Release Notes

ESP 3.4

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# Overview

ESP 3.4 contains two major changes from release 3.3 – one related to an infrastructure upgrade and the other related to a new feature of MA DPH Notifiable Disease Reporting. This document describes these two changes. In addition, the 3.4 release includes several minor enhancements and bug fixes and those which have some end user visibility have been included here.

# Significant features of 3.4

**Django 1.4 to 1.8 Upgrade**

ESP 3.4 includes a large infrastructure upgrade for Django from version 1.4 to version 1.8. Django is a core component for the ESP application and this upgrade was required for security and supportability. This important update to a core component required many changes to code internals; however, no end-user visible functionality changes were introduced.

**Reportable Resend “New Only”**

Prior to 3.4, disease case data sent from ESP to the MDPH MAVEN system was re-sent when new case data became available. The case requeue feature for reporting to MA DPH was based upon MA DPH specified configurations of “reportable diagnosis”, “reportable labs”, “reportable meds”, and time windows before or after the case date. This allowed data that was collected after the case was initially detected and sent to be DPH to be included in subsequent reports because it was considered relevant to public health epidemiologists monitoring the case. ESP’s requeue and report functionality re-compiled all case data, new and old, and resent the entire case. This process sometimes caused duplication of entries in MA DPH repors.

ESP 3.4 now includes a major enhancement to the functionality that queues and reports cases for resubmission to MA DPH. ESP’s case requeue and reporting module now keeps track of each individual reportable event and whether or not it has been included in an HL7 file submission to DPH. With 3.4, each time a case is requeued for submission, due to the arrival of a new “reportable event”, the HL7 file will include an anchor lab plus only the new reportable events (dx, labs, meds).

# Smaller enhancements

**Updated plugin installer:**

The module for installation of disease plugins has been enhanced. The shell script incorporates some new GUI functionality to more seamlessly manage installation and compatibility of these plugins. This tool helps users to see what versions of the plugins are currently installed and whether or not a more recent version that is compatible with the base version of ESP is available for installation. The installer will download the software from the bitbucket distribution and automatically install it.

**Ensure hef\_event data used collection date:**

Prior to 3.4, the “Heuristic Even Framework” (hef) utilized the “date” field in a lab result record vs. the collection date field. Hef now uses collection date first and falls through to date if there is no collection date available. There was no change to HL7 reporting data for labs as a result of this hange.

**Reporting of more result string information:**

Prior to 3.4, ESP’s case reporting module only reported the first “word” of a result string. MA DPH requested that more information be included. 3.4 is enhanced to now report up to 8 “words” in an HL7 lab segment for scenarios in which result strings are reported.