

## Rough Guide to Set up Data Feed for Poison Center Data in Your State

1. Contact your local poison center
  - a. Your state's environmental PH program may already have a relationship with your state's poison center
  - b. Need to know your authority to collect data
  - c. Have ideas about how you will use data
  - d. National Poison Center Community of Practice – good place to learn some of these ideas
  - e. These will affect how you write your DUA
  - f. Identify point person for project
    - i. Point person could be director/head/medical director of PC
2. Data Use Agreement
  - a. May not be necessary, but recommended
  - b. Could be modeled off your ED/UC DUA
  - c. Include Scope, Purpose, Data requested, User access, Reporting/Disseminating, Case follow-up, Permitted use, etc.
  - d. Obligations and Security
  - e. Variables requested
3. If Poison Center is not part of Public Health division (i.e., you don't have quicker/easier access), we recommend using NPDS Web Service
  - a. Through local poison center, get contact for NPDS
  - b. Set up username, password for NPDS account
  - c. NPDS will send WSDL link
  - d. White-list URL on server– (<https://www.npds.ws/RawDataExtract.aspx>)
4. Install Rhapsody config file
  - a. Refer to accompanying Rhapsody set-up guide for more info
    - i. Modify settings of config file in Rhapsody to match your information
    - ii. Important changes to be made in Rhapsody Variables
5. Work with JHU/APL to display Poison Center data in ESSENCE front-end
  - a. Have them add NPDS tables to ESSENCE SQL back-end
  - b. Add fields to query lists
  - c. Maybe map Generic Codes to shorten category list?

## (Not-so Frequently Asked) Questions

Q: Is there a data dictionary?

A: Yes! Check out the .pdf files included with this guide. One is the NPDS Coding Manual, which has all the fields with explanations and expected values. The other is the Generic Codes reference (apologies for the .pdf format).

Q: How do you use PC data for public health activities?

A: We have used it for Marijuana (legalization) surveillance, mushroom poisoning, shellfish, and other case-finding endeavors.

Q: Has review of PC data ever triggered a public health investigation?

A: Yes! Mushrooms, scombroid, and Spice/K2 are some examples.

Q: How much storage space is required to store NPDS data?

A: Not much. A recent 3-day file with ~280 calls was 246Kb. This obviously will vary with the population of your state. The data are stored in the SQL tables of ESSENCE, which should have ample space already for maintaining ED data.

Q: How do I retrieve historic data?

A: The Rhapsody route contains a JavaScript filter that sets the date range of the web service request. By default, it uses the past 3 days. Once you get the service up and running, you can manually set the dates to pull whatever range you want.

Q: How long does it take to go through this process?

A: Not long, but that may depend on the infrastructure of your state's health divisions and poison center.

Q: Can I contact you with questions?

A: You bet.

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Version 1.0

Created 1/25/2019