



README

The KHIE LOINC reference set (RS) provides the LOINC codes currently recognized by KHIE for electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) of communicable diseases. The RS is not a comprehensive set of LOINC codes. It does not include all reportable diseases and conditions referenced under 902 KAR 2:020, nor does it include all the LOINC tests relevant to a given disease or condition. Rather, RS is a starting point for normalization of hospital-based laboratory test indicators, which is a requirement for participation in ELR through KHIE. It is likely that a given laboratory may require a LOINC code that is not represented in the RS, in which case the sending facility should contact KHIE for assistance with identifying the appropriate code(s).

The RS spreadsheet has three tabs: 1) *Top priority*, 2) *Generic*, and 3) *Additional diseases and conditions*. Spreadsheet tab (1) provides codes for the most frequently reported communicable diseases in Kentucky when excluding sexually transmitted diseases, which are not reported by KHIE, and chronic Hepatitis C. These “top 5” (i.e. *Salmonella sp.*, *Shigella sp.*, *Bordetella pertussis*, *Hepatitis B*, and *Campylobacter sp.*) diseases comprise 80% of Kentucky case reports within the last 5 years. Laboratory identification of these diseases requires a single laboratory test indicating presence or absence, presumably reducing the amount of time required on behalf of the sending facility to establish public health ELR.

Some facilities may wish to expand or supplant their ELR with diseases and conditions not included in the “top 5”. Tab 2 of the RS spreadsheet contains LOINC codes relevant to other Kentucky reportable diseases and conditions that KHIE recognizes as public health ELR. As the KHIE/public health ELR program matures, the number of diseases and conditions under surveillance will increase.

Finally, all of our data providers are **strongly** encouraged to use the most specific LOINC code available for a given test however; in some cases an appropriate code is not available. If a specific test code is unavailable then a generic LOINC code must be used in conjunction with a normalized result code from the Systemized Nomenclature of Medicine-Clinical Terms (SNOMED-CT). Generic LOINC test codes are given in tab three. KHIE can assist the data provider in obtaining the appropriate SNOMED-CT result codes for organism names and other qualitative results when using generic LOINC tests.