



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**This is an official  
MS Health Alert Network (MSHAN) – MSG/INFO**

**MESSAGE ID:** MSHAN-20230421-00593-MSG/INFO (Message/Info Service)  
**RECIPIENTS:** All Physicians, Hospitals, ERs, ICPs, NPs, PAs, and  
Healthcare Providers – Statewide  
Friday, April 21, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** New HAN System Implementation Notification

Dear Colleagues and Mississippi Healthcare Partners,

The Mississippi Health Alert Network (HAN) message system is a vital tool utilized by the Mississippi State Department of Health to communicate timely and important public health updates to healthcare providers and facilities in the state.

Based in part on feedback from providers and partners like you, MSDH is implementing a new HAN message system to improve ease of message access and a better experience for the recipient. The following are new features to look for in the new system:

1. Health Alert Network message will be embedded within the body of the email and included as an attachment for ease of viewing.
2. The sender email will be specific to the Mississippi HAN system: System (Mississippi Health Alert Network (MS-HAN)) [noreply@extsvcs.msdh.ms.gov](mailto:noreply@extsvcs.msdh.ms.gov)
3. After completing the registration process, you will be able to access the HAN messages through the system inbox rather than searching for them individually in your email.
4. You will have the capability to update your information in real-time.
5. New recipients can register their information.

Your current information is being imported into the new system. You will receive an email asking you to complete a registration if you want to continue to receive these important public health messages. You will only be asked to do this one time.

We thank you for your continued partnership and apologize for any inconvenience this transition may cause.

Regards,

Paul Byers, MD  
State Epidemiologist



*Alerting Message Specification Settings*

**Originating Agency:** Mississippi State Department of Health  
**Alerting Program:** **MS Health Alert Network (MS HAN)**  
**Message Identifier:** CDCHAN-20230421-00593-**MSG/INFO**  
**Program (HAN) Type:** **Health Update**  
**Status (Type):** Actual ( )  
**Message Type:** Message/Information  
**Reference:** MSHAN-00593  
**Severity:** Unknown  
**Acknowledgement:** No  
**Sensitive:** Not Sensitive  
**Message Expiration:** Undetermined  
**Urgency:** Undetermined  
**Delivery Time:** 600 minutes

*Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings*

**Originating Agency:** A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.

**Alerting Program:** The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.

**Message Identifier:** A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT (**ALT=Health Alert**, **ADV=Health Advisory**, **UPD=Health Update**, **MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service**)).

**Program (HAN) Type:** Categories of Health Alert Messages.

**Health Alert:** Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

**Health Advisory:** Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

**Health Update:** Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

**Health Info Service:** Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.

**Status (Type):**

- Actual: Communication or alert refers to a live event
- Exercise: Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
- Test: Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded

**Message Type:**

- Alert: Indicates an original Alert
- Update: Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded
- Cancel: Indicates prior alert has been cancelled



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**Reference:** For a communication or alert with a Message Type of “Update” or “Cancel”, this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. “n/a” = Not Applicable.

**Severity:**

Extreme:	Extraordinary threat to life or property
Severe:	Significant threat to life or property
Moderate:	Possible threat to life or property
Minor:	Minimal threat to life or property
Unknown:	Unknown threat to life or property

**Acknowledgement:** Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

**Sensitive:**

Sensitive:	Indicates the alert contains sensitive content
Not Sensitive:	Indicates non-sensitive content

**Message Expiration:**

Undetermined.

**Urgency:**

Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

**Delivery Time:**

Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).