



AIRA
AMERICAN IMMUNIZATION
REGISTRY ASSOCIATION

INFORMATION REQUEST

Topic: QR Codes

Request Date: July 13, 2021

Information Requested:

Tennessee is receiving an increasing number of requests for immunization records that include a QR code from individuals who are requesting an “official” record of their COVID-19 vaccination status for international travel. The Tennessee IIS does not currently include a QR code on records generated from the IIS. How are states handling these requests and/or responding to individuals who state a QR code is required for international travel?

Requesting Member: Nathalie Hartert

Responding Member(s): Michael Perretta (Docket), Janet Campbell (Epic), Noam Arzt (HLN), Tina Scott (MI), Bhavani Sathya (NJ), Joe Kelly (STC), Kevin Allen (TX), Judi Korzec (VaxAtlas), Tim Neely, (WV)

Results:

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Docket:

We can help! Docket is now live in both UT and NJ (as of yesterday). We’re launching in MN on the July 27 too. Part of the challenge is that different states have different preferences for supporting QR codes (think: Vaccine Credentialing Initiative).

Utah requested that we implement this feature, which will roll-out soon. Essentially, we are exposing a QR code icon next to completed COVID-19 immunization series. Tapping on the QR code will display the Vaccine Credential QR code.

Importantly, we needed to get this approved by Google in order to proceed with this feature. This was a lengthy process. Utah needed to submit proof of permission to Google



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in order for us to publish this feature to the Play Store. If Tennessee is interested, we'd love to share what we have done in UT, MN, and NJ.

Epic:

California is issuing digital credentials using the SMART Health Card standard directly from the registry.

Organizations that use an Epic system can provide digital credentials using the SMART Health Card standard directly through the patient portal, or credentials can be printed at the point of care. With additional development to be released at the end of this month, patients can ask their healthcare organization to query any connected registries on their behalf, in order to get their most up to date immunization information so they can generate credentials for it.

I'm happy to provide anyone additional information about the SMART Health Card standard. Cerner also supports this standard today and the Electronic Health Records Association endorses it. It would be great if AIRA endorsed the standard as well!

More information can be found at vci.org.

HLN:

This is a complex question. I would be happy to discuss with TN if they want to have a call. The US Government has made no requirement for a vaccine credential represented in a QR code and I am not aware of any airline or country requiring it. That being said, there are requirements for proving vaccination status but they are different and uneven for different airlines and countries. I believe that MyIR may be providing QR codes on their patient report (though these may not be standards compliant, and TN is likely not using MyIR at this time).

Refer to my blog posting: <https://www.hln.com/towards-a-national-covid-19-vaccine-credential-strategy-in-the-us/>

MI:

Michigan is aware of the NY QR code used for their entertainment/travel events.

No QR code requests have been received at state IIS office. We are not sure of the extent of the use of NY version of QR code (Yes = vaccinated, No = not, with no PHI in the QR code). Not aware of a national standard yet adopted in this area per travel/tourism/entertainment industry.



NJ:

We just went live on 7/12/21 with the Docket app, which Utah is also using. This has been positioned as a Consumer Access app for New Jerseyans to access their COVID-19 doses at this time, and we have not implemented the QR code generation via Docket. Docket can generate a QR code (and supports complete immunization histories) and meet the requirements for a Smart Card but NJ is not using this implementation at this time.

STC:

What members of the public are seeking is a VCI standard QR code as an anti-forgery mechanism that the travel industry has largely adopted. We have talked internally about supporting the VCI spec on printed certificates of immunization (lower right corner) once there is a single standard to conform to which it sounds like there now is. Alternatively, end consumer products with permission to access an individuals records are beginning to support these in app. LA Wallet is one example with MyIR planning to incorporate this QR code as well.

TX:

Texas instructs the individuals on how to obtain an Official Immunization History Request Record from the IIS, which is a form that is submitted by fax, email or mailed in to our office. We inform them that the state registry does not produce QR codes for travel purposes, only the official record generated from the IIS.

VaxAtlas:

We will let Tennessee use our app to provide a QR. Simple process to perform a data share. We have this completely built out on vaxatlas.com. Please let me know if they would like to leverage.

WV:

West Virginia has the card stock that matches the CDC requirements and for those persons in the IIS, who may have lost their card we will replace/reproduce the CDC card they would've received when they were vaccinated.