

# Texas Health Trace Updates

## for Local and Regional Users

*This biweekly communication is intended to provide local and regional users of Texas Health Trace with useful information about recent and upcoming system enhancements and features.*

**Tuesday, December 22, 2020**

### Major Accomplishments

- Quarantine period guidance update - Language added to scripts to emphasize 14-day quarantine period recommendation from DSHS. The Self-Report flow, Positive Lab Case flow, Exposed Contact flow have all been updated with this messaging. Message is as follows:

*"We recommend quarantining for 14 days because this option has the lowest risk of transmission. We recognize there is varying guidance for self-quarantining safely. If you have questions about modified quarantine guidance, please reach out to your local health department."*

- Manual case level deduplication - now available using the Merge Cases button. Users with permission to delete cases can utilize this feature.
- LHA cases excluded from Call Center assignment - Functionality has been enabled to excluding cases from the call center that should be investigated by a Local Health Authority (LHA). At this time, this is available for cases based on county only.
- New line list and report filters - Mailing city and loss of smell are now available as filters in line lists and reports.
- Backlog of ELR cases imported into THT from NEDSS. Importing at a rate of ~10,000 labs per day, distributed proportionally across jurisdictions, during the time period of 12/11/20-12/24/20.
- Lab Source type for manually entered labs - Cases with manually added labs will be processed upon record creation, eliminating the need for a wait period for correct script to update. Script looping for cases with manually entered labs should be resolved as a result of this fix, as well.
- Probable case classification - Abdominal Pain was removed as a TIER 2 symptom for clinical criteria. Case classification will not consider abdominal pain as a clinical criterion for meeting probable case classification.
- Transferring information for EC to Case conversion - Date of test is now mapped from the Exposed Contact to the Case when promoting an Exposed Contact to a Case.
- Updated jurisdiction mapping for key RLHEs.

### Latest Resources and Trainings

- Queues in Texas Health Trace (Regional/Local Health Dept)
- 12/4/20 Release (Regional/Local Health Dept)
- 12/4/20 Release (Call Center)



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### Lessons Learned

- Issues raised by RLHE users during the past couple of sprint cycles highlight the need and importance of user groups. The development team looks forward to resuming user group meetings after the holiday season.

### Open Issues

- Jurisdiction assignment is still experiencing issues based on address information. Continue to report new issues to your THT team lead.

### Plans for Next Sprint Cycle

- Update Exposed Contact form and guided workflow to collect vaccination information.
- Enable prioritization of cases being assigned to call center staff when they are assigned out of the queue. Most urgent cases will be assigned before lower priority cases.
- Create city option in THT Local Health Jurisdiction profile for LHA's with city jurisdictions who wish to perform Contact Tracing and Case Investigation.
- Change the following fields to be required: Symptom onset date (when "Have you ever had symptoms for COVID-19?" = "Yes"); all fields in "Period of Potential Exposure" on the Exposed Contact form.
- New escalation category and queue to allow duplicate cases to be escalated to a user with necessary permission to review and complete case merges.

