

# Meaningful Use, Electronic Physician Reporting, and the Texas Cancer Registry

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## BACKGROUND

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services administers the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs, which provide incentive payments to eligible providers who successfully demonstrate the meaningful use of EHRs. Providers are required to report clinical data to many different groups and some of the reporting requirements were incorporated into the EHR incentive programs. State cancer registries are one such group to which providers are required to report. Consequently, state cancer registries were encouraged to participate in Meaningful Use (MU) but were not incentivized for their participation. Although testing transmitted data and tracking providers is very time consuming, the Texas Cancer Registry (TCR) is finally receiving useable data.

## PURPOSE

To evaluate the determinants of provider success in transmitting cancer data through an EHR to the Texas Cancer Registry for MU.

## METHODS

In order to evaluate provider success, the TCR used the registration process, the results in our Dashboard, and our experience during testing.

The Registration Process is managed by the Texas Cancer Registry using Survey Monkey available on the TCR website:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TCRCancerReportingRegistration>

We have accepted all registrations of intent and the decision to onboard is based on provider use of a Certified EHR for Cancer Reporting.

Onboarding status: We have developed three different statuses.

1-Registered Physician Practices

Queue1: EHR Not Certified — 188

Queue2: Hold Onboarding — 122

2-Onboarding — 7

Queue3: Hold Testing — 7

Testing — 30

3- Production — 2 Physician Practices with  
2 different EHRs

Each month progress is displayed on the TCR Physician Reporting MU Dashboard.

### Results as of April 30, 2016

Total Registrations all EHRs: 360 Physician Practices

Total Registration with Certified EHRs: 173 Physician Practices

Total Physicians with Certified EHRs: 3903

- Dermatologists 5.2%
- Gastroenterologists 1.8%
- Hematologists 1.7%
- Medical Oncologists 1.0%
- Radiation Oncologists 0.5%
- Urologists 2.2%

After more than two years, two physician practices are in production with 16 of 17 unique cancer cases. We are only working records with unique patients or cancer diagnoses to our database.

## DISCUSSION

### Factors Impeding MU Efforts

- Incomplete Registrations
- Lack of understanding of EHR criteria for cancer reporting
- Complex guidelines for ambulatory provider for MU cancer reporting
- More hands-on for providers and the TCR than anticipated

### Factors Determining Success

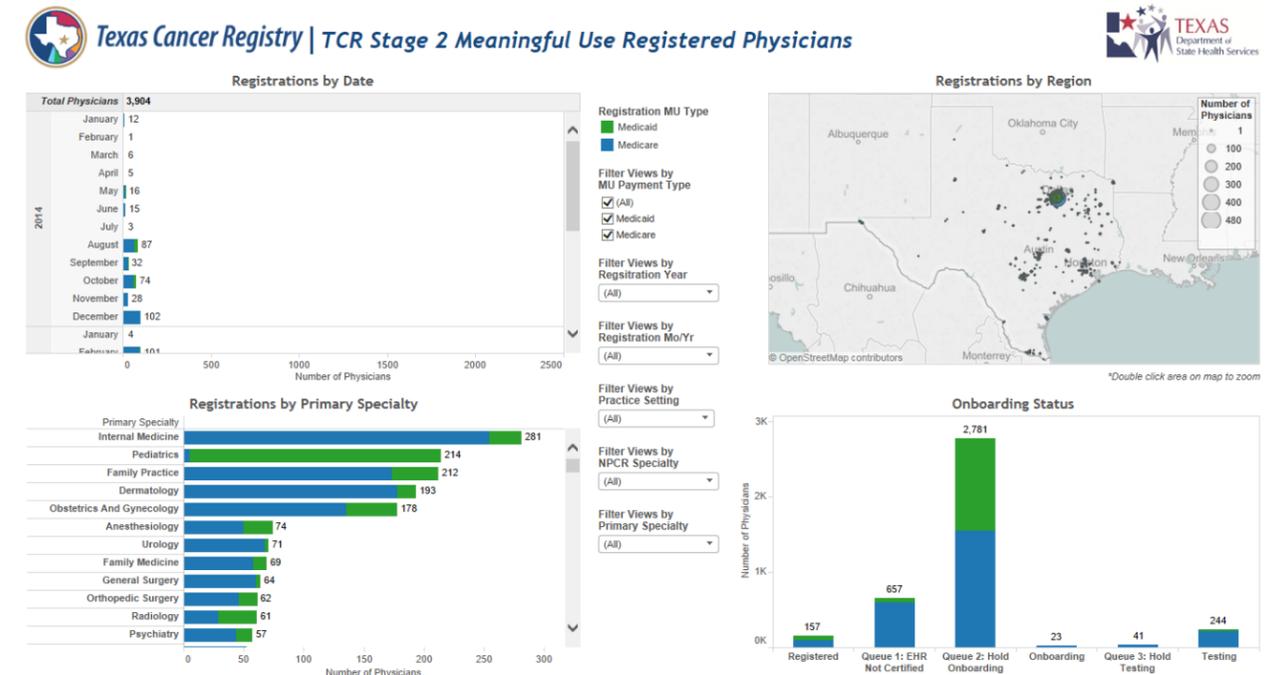
- Vendors, states and the CDC working together to resolve issues
- Proactive and responsive vendors
- Persistent TCR Meaningful Use Team

The TCR thanks the EHR vendors involved, different states and the CDC who are working to improve the record submissions.

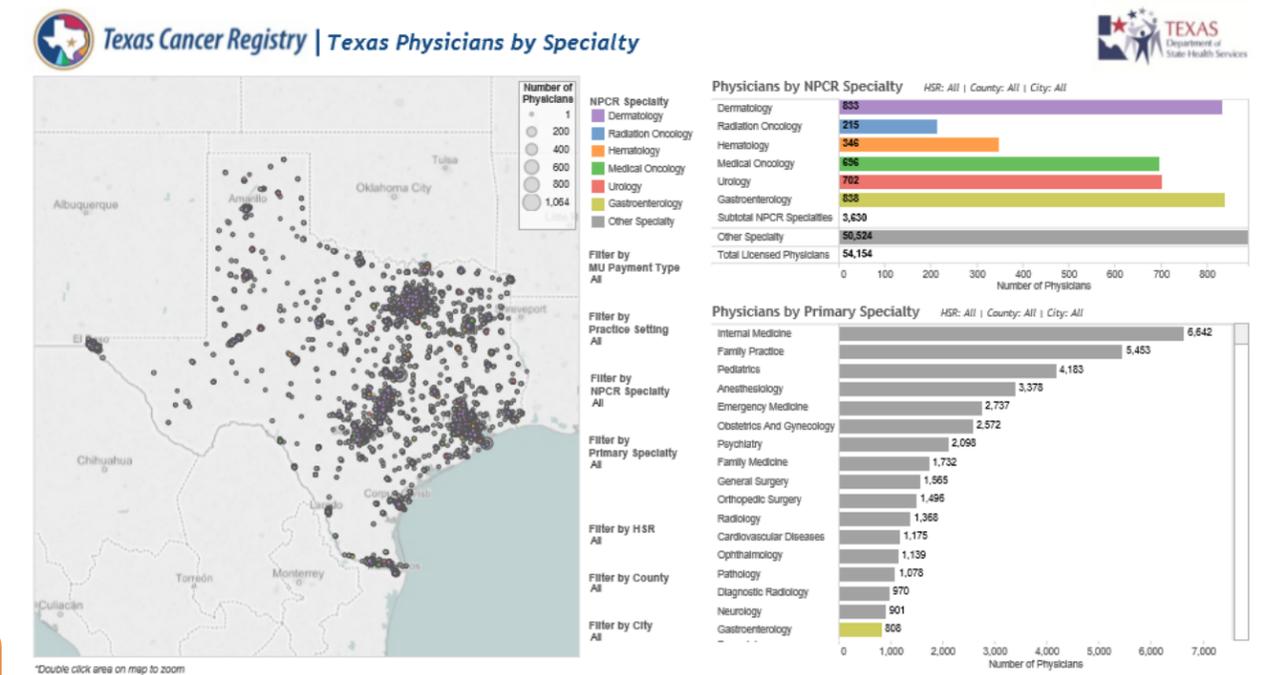
## CONCLUSION

Multiple factors contribute to providers successfully transmitting useful cancer data. Cancer data received as part of the MU initiative has been minimal due to the factors noted above. Additional collaborative efforts in the coming years working with EHR vendors and the CDC will result in increased electronic submissions via EHRs.

## RESULTS



Source: Registration data obtained from TCR Cancer Reporting Registration for Ambulatory Providers (Non-Hospital) and is current as of March 31, 2016 (<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/tcr/CancerReporting/Cancer-Reporting-Registration.aspx>)  
Physician data obtained from July 2013 physician lists purchased by Texas Cancer Registry from Wishtist. Wishtist obtains these data from the Texas State Medical Examiner's Board (<http://www.wishtistdirect.com/>)



Source: Physician Data obtained from July 2013 physician lists purchased by Texas Cancer Registry from Wishtist. Wishtist obtains these data from the Texas State Medical Examiner's Board (<http://www.wishtistdirect.com/>). NPCR Specialties are as designated in the National Program of Cancer Registries Program Standards, 2012-2017 (updated January 2013), targeted for cancer reporting.

## DISCLAIMER

Information from the TCR Physician Reporting MU Dashboard above is a snapshot. Visit the website for interactive complete results at <http://tinyurl.com/TCRmudashboard>. For more information, contact the TCR at 512-776-3080.

