

RHINO

What is RHINO?

The Rapid Health Information NetWOrk (RHINO) is a Department of Health program which collects near real-time, population-based healthcare visit data from hospitals and clinics across the state. All of Washington State's emergency departments are required to participate in syndromic surveillance reporting and 97% also report inpatient data. Many hospitals voluntarily report outpatient, specialty, urgent care and primary care data. Oregon, Alaska, and other states collect the same information using the same tool.

How will WSHA use RHINO data?

WSHA will use RHINO data to advocate for and support members with safety and quality improvement efforts and surveillance events (COVID-19, flu, etc.). WSHA has access to the RHINO data at the aggregate level. Each hospital can grant WSHA access to their hospital's record-level data.

How does a hospital participate?

To grant WSHA access to record-level data, sign the Data Sharing Agreement with the State of Washington Department of Health. There is no cost or additional reporting necessary. Each hospital is already reporting their data to the Department of Health.

What are the benefits to participating?

Enhance the patient safety and quality work that WSHA does on behalf of its members

- Access to near real-time data
- Faster insight to evaluate process improvement initiatives
- Access to the medical record including chief complaint, admit reason, triage notes, temperature, demographics etc.
- Continuum of care from Primary Care, ED, IP, OP
- Strengthen information gathered from other sources
- Notification of emergent events such as COVID-19, flu, measles, hepatitis, overdose, behavioral health, vaping, severe weather, wildfire, acute flaccid myelitis (AFM), food poisoning etc. to support hospital resource allocation and situational awareness
- Historical as well as emergent data on safety and quality initiatives such as, sepsis, readmissions, substance use, etc.
- Comparative insights at the facility, regional and state level

How will WSHA access RHINO data?

WSHA-authorized users will access RHINO data through web browser interface hosted by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. The platform allows WSHA to build custom queries and dashboards. WSHA is in compliance with the Department of Health's requirements to access information. [RHINO Landing Page](#)