March 11, 2008

Memorandum

TO: Local Health Directors
PH Nursing Directors and Supervisors

THROUGH: Jeffrey Engel, MD, MPH
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FROM: Del Williams, PhD
Communicable Disease Surveillance Unit

RE: Local Health Department Use of Revised Communicable Disease Reporting Forms

Effective immediately, as a result of the initial implementation of the North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NCEDSS), the North Carolina Division of Public Health will begin accepting revised reporting forms for surveillance and investigation of those diseases and conditions reportable under NCGS 130A.134 and NCAC 41A.0101. Part 1 of the new Communicable Disease Report replaces the current Communicable Disease Report Card (DHHS 2124). Part 2 of the Communicable Disease Report, the disease specific forms, replace the existing surveillance forms. Copies of the new forms are available on the Division of Public Health Communicable Disease website at www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/gcde/manual/toc.html.

In order to encourage providers to return reports to your jurisdiction in a timely manner, Local Health Departments should include their mailing address in the blank space provided in the upper right corner of Part 1 of the Communicable Disease Report and distribute widely to the healthcare providers, clinics and hospitals in their jurisdictions. Suggestions of how to proceed with this task are included in the additional instructions. Part 2 of the Communicable Disease Report (the specific disease surveillance form for each disease/condition) should also be modified to include the Local Health Department address on an as-needed basis. The supplemental surveillance forms will be considered as draft documents until NCEDSS has completed statewide rollout in 2008-2009.

Additional instructions are attached. If you have questions please call the NCEDSS Help Desk at (919) 715-5548 or (877) 625-9259. If you or your staff encounter problems or concerns with the form(s), please report them through the NCEDSS Help desk at the telephone numbers above.