

BioSense Platform Code of Conduct

System Monitoring —As an authorized user, you understand and acknowledge that your use of this system will be monitored for system management and to ensure protection against unauthorized access or use. Unauthorized access or use may subject a user to administrative, civil, criminal, or other adverse action, to the extent allowed by law.

Warnings, Alerts, and Anomalies —Syndromic surveillance systems emphasize the use of statistical alerting algorithms to help users determine where to focus additional attention. Time series visualization and statistical alerts alone are generally *insufficient* for issuing public alerts or warnings. Users typically “drill down” to these data to assess the distribution of affected emergency department (ED) visits (or other events captured by the syndromic surveillance system) and may use additional variables such as person, place, or time and other clinical assessments. Analyses may include quality checks to confirm data are complete and accurate.

To that end, users are expected to respect the role of state and local jurisdictions and their respective authority related to public health matters within their jurisdiction by

- Consulting a jurisdiction whose data you intend to access and use (including jurisdictions within your own) to discuss a finding or interpretation of these data before issuing a public statement or warning, taking public health action, or seeking further information from data providers within the other jurisdiction when that action includes disclosure of information derived in part or in whole from the other jurisdiction’s data.
- Informing those who use your data about significant anomalies already understood or under investigation to prevent duplication of effort and unnecessary queries. This includes anomalies due to artifacts (like exercises or batched data) and those due to real local events.

Data Sharing —The design of the BioSense Platform ensures that all sites contribute data toward national syndromic surveillance (with limited details at aggregate levels) while also allowing jurisdictions to control whether and how much data are shared at local and state levels. Users are expected to act responsibly by

- Assuming the risk and liability of any of their use or misuse of the BioSense Platform or data produced, including use that complies with third-party rights (i.e., downstream Data Use Agreements).
- Sharing data with other authorized users in accord with applicable agreements and laws.
- Ensuring that the use of these data is in accord with acceptable practices for ensuring the protection, confidentiality, and integrity of contents.
- Making NO attempt to identify individuals represented in these data or data sources except as part of an authorized public health investigation follow-up and to the extent allowed by applicable law.
- Making NO attempt to use these data where prohibited by local, state, or federal law or regulation.
- Keeping usernames and passwords confidential; this system is intended for authorized users only.

Violation of Code of Conduct may result in CDC disallowing access to the BioSense Platform and associated data and tools within. By accepting this code of conduct, you acknowledge that you are an authorized user of the BioSense Platform and have read and understand the BioSense Platform Code of Conduct.

Signature

Title

Date