Quick Notes

Access to Safe, Quality Healthcare Environments that Meet California's Dynamic and Diverse Needs

Issue 58   October 1, 2020

IP Inpatient Discharges   **ED** Emergency Department   **AS** Ambulatory Surgery

Data Reporting 2021
SIERA FAQs

As discussed in June's Quick Notes #57 and in the SIERA introductory video (Video 1) published in August, Patient Level Data reporting will be moving to a new platform next year when facilities submit 2021 data. Below are answers to some frequently asked questions which you can refer to as we make the transition. Be sure to share this information with all staff members who are involved in the submission process.

Q1. Why are we changing platforms?
MIRCal has been around since 2002 and it has become increasingly difficult to maintain due to the aging technology. SIERA will allow us to be more responsive in providing better services to our users. It will give us the ability to validate data and create reports more quickly, reduce the number of login credentials per user, and allow users to generate their own custom reports.

Q2. When will this be happening?
The intent is to begin collecting 2021 data in SIERA. ED/AS Jan-March 2021 and Inpatient Jan-June 2021 will be the first report periods submitted in SIERA. You will still use MIRCal at the beginning of 2021 to submit the last report periods of 2020 data.

All IP 2020 data	
All ED/AS 2020 data	
Submit in MIRCal	**Submit in SIERA**
	ED/AS Q1 2021
	IP Jan-June 2021

Q3. What changes were made to the data reporting requirements?
The data reporting requirements have not changed.

Q4. What browser should I use?
SIERA is optimized to work with Chrome. It will also operate in Edge, or Firefox. Internet Explorer (IE) is not recommended. Microsoft is phasing out IE and will no longer provide support as of August 2021.

Q5. Will I go to the same webpage to submit my data?
SIERA has its own log in page. This link will be shared with you at the end of 2020. The link will also be posted on our Submit Patient-Level Administrative Data home page.

Q6. Will my username change?
Yes. SIERA user accounts are email-based. Your email will be your new username. You will get access to your user account at the end of 2020.

Q7. Will I have to create a new account for SIERA?
If you are a current MIRCal user, your account will be automatically migrated to SIERA. An email will be sent to you in December to access your account and create a new password.

Q8. Will I have a separate account for each facility I am in charge of?
User accounts in SIERA are email-based so you will see all facilities you are associated with on your Home page. You will have a single username and password.

SIERA FAQs continued

Q9. I am already a SIERA user. Will I need separate account for patient data?
No. Once access is granted, you can use your current SIERA account if your account email is the one you plan to use for patient data submissions.

Q10. When will I get my account information?
Once user accounts are migrated from MIRCal, users will be notified of how to log on at the end of the year.

Q11. If I am a User Account Administrator (UAA), will I need to submit a new form?
Your UAA role will be migrated into SIERA with your user account.

Q12. Will the error reports look the same as those in MIRCal?
The existing reports were used as a basis for designing the new system. The new reports will look very similar with some exciting improvements!

Q13. Will I still have access to my past data?
Yes. MIRCal's most recent report periods will be migrated into SIERA.

Q14. What training resources are available to facilities to help with the transition?
The Patient Data Section is doing a series of training videos, as well as providing Quick Guides to help you use the new system. We will be posting these resources on our webpage as 2021 approaches.

Q15. Where do I go to access training material?
Videos and SIERA guides will be posted on our Training page.

Q16. Will regulations change?
Regulations were already changed to remove references to "MIRCal" throughout. OSHPD is not changing the file format or any requirements.

Q17. Where do I send my questions about submitting Patient Level Data in SIERA?
As always, your assigned analyst is the best person to go to with questions. However if your analyst is unavailable, you may also send questions about submitting Patient Level Data to SIERA to PatientLevel@oshpd.ca.gov. If you have MIRCal questions, please continue to send them to MIRCal@oshpd.ca.gov.

User Account Administrator
User Account Updates

If you are a User Account Administrator (UAA), please take a moment today to review the user profiles for your facility to ensure all information is current and accurate.

Account profiles will be migrated into SIERA soon. It is very important that user emails are correct. We want to ensure all SIERA accounts are accurately set up and that users get their log in information sent to the appropriate email address.

If your user profile is not correct, please contact your facility UAA to make any applicable updates.

SIERA Training Corner

Video 1 – The Future of Patient Data Reporting

Video 2 Coming soon!
Our next video in our SIERA training series will focus on logging in to SIERA and general account information. Look for an email in December which will notify you that the video is available for viewing.

You will find links to all training resources as they become available on our Training page.