No Need to Reinvent the Wheel: Adapting Existing Systems for Active Monitoring During the Ebola Outbreak Response in New Jersey 2014-2015

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Patient Info

• Fields are standardized
• Some fields were “repurposed” for information specific to Ebola monitoring
• Ability to put information in “Comments” section proved valuable mode of communication

Addresses

• Ability to track multiple addresses
• Maintain history of locations
  Individual could possibly be contacted
Signs/Symptoms

- System is disease-centric
- Standard signs/symptoms per disease
- Ability to add multiple of same sign/symptom
- Ability to maintain a log of signs/symptoms:
  - Temperatures were recorded for up to 21 days as “Fever”
  - Time/date stamp available to differentiate between AM/PM temperatures
- Exportable to a report

Epidemiology

- Ability to track as a specific “Investigation”
- Ability to ask outbreak/investigation specific questions

Case Comments

- All comments are archived
- No comments can be deleted or altered once submitted
- Everyone with access to the case has access to the case comments
- Allows for continuity of communication between investigators and investigative entities

Case Classification

- Case status and Report status used for:
  - Signal NJDOH when local health department was done with monitoring
  - Classify the case upon completion
  - Case summary comment allows for final summary of case, provide any final details that were not otherwise captured
- Exportable fields, reports run based on selections
Non-CDDRSS data collection tool

- NJDOH has a data collection system called Hippocrates
- Able to link custom made surveys to CDDRSS cases
- All Ebola cases entered were linked to individual surveys
- Surveys were conducted by local health investigators during initial discussion with individual to be monitored
- Data stored within the system
- Data are exportable

Conclusions

- CDDRSS is a system that links all levels of investigators and provides across the board secure access to cases
- CDDRSS users were already trained and familiar with the system
- While system was not perfect, it served as a secure environment through which active monitoring could be conducted
- Data are automatically housed and exportable through the system
- Improvements will be made during redesign of system to allow for more flexibility during similar instances in the future