MDI FIC Awardee Spotlight:
Office of the Medical Examiner
Sparrow Health System
FHIR Interoperability Use Case

Medicolegal Death Investigation Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) Implementation Collaborative (MDI FIC):

The MDI FIC is a collaborative learning environment where MDI offices, data sharing partners, vendors, and FHIR subject matter experts can work together to modernize MDI data practices and work towards interoperability. The goal of this collaborative is to create reusable tools and approaches that will reduce data entry efforts, reduce efforts exchanging data with others and increase access to information for office functioning. This project is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC’s) overall data modernization initiative (COMEC - Modernizing Medical Examiner and Coroner Data Systems (cdc.gov)). The funding for MDI offices to participate in the MDI FIC was provided through a cooperative agreement between CDC and CDC Foundation.

Office of the Medical Examiner/ Sparrow Health System:

- Michigan has county-based medical examiners.
- Autopsies are performed on site.
- Population served: 867,141 residents.

Contacts:

- Sparrow Foundation (https://www.sparrow.org/departments-conditions/all-departments/office-medical-examiner)
- CDC Collaborating Office for Medical Examiner’s and Coroners (COMECE) (MDI@cdc.gov)
- CDC Foundation (mdi_dataset@cdcfoundation.org)

Description of Use Case:

The goal of the proposed project is to replace current practices of manual data transfer to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Rapid Drug Poisoning Event Surveillance System (MiCelerity) with automated data sharing to the Michigan Health Information Network Shared Services (MiHIN) via FHIR. Data will be sent from the MDI case management system (MDI-Log) to MiHIN for retrieval by MDHHS’s MiCelerity, to assist in improving state policies related to drug overdose and automate work performed by Sparrow and the Medical Examiner’s Office staff.

Name of Case Management System (CMS) Vendor: MDI-Log

Brief Description of CMS Vendor Tasks/Activities: MDI-Log will provide the application program interfacing for data sharing with MIHIN.

Name of Data Sharing Partner: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)

Name of Data Sharing Partner Vendor: Michigan Health Information Network Shared Services (MiHIN)

Brief Description of Data Sharing Partner Tasks/Activities: MiHIN will collaborate with the medical examiner’s office and the vendor through virtual and in person meetings to set data analytic standards, identify data migration items, and to develop application program interfacing documentation.

This Medical Examiner and Coroner Data Modernization Implementer’s Group is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling $1,469,915 with 100 percent funded by CDC/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by CDC/HHS, or the U.S. Government.