

HL7 Lab Checklist: Additional Information: Links to Documents and Websites

Reference	Program Area
Click here to access the HL7 webpage and to download the full ELR Guide or alternately click here to open the <i>HL7 Version 2.5.1 Implementation Guide: Electronic Laboratory Reporting to Public Health</i> .	All program areas.
For STI/HIV and Viral Hep lab report forms, click here .	HIV/STI/Hep
For Childhood Blood Lead Medical Management Guidelines for Indiana Providers, click here .	Lead
For list of communicable diseases, click here . Please note that the Indiana Department of Health reviews and revises the list of reportable conditions and pathogens annually and publishes the new version at the beginning of the calendar year. Please refer to this webpage for the current list and annual summary of reporting changes.	All program areas.

Basic HL7 Messaging Terms

TERM	DEFINITION
Message	A message is the entire unit of data transferred between systems in a single transmission. It is a series of segments in a defined sequence, with a message type and a trigger event.
Segment	A segment is a logical grouping of data fields. Segments within a defined message may be required or optional and may occur only once or may be allowed to repeat. Each segment is named and is identified by a segment ID, a unique three-character code.
Field	A field is a string of characters. Each field has an element name. The segment it is in and its sequence within the segment identify each field. Usage and cardinality requirements are defined in the Segment Definitions.
Component	A component is one of a logical grouping of items that comprise the contents of a coded or composite field. Within a field having several components, not all components are necessarily required to be populated.
Data type	A data type restricts the contents and format of the data field. Data types are given a two- or three-letter code. Some data types are coded or composite types with several components. The applicable HL7 data type is listed in each field definition.
Delimiters	<p>The delimiter values are defined in MSH-1 and MSH-2 and are used throughout the message. The default delimiters are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field Separator ^ Component Separator & Sub-Component Separator ~ Repetition Separator \ Escape Character

