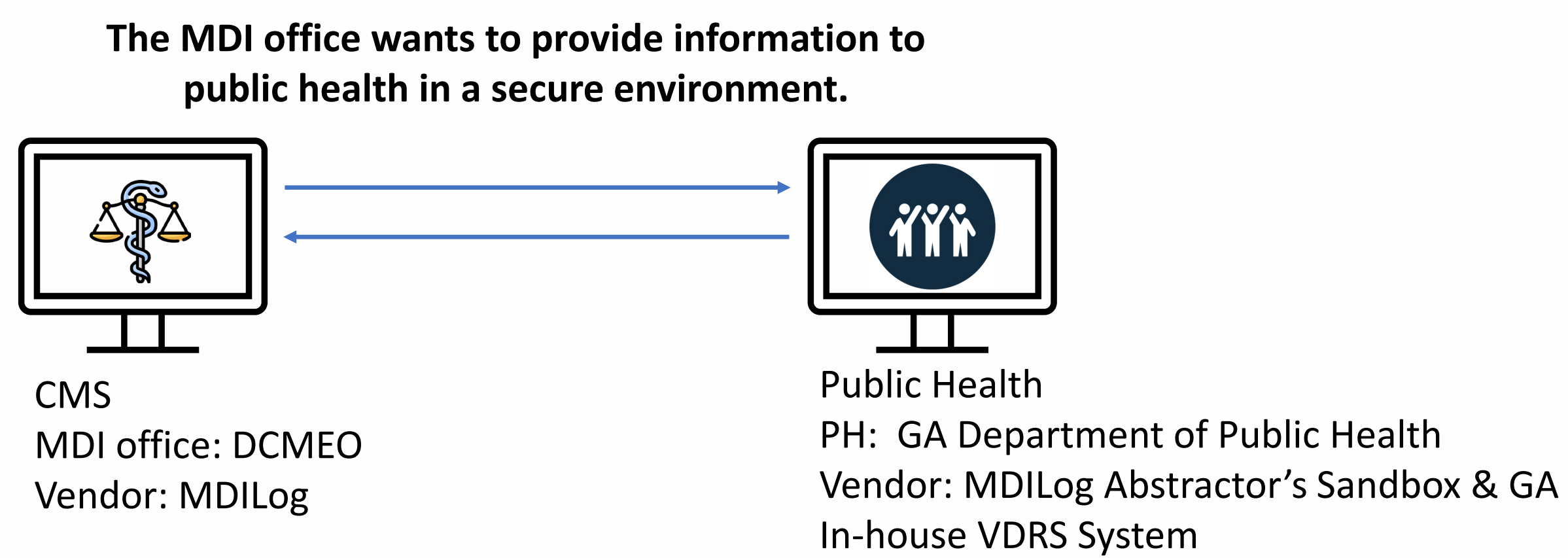


MDI Connect Awardee Spotlight: DeKalb County Medical Examiner's Office

The DeKalb County Medical Examiner's Office (DCMEO) conducts inquiries into reported deaths within the jurisdictional boundaries of DeKalb County, Georgia. DCMEO serves a population of approximately 758,000 residents, roughly 7% of Georgia's population. The DCMEO accepts jurisdiction for more than 1,200 cases each year and provides full autopsy on approximately 22% of the cases. The DCMEO performs forensic autopsies on-site and may perform other postmortem examinations as an important part of the death investigation process. The DCMEO participates in the Medicolegal Death Investigation Connect (MDI Connect) which provides a supportive environment for selected MDI offices to innovate using standards-based approaches to improving data quality and timeliness that are scalable and reusable across multiple locations with different data entities.



Dataflow:	MDI CMS and Public Health
Project Description:	DCMEO is proposing to use the FHIR standard to facilitate exchange of comprehensive mortality toxicology data in real-time to allow Georgia Department of Public Health's surveillance programs such as Georgia Violent Death Reporting System (Ga-VDRS) and SUDORS to receive toxicology data.
CMS Vendor:	MDILog
Data Sharing Partner:	Georgia Department of Public Health
Data Sharing Vendor:	GA-VDRS in house system

Benefits:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved timeliness of toxicology data sharing • Ability to identify patterns and clusters in the mortality data for response efforts.
Challenges:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short timeframe to complete projects deliverables • Executing MOU with vendor in the short timeframe

MDI Connect is a collaborative learning environment where MDI offices, data-sharing partners, vendors, and FHIR subject matter experts can work together to modernize MDI data practices and work towards interoperability. The goal of this collaborative is to create reusable tools and approaches that will reduce data entry efforts, reduce efforts in exchanging data with others, and increase access to information for office functioning and research. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) Collaborating Office for Medical Examiners and Coroners (COMEC) and the CDC Foundation work jointly on this project.

Acronyms

- MDI** – Medicolegal Death Investigation
- CMS** – Case Management System
- HL7** – Health Level 7
- FHIR** – Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources
- NVDRS** – National Violent Death Reporting System
- SUDORS** – State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System
- SAMS** – Secure Access Management Service

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