



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Public Health Event Detection and Assessment Program Ten Things to Know About Using ESSENCE

1. ESSENCE, Alert and Cluster Detection Status is finished loading when the dates in the left hand column are those of the current date.

07Jul09	Total reporting (77/87) hospitals for 06 Jul 2009 ... (last updated at 07 Jul 2009 08:23:32)
07Jul09	AlertList Detection ... (last updated at 07 Jul 2009 09:50:55)
07Jul09	Cluster Detection ... (last updated at 07 Jul 2009 09:52:02)

2. Top row of asterisks on the Temporal Alerts Summary Page displays whether yellow, red, or no alerts are generated for Missouri (includes Missouri Highway Patrol Regions), Illinois, and the Gateway region. Bottom row of asterisks map back to Event List entries flagged by fellow ESSENCE users.

ER								
Region Group	Bot_like	Fever	GI	Hemr_ill	Neuro	Rash	Resp	Shk_coma
MO	***** *****							
IL	***** *****							
Gateway	***** *****							
Region A	***** *****							

Clicking on individual asterisks will display which counties and age groups contributed to that Alert.

3. **Configuration Options** are your friend. You can simply click “+Configuration Options” and amend your selection instead of starting over. Functions include the ability to limit region/hospitals viewed, aggregate ages for analysis and limit date range of the data to be displayed.

Data Configuration

Data Source: All Data Sources Emergency Room Data by Hospital Location Emergency Room Data by Patient Location NRDM Percentage ER Data by Hospital Location	Region: All Regions Adair, MO Andrew, MO Atchison, MO Audrain, MO
Syndrome: All Syndromes Bot_like Fever GI Hemr_ill	Detector: All Detectors Regression/EWMA 1.2 Regression 1.2 EWMA 1.2 CDC-C1
Age Range: 05-17 18-44 45-64 AllAggregated	Sex: All Sexes Unknown Male Female AllAggregated
Start Date: 29 Jun 09	End Date: 07 Jul 09
<input type="button" value="Change Configuration"/>	

It is a good idea to at least 1) Aggregate All Ages and 2) Narrow the date range of interest. Doing these two things, then sorting by Region or Hospital first, and Syndrome second streamlines the list for easier viewing.

- On the home page, the **Query Portal** contains several data sources. ESSENCE users can view individual cases for a given day at a hospital by selecting the data source of *Emergency Room Data by Hospital Location (or Percentage ER data by hospital location)*. Hospital location is based on the hospital name or the county in which the hospital is located. If you wish to view data by a patient's area of residence instead, then select the data source of *Emergency Room Data by Patient Location*. Patient Location is based on the county (called region in ESSENCE) or the zip code of patient residence.

ESSENCE - Missouri Data Query

Current Data Query Selections

Next Selections:

Select Data Source: Emergency Room Data by Hospital Location

- Emergency Room Data by Hospital Location
- Emergency Room Data by Patient Location
- NRDM
- Percentage ER Data by Hospital Location
- Real Time ER Data By Hospital

[Questions or Problems?](#)

Adv Qry

After selecting your data source, you can choose to search for key words in the chief complaints of ED patients by selecting **Chief Complaints** under the drop down menu titled Medical Grouping System.

- Please use caution when selecting more than one **Syndrome** or **Sub syndrome** when querying under **ESSENCE syndromes**. ESSENCE pulls records based on chief complaint and not patient record.

Next Selections:

Select Medical Grouping System: ESSENCE Syndromes

Submit Adv Qry

Next Selections:

Select Syndrome: All Syndromes

- Bot_like
- Fever
- GI
- Hemr_ill

Select Detector: Regression/EWMA 1.2

Select Age Group: All Age Groups

- Unknown
- 00-04
- 05-17
- 18-44

Select Sex: All Sexes

- Unknown
- Male
- Female

For example: a chief complaint of “NAUSEA AND FEVER” will map to both the Gastrointestinal and Fever categories and each row will appear, one with a syndrome category of Gastrointestinal and one with

the category of Fever listed. The system will not produce an erroneous flag, however the “duplicates” can cause confusion both in terms of frequencies reported. In addition, the Excel spreadsheet will display multiple rows with the same Medical Record Number.

To select all parameters please use the “shift” key on your keyboard. For selection of individual parameters use the “control” key instead.

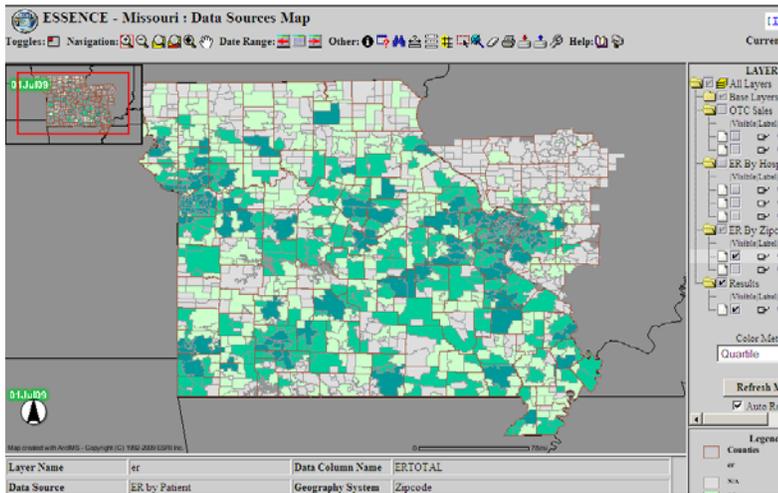
6. **Routinely used analysis can be bookmarked.** Enter the name that you wish to give for your query. You can either 1) Click on “save query” or 2) Create my Alert or 3) scroll up and locate the **Bookmark Page** icon located below the main toolbar at the top of the page. Give your page a name. To access this search in the future, click on the **Bookmarks** icon in the main toolbar and select your chosen saved query. By choosing the **Select** feature, the data presented will be as saved the day the bookmark was created. By selecting the **Today** feature, data will be updated to include all available to today’s date. After accessing the data, it can be further refined using the **Configuration Options** box located above the data figure.

ESSENCE - Missouri Bookmarks							
View Bookmarks							
ERROR: Bookmark [Trial] Already Exists							
Reset 3-Level Sorting							
Bookmarks							
Order	Name	Page	Date Created	Select	Select Today	Edit	Delete
100	Trial	Time Series	01Jan00 12:58 PM	Select		Edit	Delete

7. **Reports can be created for ESSENCE syndromes.** Select **Overview Portal**. The nine ESSENCE syndrome groups will be represented. By selecting the **Configuration Options** box directly above the figures will allow for the data to be filtered, as the user would like. An additional method of retrieving this data is by using the **Matrix Portal** located on the ESSENCE homepage. By entering this page, you can customize your graph by such things as described above. By holding the shift key, multiple selections in a given field can be made when allowed by the system. You must make a selection in each category (e.g., Datasource, syndrome, region).

ESSENCE - Missouri Matrix Portal			
Data Configuration			
Datasource Emergency Room Data by Patient Location NRDM		Syndrome Bot_like Fever GI Hemr_ill Neuro Other	
Region Adair, MO Andrew, MO Atchison, MO Audrain, MO Barry, MO Barton, MO		AgeGroup Unknown 00-04 05-17 18-44 45-64 65+	
Columns Datasource		Rows Syndrome	

8. **Maps can be created in ESSENCE.** On the ESSENCE homepage, click the **Map Portal** icon. Select the syndrome and dates you wish to express on the map and submit. These values will be use to create your map. The toolbar on the right allows user to magnify view around a given area of Missouri or Illinois and to select other layers to be express on the map.



9. You can **login** to ESSENCE system at the Missouri ESSENCE homepage located at <http://moessence.dhss.mo.gov/> using the username and password given to you by us. *NOTE: ESSENCE now contains both Missouri & Illinois Data.
10. Clicking on “**Questions or Problems**” under “**Help**” icon in the tool bar will generate a blank e-mail message. The Send To: line should read ESSENCE@dhss.mo.gov. If a different address appears, please enter ESSENCE@dhss.mo.gov instead to ensure PHEDA will get the message and can assist you in a timely manner. For more information, please refer to our Training and Technical Support page at <http://www.dhss.mo.gov/ESSENCE/Training.html>.

If you see something you think should be improved or investigated further within ESSENCE, please feel free to contact us at 573-522-8329. The ESSENCE investigations and communication protocols is available at <http://www.dhss.mo.gov/ESSENCE/PoliciesProcedures.pdf>.