

Electronic Disease Notification System: Providing Immigrant and Refugee Arrival Notification and Health Information to US Health Partners

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Informational Poster

Background

- Annually, the United States receives approximately 70,000 refugees and 500,000 immigrants.
- Under the authority of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) and the Public Health Service Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services makes known regulations to prevent the introduction, transmission, and interstate spread of communicable diseases into the United States and its territories.
- Hence, the United States requires an overseas medical examination to assess for inadmissible conditions of public health significance for persons entering as immigrants and refugees.
- The Division of Global Migration and Quarantine (DGMQ) provides the Department of State (DOS) and the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) with medical screening guidelines (referred to as Technical Instructions) for all examining physicians, which outline in detail the scope of the medical examination.
- DGMQ also notifies state health departments of newly arrived refugees and immigrants with medical classifications via the Electronic Disease Notification (EDN) system (Figure 1).
- EDN, accessible to over 1,500 US health officials such as state tuberculosis (TB) controllers and refugee health providers in over 400 US jurisdictions (Figure 2), is a centralized electronic reporting system that stores and provides authorized health officials the required overseas medical examination records of newly arrived persons, including those with admissible TB conditions and others recommended for US follow-up.

Who's on the EDN System?

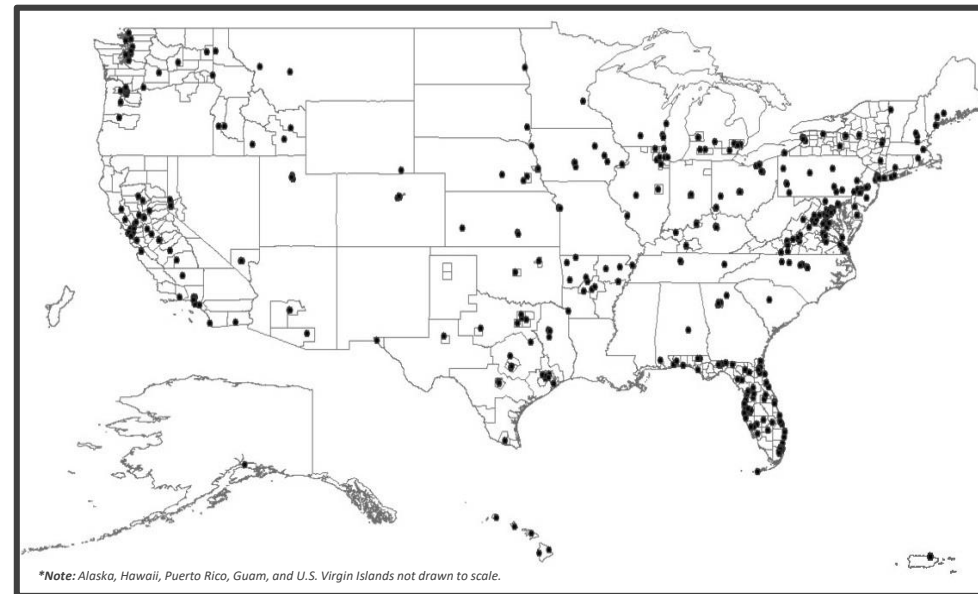


Figure 2. The EDN system is accessible to over 1500 US health officials in over 400 US jurisdictions shown by lines. Black dots represent the location of health departments and institutions that have access to the EDN system. Map courtesy of Olivia Samson.

Overview of EDN Webpages

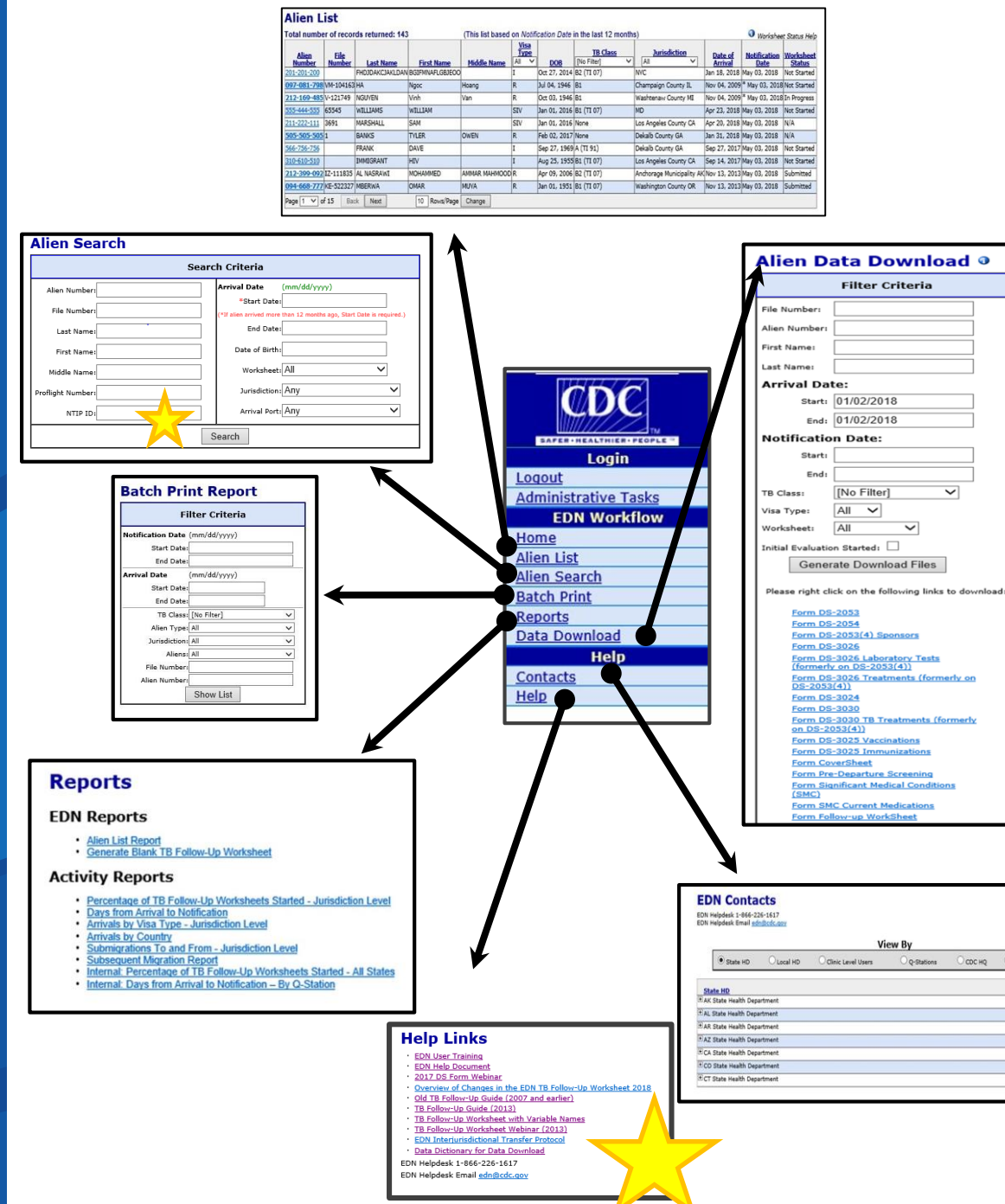


Figure 4. The EDN System comprises a series of linked pages to the EDN Work flow and Help sections.

What's New in 2019?

Attachments that can be found in EDN:

- Facial image JPG
- X-Rays
- 3.5-5MB DICOM
- Laboratory results
- Mental Health reports

Figure 5. The Document List (A) link will include attachments such as x-rays, laboratory results, and reports. Photo of newly arrived person will appear on the left side (B).

How does the Information Flow from Overseas to US Health Partners?

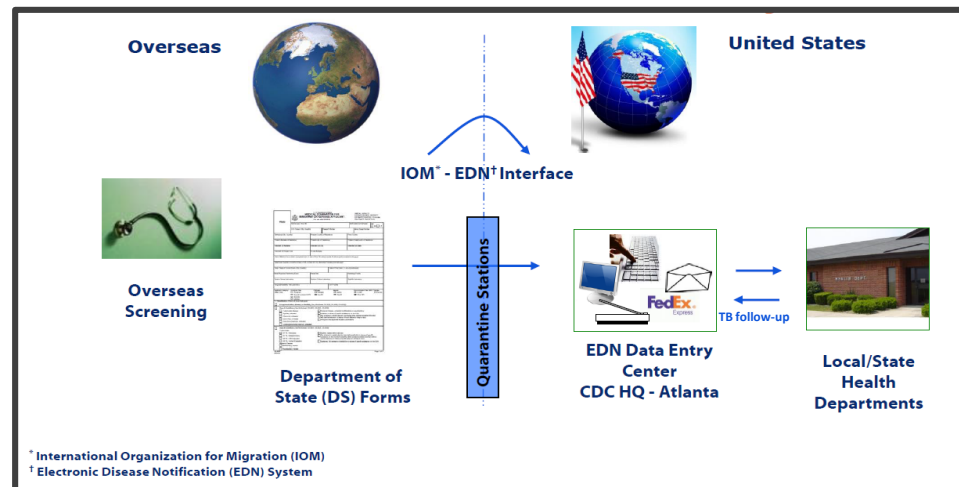


Figure 1. Required overseas medical screening information on Department of State (DS) forms are collected at the US ports of entry by CDC quarantine stations for immigrants or transmitted electronically from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for refugees and processed at the EDN Data Entry Center at CDC headquarters (HQ) in Atlanta. The EDN system notifies US health partners, and TB follow-up information is reported into the EDN system.

What Information is Available in the EDN System?

- Documentation of the overseas medical screening information as reported on the US Department of State (DS) forms (Figure 3A-D)
- The EDN Tuberculosis Follow-Up Worksheet for Newly-Arrived Persons with Overseas Tuberculosis Classifications
- Some newly arrived refugees have the following additional information:
 - Presumptive treatment for malaria and intestinal parasites based on CDC-recommended guidelines
 - IOM's Pre-Departure Medical Screening form
 - IOM's Significant Medical Conditions form

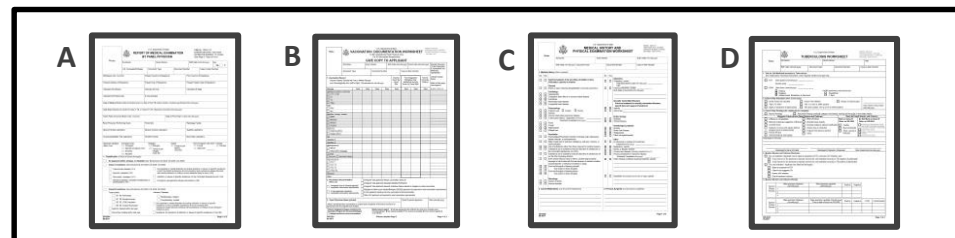


Figure 3 A-D. Example of overseas medical screening forms: A) DS-2054 Medical Examination for Immigrant or Refugee Applicant B) DS-3030 Tuberculosis (TB) Worksheet, C) DS 3025 Vaccination Documentation Worksheet, D) DS-3026 Medical History and Physical Examination Worksheet

Revised TB Follow-Up Worksheet 2018

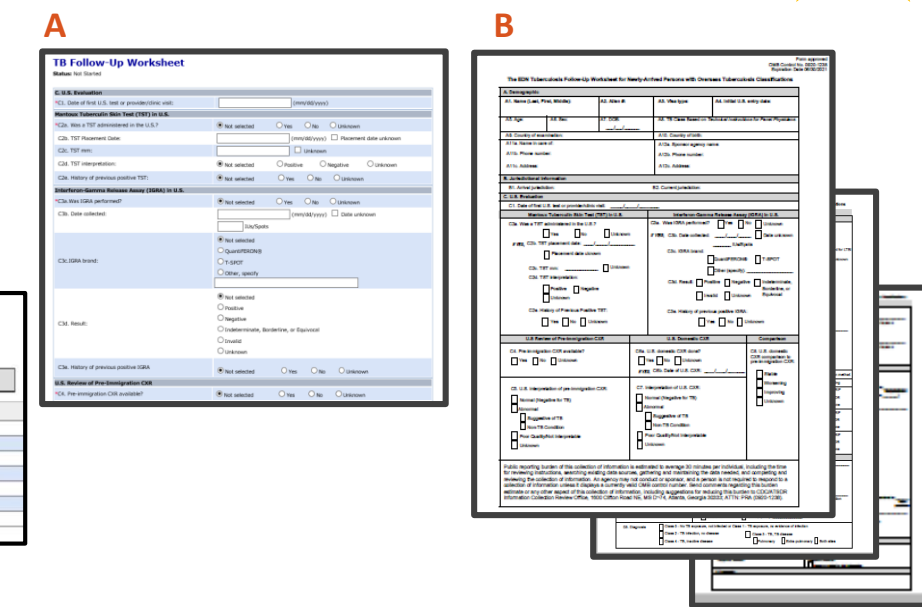


Figure 6. The EDN TB Follow-Up Worksheet is available to directly report in the EDN System (A). The EDN TB Follow-Up Worksheet can also be generated for state health departments to provide to local health departments (B).

For more information on the EDN System, visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/immigrantrefugeehealth/Electronic-Disease-Notification-System.html>

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