

Maryland Mandatory Reporting Requirements -- April 15, 2003

CATEGORY	REPORTING REQUIREMENT	REPORTING DEADLINE	AUTHORITY RECEIVING	SOURCE
<i>Abuse and/or Violent Injury</i>				
Abuse of Vulnerable Adult (meaning, an adult who lacks the physical or mental capacity to provide for the adult's daily needs)	Notwithstanding any law on privileged communications, each health practitioner, police officer, or human services worker who contacts, examines, attends or treats an alleged vulnerable adult and has reason to believe the alleged vulnerable adult has been subjected shall report suspected abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation. Contents of report specified in statute.	None/Immediately, if acting as a staff member of a hospital or public health agency	Local Department of Social Services and, if acting as a staff member or a hospital or public health agency, immediately notify and give all the information required to the head of the institution or the designee of the head	Md. Code, Fam. Law §14-302(a)-(d)
Abuse of Mentally Ill Individual	A health care provider shall disclose a medical record without authorization of person in interest if: (i) the State designated protection and advocacy system has received a complaint regarding the recipient or the director of the system has certified in writing to the chief administrative officer of the health care provider that there is probable cause to believe that the patient has been subject to abuse or neglect; (ii) the patient by reason of mental or physical condition is unable to authorize disclosure; and (iii) A. the patient does not have a legal guardian or other legal representative who has the authority to consent to the release of health care information; or B. the legal guardian of the patient is a representative of a State agency.	None	State designated protection and advocacy system for mentally ill individuals under the Federal Protection and Advocacy for Mental Ill Individuals Act of 1986	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §4-307(k)(l) See also Ct. & Jud. Proceeding Sec 5-609
Abuse of Developmentally Disabled Individual	A person who believes that an individual with developmental disability has been abused shall report the alleged abuse.	Promptly	Executive officer or administrative head of the licensee	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §7-1005(b)
Abuse of Resident of Related Institution	A person who believes that a resident of a related institution has been abused shall report the alleged abuse. ("Related Institution" is defined as an organized institution, environment, or home that: i) maintains conditions or facilities and equipment to provide domiciliary, personal, or nursing care for 2 or more unrelated individuals who are dependent on the administrator, operator, or proprietor for nursing care or the subsistence of daily living in a safe, sanitary, and healthful environment; and, ii) admits or retains the individuals for overnight care. "Related Institution" does not include a nursing facility or visiting nurse services that is conducted only by or for adherents of a bona fide church or religious organization, in accordance with tenets and practices that include reliance on treatment by spiritual means alone for healing.)	Promptly	An appropriate law enforcement agency, the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Department of Aging	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §19-347(b)
Child Abuse or Neglect	Each health practitioner, police officer, educator or human service worker, acting in a professional capacity who has reason to believe that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect shall report the alleged abuse to the local Department or law enforcement, as applicable, and if a staff member of a hospital, to the head of the institution or designee.	Immediately	Local Department of Social Services or the appropriate law enforcement agency	Md. Code, Family Law §5-704(a)-(d)

CATEGORY	REPORTING REQUIREMENT	REPORTING DEADLINE	AUTHORITY RECEIVING	SOURCE
Rape and Sexual Offenses	If the Maryland State Police sexual assault kit is used to collect items of evidence, the physician or hospital shall submit evidence collected.	None	State Police Crime Laboratory	COMAR 10.12.02.03(c)(3)
Injury by Automobile Accident or Lethal Weapon	<p>A physician, pharmacist, dentist, or nurse who treats an individual for an injury that was caused or shows evidence of having been caused by an automobile accident or a lethal weapon, or the individual in charge of a hospital that treats the injured individual, shall submit an injury report to include: 1) the injured individual's name and address, if known; 2) a description of the injury; and 3) any other facts concerning the matter that might assist in detecting crime. An individual who fails to make a report required by this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$25.</p> <p>This section applies only in: Allegany County, Anne Arundel County, Charles County, Kent County, Montgomery County; Prince George's County, Somerset County, Talbot County, and Wicomico County.</p>	As soon as practicable	County sheriff, county police, or the Department of State Police	Md. Code, Health-Gen §20-701
Injury by Moving Vessel (meaning, a vessel that 1) is in the water; and 2) is not anchored or tied to a fixed object)	A physician, pharmacist, dentist, or nurse who treats an individual for an injury that was caused or shows evidence of having been caused by an accident involving a moving vessel, or the individual in charge of a hospital that treats the injured individual, shall submit an injury report to include: 1) the injured individual's name and address, if known; 2) a description of the injury; and 3) any other facts concerning the matter that might assist in detecting crime. An individual who fails to make a report required under subsection (b)(1) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$25.	As soon as practicable	County sheriff, county police, or the Department of State Police, or the Natural Resources Police	Md. Code, Health-Gen §20-702
Injury by Gunshot	A physician, pharmacist, dentist, or nurse who treats an individual for an injury that was caused or shows evidence of having been caused by a gunshot of any type, or the individual in charge of a hospital that treats the injured individual, shall submit an injury report to include: 1) the injured individual's name and address, if known; 2) a description of the injury; and 3) any other facts concerning the matter that might assist in detecting crime. An individual who fails to make a report required under this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$25.	As soon as practicable	County sheriff, county police, or the Department of State Police	Md. Code, Health-Gen §20-703
Injury by Burns	A licensed physician or registered nurse who is primarily responsible for the treatment of an individual for a burn injury which: 1) causes 2 nd or 3 rd degree burns to 5% or more of the patient's body; 2) causes injury to the upper respiratory tract or laryngeal edema caused by inhaling super-heated air; 3) causes death; or 4) is likely to cause death, shall submit a report.	As soon as practicable	County fire chief or administrator, or designee, or, if neither office exists, the State Fire Marshal or designee	COMAR 10.07.04.05
Injury to Resident of Residential Treatment Centers for Emotionally Disturbed Children and Adolescents	The Center shall furnish reports covering the following: (1) serious injuries or unusual incidents, including fires, within 48 hours; (2) reports of all deaths; and (3) any occurrences which threaten the welfare, safety, or health of any resident of the Center such as infectious disease outbreaks or poisoning.	Immediately	The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene and local health officer	COMAR 10.07.04.05
<i>Deaths and the Deceased</i>				
Death of a Recipient of Mental Health Services	Facility shall disclose medical records without the authorization of a person in interest, in the event of the death of an individual under treatment at the mental health facility.	None	Office of the Medical Examiner	Md. Code, Health-Gen §4-307(k)(vii)

CATEGORY	REPORTING REQUIREMENT	REPORTING DEADLINE	AUTHORITY RECEIVING	SOURCE
Death of a Child	<p>Upon request of the chair of the local team and as necessary to carry out the local team's purpose and duties, the local team shall be immediately provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) by a provider of medical care, including dental and mental health care, with access to information and records regarding a child whose death is being reviewed by the local team, including information on prenatal care; and 2) access to all information and records maintained by any State or local government agency, including birth certificates, law enforcement investigative information, medical examiner investigative information, parole and probation information and records, and information and records of a social services agency that provided services to the child or family. <p>A written request for disclosure or written confirmation by a health care provider of an oral request that justifies the need for disclosure sought under Md. Code, Health-Gen. §4-306 shall be inserted in the medical record of the patient or recipient; and documentation of the disclosure shall be inserted in the medical record of the patient or recipient.</p>	Immediately upon request of the chair of the local team	State or local child fatality review team	Md. Code, Health-Gen §5-707; Md. Code, Health-Gen §4-306(b)(9)
Certificates of Death	Other than fetal deaths, a certificate of death regardless of age of decedent shall be filled out and signed by either (i) the medical examiner, if the medical examiner takes charge of the body; or (ii) if the medical examiner does not take charge of the body, the physician who last attended the deceased. The following information shall be included: name of the deceased, cause of death and medical certification, date and hour of death, place where death occurred.	Within 24 hours after receipt of the death certificate by the physician	Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene	Md. Code, Health-Gen §4-212(b)
Notices to Medical Examiner	Each individual concerned with completing a certificate of death shall notify the medical examiner if (1) the deceased was not under treatment by a physician during the terminal illness, (2) the cause of death is unknown, or (3) the individual considers any of the following conditions to be the cause of death or to have contributed to the death: (i) an accident, including a fall with a fracture or other injury, (ii) homicide, (iii) suicide, (iv) other external manner of death, (v) alcoholism, or (vi) criminal or suspected criminal abortion.	Promptly	Medical Examiner	Md. Code, Health-Gen §4-212(c)
Fetal Death Certificates	If a fetal death occurs after a gestation period of 20 weeks or more, a certificate of fetal death shall be filed by the person in charge of the institution or the person's designated representative, or the physician in attendance at or immediately after delivery when the fetus is delivered outside an institution.	Within 72 hours of delivery	Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene	Md. Code, Health-Gen §4-213
Organ or Tissue Donations	Contact made and medical records disclosed without the authorization of a person in interest, for a patient whose organs and tissues may be donated for the purpose of evaluating the patient's suitability for organ, tissue, or eye donation. The contact and its disposition shall be noted in the patient's medical record.	On or before the occurrence of death	Appropriate organ, tissue or eye recovery agency In sudden deaths under the jurisdiction of the office of the Chief Medical	Md. Code, Health-Gen §19-310

CATEGORY	REPORTING REQUIREMENT	REPORTING DEADLINE	AUTHORITY RECEIVING	SOURCE
			Examiner notification will be made to the office of the Chief Medical Examiner prior to organ removal	
<i>Diseases</i>				
Catastrophic Health Emergency Disease Surveillance and Response Program	<p>In order to maintain an effective disease surveillance system for detecting whether individuals have been exposed to a deadly agent, the Secretary may by order, directive or regulation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) require a health care provider or other person to report i) the presence of an individual or group of individuals with specified illnesses or symptoms; ii) diagnostic and laboratory findings relating to diseases caused by deadly agents; iii) statistical or utilization trends relating to potential disease outbreaks; iv) information needed to conduct contact tracing for exposed individuals; and v) other data deemed by the Secretary to have epidemiological significance in detecting possible catastrophic health emergencies; 2) require or authorize a health care provider to disclose information to an agency of the federal, State, or local government or another health care provider; 3) require or authorize a health care provider to disclose information to an agency of the federal, State or local government or another health care provider; 4) require a health care provider or other person to submit reports to the Department containing information detailing the presence and use of deadly agents; 5) obtain access to premises in order to secure environmental samples and otherwise investigate actual or potential exposures to deadly agents; and 6) require a veterinarian or other person to report data relating to specified illnesses or symptoms in animal populations. <p>Secretary shall (1) request and use non-identifying information whenever possible; and (2) limit the use of confidential information to the extent necessary to detect and investigate actual or potential exposures to deadly agents.</p>	Immediately	Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene or other public official	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §18-904
Infectious or contagious disease (other than HIV or AIDS)	A physician with reason to suspect that a patient under the physician's care has an infectious or contagious disease (other than HIV or AIDS) shall provide a mandatory physician report. Report shall (1) be on the form that the Secretary provides; (2) identify the disease; (3) state the name, age, race, sex, and residence address of the patient; and (4) be signed by the physician.	Immediately	Health officer for the County where the physician cares for the patient	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §18-201(a)

CATEGORY	REPORTING REQUIREMENT	REPORTING DEADLINE	AUTHORITY RECEIVING	SOURCE
	When the administrative head of an institution has reason to believe that an individual on the premises of the institution has an infectious or contagious disease except HIV or AIDS, the administrative head immediately shall submit a report. The report shall: (1) state the name and residence address of the individual believed to have the disease; (2) identify the infectious or contagious disease; (3) state the name of the administrative head of the institution; and (4) state the address of the institution.	Immediately	Health officer for the County where the institution is located	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §18-201
		Within 48 hours		COMAR 10.06.01.04
	COMAR expands the reporting obligation to include a physician, physician's assistant, dentist, chiropractor, nurse practitioner, nurse, podiatrist, any other licensed health care provider, a medical examiner, or an administrator of a hospital, clinic, dispensary, or nursing home who knows of a case of a reportable disease, condition, outbreak, or unusual manifestation.			
	Laboratory directors are required to submit reports when laboratory tests from human specimens show evidence of any of 62 enumerated diseases, including meningitis, various sexually transmitted diseases, and other diseases such as smallpox, HIV and CD4+ counts.	Within 48 hours of examination of a specimen	The health officer for the county where the lab is located	MD. Code, Health-Gen. §18-205
	See COMAR 10.06.01.03 for the list of reportable diseases and conditions and outbreaks, diseases of unknown etiology and unusual manifestations.			
AIDS	A physician who has diagnosed a patient with AIDS shall provide a mandatory physician report. Report shall (1) be on the form that the Secretary provides; (2) identify the disease; (3) state the name, age, race, sex, and residence address of the patient; and (4) be signed by the physician.	Immediately	Health officer for the County where the physician cares for the patient	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §18-201.
	Physician will also make available sufficient information to complete an AIDS case report as defined in Health Gen. § 18-207.	Within 24 hours		COMAR 10.18.03.03A
Exposure to infectious or contagious disease (including HIV)	Attending physician, medical examiner or designee of a medical care facility (hospital or facility at a correctional institution) shall provide a confidential written notification of exposure of certain individuals to nine listed diseases or viruses. in a manner that will protect the confidentiality of the patient.	Within 48 hours, or sooner, of confirmation of the patient's diagnosis	Fire fighters, emergency medical technicians, rescue squadmen, law enforcement officers, correctional officers, etc. and their employers.	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §18-213

CATEGORY	REPORTING REQUIREMENT	REPORTING DEADLINE	AUTHORITY RECEIVING	SOURCE
	Attending physician, medical examiner or designee of a medical care facility (hospital or facility at a correctional institution) shall provide a confidential written notification of possible contact exposure to nine listed contagious diseases or viruses) in a manner that will protect the confidentiality of the patient.	Within 48 hours, or sooner, of confirmation of the patient's diagnosis	Sworn member of the State Fire Marshal's office and the State Fire Marshal or the State Fire Marshal's designee	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §18-213.1
	If, while transporting a person to a medical care facility or while acting in the performance of duty, a first responder comes into contact exposure while treating or transporting a person who dies at the scene or while being transported and who is subsequently determined, as a result of information obtained in conjunction with a postmortem examination by the Chief Medical Examiner or a designee of the Chief Medical Examiner to have had a contagious disease or virus at the time of death, the physician performing the postmortem examination shall provide confidential written confirmation of possible contact exposure to the contagious disease or virus.	Within 48 hours of the confirmation of the determination that the deceased person had a contagious disease or virus at the time of death	First responder and the first responder's employer or the employer's designee	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §18-213.2
Sexually Transmitted Disease – Syphilis	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Attending physician shall provide in writing the name and address of an individual who is: (a) receiving or has received treatment for syphilis; or (b) under medical observation for diagnosis or treatment of syphilis in an infectious or potentially infectious stage, who fails to return for observation or treatment within 1 week of the date of a missed appointment, and is not known to the attending physician to be under medical observation or treatment elsewhere for this disease. 2) Physician in attendance upon a patient having syphilis shall report immediately to the health officer any untreated individual identified as having had potentially infectious contact with an individual having syphilis. 3) Physician in attendance upon a pregnant woman shall report immediately to the health officer a positive diagnosis of syphilis. 4) Physician in attendance upon an infant born to an untreated woman who tests positive for syphilis shall report immediately to the health officer the test results and the name, address, and telephone number of the mother. 	Immediately and in writing	County health officer	COMAR 10.06.01.17
Cancer or Central Nervous System Tumor	<p>Each hospital, freestanding laboratory, freestanding ambulatory care facility, therapeutic radiological center or physician must submit a cancer report for all patients initially diagnosed, treated or admitted.</p> <p>See COMAR 10.14.01.02 for list of reportable cancers.</p> <p>See COMAR 10.14.01.03 for mandatory contents of cancer report.</p>	Quarterly	Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §18-204(b)
Animal Bites	A physician, physician's assistant, dentist, chiropractor, nurse practitioner, nurse, podiatrist, any other licensed health care provider, a medical examiner, or an administrator of a hospital, clinic, dispensary, or nursing home and any other individual having knowledge of an animal bite shall report the bite.		County health officer	COMAR 10.06.01.04

CATEGORY	REPORTING REQUIREMENT	REPORTING DEADLINE	AUTHORITY RECEIVING	SOURCE
	A person having knowledge of an individual's having a bite from or non-bite contact with an animal shall report the facts of the contact to the local police or sheriff's department, except in Frederick County, where the person shall report the facts to the animal control center of Frederick County.	Immediately by telephone or in person	The local police or sheriff, or if in Frederick County, the animal control center of Frederick County	COMAR 10.06.02.05
Rabies	An individual who knows or suspects that a dog, cat, or other warm blooded animal has bitten, scratched, or otherwise exposed an individual to a possible rabies infection shall provide a report.	Immediately	The local police or sheriff, or if in Frederick County, the animal control center of Frederick County	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §18-316
	A physician, medical authority, or other person suspecting a case of human rabies shall immediately report the facts to the local health officer, who shall immediately notify by telephone the state epidemiologist or Public Health veterinarian			COMAR 10.06.02.03A.
Blood Lead Levels	The director of a laboratory shall report the results of all blood tests for lead performed on any child 18 or younger who resides in Maryland.	If results are greater than 20 micrograms/deciliter, report by fax or other approved method by close of business the second working day after final test results. All others within 2 weeks of final test results.	Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene	COMAR 26.02.01.04A
	The director of a laboratory shall report the results of all blood tests for lead performed on any child 18 or younger who resides in Baltimore City.		Commissioner of the Baltimore City Health Department	COMAR 26.02.01.04B
Heavy Metal Poisoning	The supervisor or director of a laboratory shall report the results of tests showing elevated levels of lead, mercury, arsenic, or cadmium in blood or urine in Maryland residents 18 years and older.	On forms provided by department, with three copies, within 5 working days of completion of the test	Department of the Environment	COMAR 26.02.06.02
Pertussis Vaccination and Reactions	Any health care provider who has administered pertussis vaccine to an individual and has reason to believe that the individual has had a major adverse reaction (defined in COMAR 10.52.05.01(c)) to the vaccine shall record all relevant information in the individual's permanent medical record and report the information, including manufacturer's name and lot number.	Within 24 hours	Local health officer	Md. Code Ann., Health-Gen., §18-330 COMAR 10.52.05.01(c)
<i>Pregnancy, Newborns Abnormalities and Abortions</i>				
Sentinel Birth Defects	A hospital shall make a report on each child who is born live or stillborn in the hospital and has a sentinel birth defect (i.e., anencephaly; spina bifida; hydrocephaly; cleft palate; cleft lip; esophageal atresia and stenosis; rectal and anal atresia; hypospadias; reduction deformity – upper limb; reduction deformity – lower limb; congenital dislocation of the hip; and down syndrome). If a child is born outside the hospital, the person filling out the birth certificate shall make a report under this section.	Monthly	The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	Md. Code Ann., Health-Gen. §18-206

CATEGORY	REPORTING REQUIREMENT	REPORTING DEADLINE	AUTHORITY RECEIVING	SOURCE
Maternal Death	If a patient of a health care provider or a health care facility dies of a maternal death and the health care provider or the health care facility has knowledge of the circumstances of the death, the health care provider or the health care facility shall report the death.		The Maternal Mortality Review Program	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §13-1206
Universal Hearing Screening	As part of the supplemental information required to be submitted as part of the birth event, a hospital shall include the results of the universal hearing screening of the newborn.		The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §13-605
<i>Births, Adoptions, Guardianships</i>				
Foundling Registration	Any person who takes custody of a child of unknown parentage shall prepare and file a report on the form that the Secretary provides, to include: date and place of finding of the child; sex, color or race, and approximate date of birth of the child, as determined by a physician; name and address of the person with whom the child is placed for care; name that the custodian gives the child; and any other information that the Secretary requires.	Within 72 hours of taking custody	The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §4-209
Birth Registration	The administrative head of the institution or a designee of the administrative head shall: prepare, on the form that the Secretary provides, a certificate of birth; secure each signature that is required on the certificate; and file the certificate.	Within 72 hours after a birth occurs in an institution, or en route to the institution	The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene	Md. Code, Health-Gen. §4-208