specimen details (type, collection date/time), test methodology, result and result status, and observation timestamps, as specified by the [ELR Implementation Guide](#)

Transport & Security.

Laboratories must transmit ELR electronically and securely using HDOH-approved transport. All transmissions must protect Protected Health Information (PHI) in transit via approved and notified secure methods as made known and approved by HDOH

Onboarding & Validation.

Before production, laboratories must complete connectivity setup, test-message validation, and maintain current reporting methods during automation validation with HDOH. Laboratories are responsible for ongoing data quality monitoring and must notify HDOH of any changes after go-live. The lab should be aware that all changes, whether planned or unplanned, should be notified to DOH in advance. "Change" refers to any modification that could affect ELR data submission or message content. Change notifications that require HDOH awareness and approval include identifying data elements such as LOINC, SNOMED, and lab names, as well as

CLIA, and sending applications, change in point of contact, person in charge. This list is non-exhaustive and subject to change.

Interim arrangements.

HDOH's position is that all laboratories send ELR electronically. If an entity is currently unable to send data in an automated and approved method or meet the HL7 v2.5.1 ELR standard, HDOH may approve a temporary, interim solution with a mutually agreed plan and timeline to transition to full HL7 ELR.

Questions & onboarding requests.

Contact Doh.Lab.Contact@doh.hawaii.gov to initiate ELR onboarding or to discuss interim options.