

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding STD ODRS Use

- Q:** Who can I contact with my questions about STD related ODRS use?
- A:** You may contact OMIS at 614-752-5190 for assistance with password resets, error messages, etc. For specific STD-related issues you may contact STD Surveillance at 614-466-1388.
- Q:** How do I add information (lab tests, results, treatment information) to a case if the record has been transferred to another jurisdiction due to an address change or other reason?
- A:** If you cannot edit a record due to a change in jurisdiction you may contact ODH STD Surveillance or simply mail the complete report to:
- STD Surveillance Program
Bureau of HIV/AIDS, STD, and TB
Ohio Department of Health
246 North High Street
Columbus, OH 43215
- Q:** When should I enter chlamydia and gonorrhea information as new reportable conditions in ODRS?
- A:** Chlamydia cases should be entered as new reportable conditions in ODRS if they are laboratory confirmed chlamydia positive specimens collected more than thirty days after a previously positive specimen was collected. A positive specimen collected within thirty days of another positive specimen should be added to the first specimen's record.
- Gonorrhea cases should be entered as new reportable conditions in ODRS if they are laboratory confirmed gonorrhea positive specimens collected more than thirty days after a previously positive specimen was collected. A positive specimen collected within thirty days of another positive specimen should be added to the first specimen's record. If no lab test was performed, gonorrhea cases may be entered as "Probable", but only if accompanied by physician verification.
- Q:** What is the proper way to enter patient address information?
- A:** The As-of Date of all patient address records should be changed to the specimen collection date on report being entered. For the most accurate address, ODRS has a built-in geo-coding function. To properly geo-code a patient address, only the street name and number as well as the ZIP code are needed. Simply enter this information and click the "check address" button at the bottom of the address entry window. If all the fields are automatically populated click, "Accept Validated"; in a properly geo-coded address, the "plus-four code" will automatically generate after the five-digit ZIP code. If the address does not properly geo-code, check to be sure the ZIP code

and street address are correct. If it still does not generate, you may fill in all the address fields and select "Keep as Entered". When finished, make sure to click the Address at Diagnosis radio button for the most recent address.

Q: What if the specimen type listed on the lab report is not one of the choices in the specimen type drop-down menu?

A: It is always best to select from the specimen type drop down menu, we discourage the use of the "Other" selection if at all possible as the "specify" text field is nearly always close enough to the description given in the drop-down. For males, genital or penile specimens can be entered as "Urethra". Any female specimen listed as cervix, endocervix, or thin prep can be entered as "Cervix/Endocervix". Any test involving urine can simply be entered as "Urine".

Q: For chlamydia and gonorrhea entry, what should I enter as the test type if there is no test type indicated on the lab report?

A: The "NAAT (nucleic acid amplification test), unspecified" is the most appropriate selection when no test is specified.

Q: What should I put in the organism field when entering STD test results?

A: For nearly all chlamydia and gonorrhea results entered, this field should be left blank. Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests (NAAT) do not detect the presence of an organism; rather they demonstrate the presence of the organism's genetic material. You should only list an organism in this field if the report indicates that a culture test specifically detected the presence of a viable organism. Most times this will appear on a report as "growth of *organism*", such as *Neisseria gonorrhoea* or *chlamydia trachomatis*. Direct Fluorescent Antibody (DFA) tests are another example where you may list an organism in this field as the reagents used specifically detect proteins from the organism itself.

Q: How complete is the STD data housed in ODRS?

A: Chlamydia and gonorrhea data is complete in ODRS beginning in 2009; to obtain chlamydia and gonorrhea data prior to 2009, please contact ODH STD Surveillance at 614-466-1388.

ODRS contains complete Syphilis data and can be used for analysis as data prior to 2009 was migrated from a previous data system.

ODRS should not be used to analyze HIV data, as it does not reflect all persons diagnosed with HIV, but only those persons receiving partner services.

Data reports for HIV Surveillance data are available at:

<http://www.odh.ohio.gov/healthStats/disease/hivdata/hivcov.aspx>.