California Department of Justice
CURES Information Exchange Web Service
Onboarding Procedures

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1   INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE

This document outlines the technical steps necessary to enable machine-to-machine interoperability between health information technology (HIT) systems and the Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES). This method of system integration is called the CURES Information Exchange Web Service (IEWS).

BACKGROUND

CURES is a database containing information about Schedule II, III, and IV controlled substance prescriptions dispensed to patients, as reported by the dispensing pharmacy, clinic, or other dispenser pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11165(d). The CURES Program grants authorized health care practitioners and pharmacists access to query the CURES database to assist them in their efforts to ensure appropriate prescribing, ordering, administering, furnishing, and dispensing of controlled substances.

Assembly Bill 40 requires the Department of Justice (DOJ) to establish a method of system integration whereby approved health care practitioners and pharmacists may use a qualified HIT system to access information in the CURES database. As a prerequisite to system integration, each entity that operates a HIT system must certify that it has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the California Department of Justice (DOJ) addressing the technical specifications of the system to ensure the security of CURES data in the CURES database and the secure transfer of CURES data from the CURES database.

2   RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

The following documents are relevant to the onboarding process:

1. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

    Consistent with Health and Safety Code section 11165.1(a)(1)(E), the objective of the MOU is to address the technical specifications of the HIT system to ensure the security of the CURES data in the CURES database and the secure transfer of CURES data from the CURES database. A fully executed MOU must be in place prior to establishing system integration.

2. CURES IEWS Onboarding Questionnaire

    This questionnaire provides necessary information to the DOJ to establish integration with the CURES IEWS.

3. CURES IEWS Implementation Guide

    This guide provides technical information and instruction for HIT systems to integrate with the CURES IEWS.

4. Service Level Agreement (SLA)

    This agreement defines the level of information technology service support and delivery to the client by the DOJ.

5. Frequently Asked Questions

    This document addresses commonly asked questions regarding the CURES IEWS.

PROCEDURES

1. Have a fully executed MOU in place, including a completed Onboarding Questionnaire.

    The Onboarding Questionnaire includes the Entity's IP address(es) for whitelisting and technical points-of-contact information.

2. Review the following documents:
    - CURES IEWS Implementation Guide
    - SLA

3. Entity will implement a solution to integrate with the CURES IEWS

4. DOJ will whitelist the Entity's IP address(es) in the Test environment

5. DOJ will provide test credentials, password, and test cases to the Entity. This information will be provided to the Entity's technical point-of-contact by email.

6. Entity will execute connectivity and functional testing in the Test environment

7. DOJ will whitelist the Entity's IP address(es) in the Production environment

8. DOJ will provide production credentials to the Entity. This information will be provided to the Entity's technical point-of-contact by email.

9. Entity will execute a smoke test in the Production environment

10. Web service commissioned