

**Chronic Disease/Maternal and Child Health/Oral Health Steering Committee Update
CSTE Executive Board Meeting, Winter 2022**

Steering Committee Chair: Caitlin Pizzonia, MPH

CSTE Staff: Valerie Goodson, MPA, Kyra Parks

Discussion Topics:

- Addressing pregnancy reporting for nationally notifiable conditions
 - Utilizing mapping software with BRFSS Data
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Updates & Accomplishments

- **Partnerships**
 - CSTE continues collaboration with CityMatCH and CDC Division of Reproductive Health to develop content for the 2022 CityMatCH MCH Epi Conferences.
 - CSTE contributes ongoing applied epidemiology expertise and insight on AMCHP's Graduate Student Epidemiology Program Internship Advisory Committee.
 - As part of the APHL Opioid Biosurveillance Task Force's Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Project, CSTE represents applied epidemiologists on a multidisciplinary committee developing a lab surveillance resource. With the assistance of the task force, APHL is preparing a publication "*Exploring the Value of Laboratory Data in Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome.*"
 - CSTE has joined ASTHO's Interagency Workgroup, "PRAMS Multi-Jurisdiction Data Linkage Learning Community."
- **Training and Resources**
 - The CSTE Chronic Disease Subcommittee, in collaboration with the CDC Division of Population Health, continues to host a bi-monthly BRFSS webinar series to provide updates and best practices for CD/MCH/OrH members and BRFSS coordinators. The most recent webinar was entitled, "*PLACES: Local Data for Better Health*" and over 50 members were in attendance.
 - CSTE released the "[Reproductive Health After Disaster 2.0 Toolkit](#)," and development of the interactive online toolkit is in progress and will be available online later in 2022.
 - In partnership with CDC Division of Reproductive Health, CSTE developed an on-demand data visualization training that will be featured as part of AMCHP's Maternal Mortality Review Resource Portal for States.
- **Workforce Development and Building STLT Capacity**
 - The CSTE Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) project is continuing 6 subawards for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Surveillance Implementation Pilots (Cohort 1: Georgia, Massachusetts, Philadelphia (PA), Tennessee; Cohort 2: Arizona, Tennessee).
 - CSTE is currently providing 14 subawards to state, territorial, and local health departments to implement a Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) questionnaire supplement on the COVID-19 vaccine and pregnant people.
 - CSTE completed cognitive and field testing of questions for an upcoming PRAMS supplement on social determinants of health. A funding opportunity for health departments to implement this supplement will be released in February 2022.
 - The CSTE Improving COVID-19 Pregnancy Status Reporting via ELR Workgroup has convened multidisciplinary stakeholders to develop recommendations for improved pregnancy status reporting with participation from various SMEs, members, and partners representing MCH, infectious disease, surveillance and informatics, public and private lab partners, and clinical provider associations.
- **Policy and Position Statements**
 - The CSTE NAS Workgroup's Leadership Committee has reconvened monthly meetings to revise Position Statement 19-MCH-01 for NAS Standardized Surveillance Case Definition for 2023 submission.

**Cross Cutting I Steering Committee Update
CSTE Executive Board Meeting, Winter 2022**

Steering Committee Chair: Stephanie Ayers-Millsap, MPH

CSTE Staff: Danielle Boyd, MPH, CHES; Mia Israel, MPH, CHES; Cailyn Lingwall, MPH, CHES;
Megan Toe, MSW**Discussion Topic:**

- New partnership with National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) to convene Forensic Epidemiologists – opportunities and priorities

Updates and Accomplishments

- **Convenings**
 - In a new collaboration with CDC's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), CSTE will convene a Forensic Epidemiology Workgroup to foster peer engagement and collaboration among forensic epidemiologists working in medical examiner and coroner offices, and their public health partners. CSTE anticipates the first workgroup call to be scheduled in late February 2022.
- **Trainings and Resources**
 - The [CSTE Substance Use and Injury Connection](#) continues to highlight CSTE programs and member/partner activities across Substance Use, Mental Health, and Injury surveillance topics. The next quarterly issue will release in April 2022.
 - The Alcohol Subcommittee contributed to the CDC Alcohol Program's [Measuring Alcohol Outlet Density: A Toolkit for State and Local Surveillance](#). The toolkit provides steps for using several alcohol outlet density indicators for surveillance in states and local jurisdictions.
 - Upcoming CSTE Annual Conference Workshop for Substance Use
 - Title: Substance Use Conversations from the Bluegrass Lands to the Seas
Description: The full-day workshop will engage those working in substance use surveillance in meaningful discussions surrounding new trends in substance use surveillance (including monitoring of drug overdose, cannabis, and alcohol behaviors). Workshop will highlight surveillance projects throughout the US. Opportunities for peer-to-peer learning will be provided to share experiences and identify common challenges. Presenters and attendees will include CSTE members, CSTE partners, CDC Overdose Data to Action recipients, and CDC representatives from the CDC NCIPC Division of Overdose Prevention.



CSTE Cross Cutting II Steering Committee Update

CSTE Executive Board Meeting, Winter 2022

Steering Committee Chair: Kenneth Komatsu, MPH

CSTE Staff: Jessica Arrazola, DrPH, MPH, MCHES; Sarah Auer, MPH; Bernadette Aylward, MPH; Colin Gerber, MPH; Maria Patselikos, MS, MPH; Jordan Peart, MPH; Andrew Adams, MPH; Kyra Parks; Sunbal Virk, JD

Discussion Topics

- The Applied Public Health Informatics Fellowship (APHIF) program will be relaunched in Summer 2022, with a goal of placing 10 fellows in the next cohort of DSTT sites.
- Upcoming Workforce Development projects: CSTE is forming a small workgroup (led by Mike Landen) to develop a framework for epi activity and organization for state health departments as a resource during this time of public health transformation.

Updates and Accomplishments

- **Convenings**
 - The Public Health Law Subcommittee has successfully identified two new co-chairs after prior co-chairs, Denise Chrysler and Marci Layton, have rotated off. The new co-chairs are Colin Boes (Privacy Specialist at the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services) and Laurie Forlano (Deputy Director, Office of Epidemiology at the Virginia Department of Health).
 - The Public Health Law Subcommittee will host a legal webinar titled, "Threats to Public Health Law Authority," on February 2, 2022.
 - The Health Equity Subcommittee has convened two new workgroups entitled, *Developing a Legal Intervention Surveillance System* and *Addressing Stigma in Public Health Practices*. *Developing a Legal Intervention Surveillance System* was created to address the presidential priority of "addressing law enforcement involved fatal encounters and non-fatal injuries (LEIFE) as a public health issue." *Addressing Stigma in Public Health Practices* aims to identify forms of stigma, bias, and marginalization that are often ignored or perpetuated by public health practices.
- **Partnerships**
 - CSTE is now a member of the Council on Linkages. Since Beth Daly has joined CSTE staff, CSTE must identify a new member representative.
- **Trainings and Resources**
 - A manuscript is under development to describe COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths among AI/AN compared to non-Hispanic Whites in 16 states, January 2020-March 2021. The analysis aims to describe how underlying factors and the Social Vulnerability Index score also affect hospitalizations and deaths. CSTE plans to submit to the American Journal of Public Health for publication.
 - The 2021 ECA report of aggregate results was published in December 2021, and states received individualized state reports. The results were further disseminated with an online 2-pager and press release, and an MMWR and peer-reviewed publications are in progress. The results from the 2021 local ECA with Big Cities Health Coalition will be published in February 2022 in an aggregate report.
 - CSTE is developing a new legal training module for incoming Fellows that will be available widely.
 - The Public Health Law Subcommittee will launch a quarterly legal newsletter in April 2022.
- **Workforce Development and Building STLT Capacity**
 - CSTE completed an evaluation of jurisdictional and federal responses to past and current outbreaks to develop best practices for public health responses. CSTE also evaluated the implementation of the Protocol and Data Collection Guidance for Health Department Notification to CDC Quarantine Stations of Infectious Persons with Recent Travel. A report with recommendations was published in Dec 2021.

- CSTE was awarded new CDC funding to relaunch the previous APHIF informatics fellowship. This 2-year fellowship builds informatics capacity at STLT health departments and provides hands-on experience for recent graduates in public health informatics, data science, and working with public health laboratory data. CSTE will recruit 10 fellows to be placed at host sites across the country, prioritizing those sites which are also participating in DSTT.
- CSTE LEAD kicked off the second cohort with 24 participants in January 2022. The program demand was high with 41 applicants. Applicants were highly qualified, and many have previous experience in mentorship, CSTE engagement, or were former AEFs.
- The 2021 cohort of Data Science Team Training Program learners graduated from the program in December 2021. This cohort was made up of 20 teams from AZ; Boston, MA; Boulder County, CO; CA; FL; Guam; Harris County, TX; KY; Los Angeles County, CA; Maricopa County, AZ; MI; NH; NC; Pima County, AZ; San Mateo County, CA; SC; and TX.
- CSTE was awarded CDC funding to support another class of DSTT learners, continuing the team-based training model. CSTE launched applications for the 2022 program year in October, and the 12-month program started with orientation in January 2022. CSTE has accepted 26 teams for the 2022 program year. The teams are from AZ; AK; CA; Cook County, IL; Sonoma County, CA; DE; IA; KS; MI; Minneapolis, MN; MN; Multnomah County, OR; NE; ND; OK; OR; PA; Seattle & King County, WA; SC; TN; TX; USVI; UT; WA; and WI.
- CSTE placed 55 AEF fellows between June-December 2021 in Class 19 of the program.
- The AEF host site application for fellows beginning during Summer 2022 is open until February 28, 2022.
- CSTE and CDC will begin a coordinated effort to update the Applied Epidemiology Competencies (AECs) this month. CSTE will be hosting interviews, focus groups, and townhalls to gather feedback from the field and convening an expert panel to review and oversee updates. The first meeting of the expert panel is set to take place in February.

**Environmental/Occupational/Injury (EOI) Steering Committee Update****CSTE Executive Board Meeting, Winter 2022**

Steering Committee Chair: Melissa Jordan, MS, MPH

CSTE Staff: Danielle Boyd, MPH, CHES; Mia Israel, MPH, CHES; Cailyn Lingwall, MPH, CHES; Kyra Parks; Alyaa Altabbaa, MPH; Andrew Adams, MPH

Discussion Topics:

- Strategies for integrating non-ID epis into the COVID-19 response at state and local levels
 - Ways to broaden data sources in EOI epidemiology
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Updates and Accomplishments

- **Convenings**
 - The CSTE Occupational Health Subcommittee hosted their winter business meeting on Thursday, December 1, 2021. This virtual meeting was attended by 100 participants representing NIOSH partners and occupational health epidemiologists and featured discussion on state efforts to collect data on worker COVID-19 vaccination status.
- **Partnerships**
 - CSTE has joined a newly formed NCEH/ATSDR Concurrent Disasters Inter-Agency Workgroup with representatives from CDC, FEMA, and NEHA. The workgroup meets quarterly as part of a joint project between CDC, NEHA, and CSTE to develop concurrent disaster exercises for STLT public health agencies.
 - CSTE is participating in the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention's Measurement & Accountability (M&A) Work Group. Currently the group is working to identify a set of metrics to measure progress in achieving near real-time data for suicide surveillance, one of the M&A group's four priorities.
- **Trainings and Resources**
 - CSTE convened a workgroup of environmental epidemiologists with experience in cancer cluster investigations to discuss facilitators and barriers to implementing the 2013 CDC/CSTE Cancer Cluster Investigation Guidelines. Discussions were summarized and recommendations for updating federal guidelines for cancer cluster investigations were outlined in a final report for CDC/ATSDR consideration. The final report is expected to be finalized and disseminated in Winter 2022.
 - CSTE completed a summary report describing key themes, challenges, and successes from discussions and presentations on the Innovative Surveillance CoP workgroup calls: Linkage to Care Surveillance, Local Outbreak Detection, and Monitoring Illicit Drug Supply.
 - The [CSTE Injury Data Science Team Competencies](#) are now available. The competencies are categorized into six domains, and the document includes an Implementation Guide that outlines recommendations for applying the Injury Data Science Competencies in jurisdictional health department teams.
 - The CSTE Injury Surveillance Workgroup hosted a four-part data linkage office hours series to provide direct technical assistance to members. A CSTE Injury Data Linkage Toolkit currently in development provides a guide for applying linkage methods using a variety of injury surveillance data sources, a checklist of best practices, and considerations for linkage software selections. CSTE also funded four jurisdictions to complete data linkage projects within their injury programs.
- **Workforce Development and Building STLT Capacity**
 - CSTE received funding to partner with CDC NCEH/ATSDR and the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) to provide STLT public health agencies the opportunity to participate in tabletop exercises simulating concurrent disaster preparedness and response.

- The CSTE Injury Surveillance Workgroup developed Special Emphasis Report [tools](#) for three new topics: adverse childhood experiences (ACES), falls in older adults, and firearms. The Special Emphasis Report templates for states to share jurisdictional injury data to highlight the prevention needs related to specific causes or populations. jurisdictional injury data in order to highlight the prevention needs related to specific causes or populations.
- **Policy and Position Statements**
 - The CSTE Environmental Health in Schools Workgroup continues to meet regularly and is collecting information from members on the related data available within their jurisdictions. Once compiled, they are planning to draft a policy brief on the need for national surveillance of environmental exposures and health outcomes in the K-12 school setting.
 - CSTE Environmental Health and Occupational Health Subcommittees are revising the “2015 Position Statement: Public Health Reporting and National Notification for Elevated Blood Lead Levels” to align with the updated Blood Lead Reference Value Guidelines.

**CSTE Infectious Disease Steering Committee Update**
CSTE Executive Board Meeting, Winter 2022

Steering Committee Chair: Catherine M. Brown, DVM MSc MPH

CSTE Staff: Beth Daly, DrPH, MPH; Meredith Lichtenstein Cone, MPH; Amelia Blumberg, MSPH; Ashley Vineyard, MPH; Mimi Puckett, MPH; Puja Shah, MPH, CLSSGB; Symone Richardson, MPH

Discussion topics:

- The intersection of influenza and COVID and the need for larger holistic vision for the future of respiratory disease surveillance
- Ensuring STD, HIV, viral hepatitis, and HAI are all included in data modernization initiatives
- CSTE and member engagement with the new CDC Center for Forecasting and Outbreak Analytics
- Encouraging CDC to assess the impact of the Vectorborne Disease Centers of Excellence to potentially inform future funding strategies

Updates and Accomplishments

- **Convenings**
 - Most Infectious Disease Steering Committee subcommittees and workgroups have continued to meet on a regular basis. Recent leadership changes include:
 - HAI: Sarah Lineberger (VA) now co-chair in place of Caitlin Pedati (IA)
 - Influenza and Viral Respiratory Diseases: Karen Martin (MN) now co-chair in place of Chris Hahn (ID)
 - A new AMD-focused membership group will be formed in February 2022 to focus on genomic epidemiology capacity building. This formation was approved by the Executive Board in fall 2021.
 - Planning 6 infectious disease workshops at the 2022 CSTE Annual Conference:
 - Enteric Diseases
 - HAI/AR
 - Hepatitis C Surveillance
 - National Meeting of Influenza Surveillance Coordinators
 - Legionnaires' Disease
 - Vectorborne Disease
 - Hosted a virtual workshop for the Youth in Agriculture program in October 2021 to formally discuss lessons learned and next steps to inform the 2022 project cycle.
 - Hosted a virtual forecasting workshop in November 2021 consisting of presentations, panels, and discussions related to COVID-19, influenza, and vector-borne disease forecasting and modeling.
 - Planning to host a virtual VBD forecasting workshop in February 2022 (dates TBD).
 - Planning to host the next CIFOR meeting in March 2022 (dates TBD).
- **Partnerships**
 - CSTE continues to co-chair the following:
 - Council to Improve Foodborne Disease Outbreak Response (CIFOR)
 - Council for Outbreak Response: HAI/AR (CORHA)
 - CSTE/CDC/APHL Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance Task Force (ARSTF)
 - CSTE hosted a partner meeting with the CDC modeling team and leadership from the new Center for Forecasting and Outbreak Analytics in January 2022 to discuss how CSTE can support and collaborate with the new Center.
 - CSTE hosted a partner meeting with the CDC Division of Viral Hepatitis in January 2022 to discuss partnership for future activities.

- CSTE continues to support the subaward partnership with NASTAD with focus on “Ending the HIV Epidemic through Strategic Partnerships & Communications.” CSTE has co-facilitated workforce and TA webinars, contributed to the planning and implementation of the 2021 NASTAD EHE TA Meeting, and is providing SAS e-Learning training to EHE jurisdictions.
- CSTE continues to provide liaisons to key national infectious disease partner groups, including ACIP, SHEA, HICPAC, CORHA, ARSTF, and CIFOR.
- **Trainings and Resources**
 - In collaboration with NASPHV and CDC’s One Health Office, CSTE plans to conduct a veterinary epidemiology capacity assessment to inform development of a policy statement advocating for designated public health veterinary expertise at STLT agencies.
 - CSTE is finalizing the 2017 Vectorborne Disease Surveillance Capacity Assessment with plans to release the report in Spring 2022.
 - CSTE is developing an animal and zoonotic influenza reference guide for animal and public health professionals in collaboration with the Zoonotic Influenza Workgroup, NASPHV, and CDC NCIRD. The reference guide is expected to be finalized by Winter 2022.
 - CSTE is collaborating with CDC and two surveillance epidemiologist consultants to develop and pilot an influenza surveillance costing tool and implementation guide to document costs associated with establishing, enhancing, and maintaining influenza surveillance within a country. CSTE plans to pilot this tool and related resources in up to three countries in 2022.
 - The CIFOR Toolkit for Foodborne Disease Outbreak Response, 3rd Ed. is expected to be released by Winter 2022.
 - CSTE will resume work on national recommendations for enteric disease exclusion policies in Spring 2022, which will consider culture-independent diagnostic test results in the exclusion of individuals working in high-risk transmission settings such as food establishments, day cares, and healthcare settings.
 - Analysis is complete for the 2019 CSTE Food Safety Epidemiology Capacity Assessment. The summary report is expected by Summer 2022.
 - CSTE developed a risk communication toolkit with scenario-based recommendations, templates, and tools for notification during Legionnaires’ Disease investigations. The toolkit draft is currently being reviewed by members of the Legionnaires’ Disease Risk Communication Subgroup and will be finalized in Spring 2022.
 - AMD Academy activities have been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic response. CSTE is currently working with the CDC Office of Advanced Molecular Detection to reformat this training and identify short, medium, and long-term goals for AMD support through the CDC/CSTE cooperative agreement mechanism.
 - The existing online Youth in Agriculture Resource Repository is being updated and will be released by May 2022. CSTE is working with CDC and currently funded sites to finalize the repository.
- **Workforce Development and Building STLT Capacity**
 - CSTE plans to support virtual peer-to-peer technical assistance opportunities for VBD, HAI, and HIV in Spring 2022.
 - CSTE is supporting the Influenza Population-Based Hospitalization Surveillance Project (IHSP) in 4 sites (IA, MI, OH, UT) with plans to expand the IHSP project and release a funding opportunity in Feb 2022 to support up to 4 additional sites to conduct influenza hospitalization surveillance.
 - CSTE is supporting the Influenza and Zoonoses Education Among Youth in Agriculture program in 6 sites (CA, IA, MD, MI, NE, OH).

- CSTE is supporting 7 sites for development of forecasts and mathematical models for COVID-19 and 6 sites for development of forecasts for influenza to better inform public health response decision making.
- CSTE is supporting 4 sites to identify and investigate unexplained respiratory deaths occurring outside the healthcare setting.
- CSTE plans to support up to 8 public health agencies to develop coordinated and systematic surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 infections at the human-animal-environment interface
- **Policy and Position Statements**
 - There are several potential infectious disease-related position statements being considered for 2022. Not all of these will be pursued based on need and author and collaborator bandwidth. Potential changes currently being tracked include:
 - Gonorrhea (to include disseminated gonorrhea infection), chancroid, MIS-C, animal rabies, strongyloides, tickborne relapsing fever, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, coccidiomycosis, psittacosis, mumps, non-pestis yersiniosis, Zika (related to congenital infections), anaplasmosis and ehrlichiosis, broadening CRE to carbapenemase-producing organisms (CPOs), and Candida auris.
 - The Enteric Diseases Subcommittee would like CSTE to adopt the proposed *Salmonella* policy brief

**CSTE Surveillance/Informatics Steering Committee Update CSTE Executive Board Meeting, Winter 2022**

Steering Committee Chair: Kate Goodin, MPH, MS

CSTE Staff: Becky Lampkins, MPH, Shaily Krishan, MPH, Brooke Beaulieu, MPH, Shahidah Williams, MPH, Alyaa Altabbaa, MPH, Alexis Darden, MSHI, Jordyn Easterling

Discussion Topics:

- Data Modernization
 - eCR
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Updates and Accomplishments

- **Convenings**
 - Virtually hosted the 2nd Annual Syndromic Surveillance Symposium on November 16-18, 2021, with 650+ registrants across 47 states and eight countries. The symposium featured 30+ sessions (training, roundtable, and breakout) and highlighted the following topics: integrating more data sources, describing use cases for newly integrated data sources, training opportunities spanning user experience levels, expanding data sharing partners, and continuing to use syndromic surveillance to impact policy and action.
 - Initiated a biweekly CSTE Data Modernization Initiative (DMI) Workgroup co-chaired by Annie Fine (CSTE) and Erin Holt (TN) in November 2021. The goal is to convene a small group of jurisdictions to discuss DMI priorities, challenges, and advise on how CSTE can contribute to the DMI landscape in support of jurisdictions. The workgroup is planning to participate in a CSTE-hosted meeting in May 2022 to review data systems/preparedness challenges (related to COVID-19 response) and advise on recommendations for modernizing systems.
- **Partnerships**
 - Continues to partner with CDC and NAPHSIS to provide technical assistance to vital records registrars to configure the State Territorial Exchange of Vital Statistics (STEVE) application to route death data to NSSP and create a centralized mailbox using STEVE to automate routing of mortality data to NSSP for participating jurisdictions. API development was completed in December 2021. Twelve jurisdictions continue to participate, and support for onboarding additional jurisdictions will continue in 2022.
 - Continues to partner with CDC and APHL on RCKMS and eCR activities. In November 2021, the new RCKMS Coordination Working Group was convened, with representation from CDC, APHL, CSTE staff supporting RCKMS activities, and CSTE members (Melanie Epstein-Corbin, CA, and Rachelle Boulton, UT). The group will meet monthly to inform RCKMS technical development priorities and impacts on content development and user interaction with the tool.
 - Participating in a multi-organization collaboration with ASTHO, NACCHO, CSTE, and CDC to launch the Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) Test Collaborative to explore use of FHIR for public health use cases in January 2022. CSTE will support several subrecipient pilot sites to test a FHIR public health use case. The Test Collaborative will support public health agencies to explore the use of FHIR, engage standards development organizations, and share lessons learned from pilot sites. Kate Goodin is CSTE's representative to the FHIR Test Collaborative Steering Committee.
- **Trainings and Resources**
 - The SRCA data collection tool rebuild is nearing completion, with an anticipated release in early Spring 2022. The new data collection tool will improve jurisdictions' ability to update their reportability requirements in a timelier manner. The SRCA will transition to year-round open data collection, allowing for respondent flexibility to update their conditions as state rules and regulations are updated. Data will subsequently be made publicly available in a new data dashboard.
 - Maintained the ELR Points of Contact on the CSTE website to provide the appropriate ELR contacts within each jurisdiction so that labs and other reporting facilities may more readily connect with health department staff regarding ELR onboarding requests and issues.

- RCKMS training modules covering various topics related to RCKMS authoring and navigating the RCKMS tool are now available on the CSTE Learn platform for CSTE members to access.
- Continues to work closely with CDC to update the infrastructure and curate the content of the NSSP CoP Knowledge Repository.
- Compiled the session recordings and materials from the 2021 Syndromic Surveillance Symposium into a [Final Event Packet](#) that was distributed broadly. The sessions provided attendees the opportunity to learn new skills from technical experts and discuss the future of syndromic surveillance and the NSSP CoP.
- **Workforce Development and Building STLT Capacity**
 - Continues to host the bimonthly Surveillance/Informatics Steering Committee call, the monthly Electronic Laboratory and Disease Reporting, SPIS, and Surveillance Policy subcommittee calls, the monthly National ELR Workgroup, and the Data Standardization Workgroup.
 - Reconvened the CSTE Data Standardization Workgroup in August 2021, and current discussions are focused on developing consensus around the components needed to calculate an Epidemiologically Relevant Counting Date (i.e., the date used for counting cases).
 - The seventh RCKMS Content Release will be published in January 2022 (adding 24 new conditions). Following this release, RCKMS reporting specifications, reportable condition trigger codes (RCTC), and value sets will become available for 132 conditions overall (83 nationally notifiable conditions and 49 non-notifiable conditions).
 - To support RCKMS users/eCR implementation nationwide, CSTE will stand up a new RCKMS Authoring Support Team dedicated to assisting jurisdictions with RCKMS authoring, training, interpretation of reporting specifications, new user support, etc. Each jurisdiction will be assigned to an RCKMS Authoring Support Agent who will be available, as needed, beginning in February 2022.
 - Continues to advance eCR implementation by providing onboarding, production, and authoring support for sites. At the time of this report, more than 63 jurisdictions have authored in RCKMS and over 10,000 healthcare facilities are actively participating in eCR for COVID-19. CSTE continues to explore the appropriate forums for membership to discuss eCR topics including on CSTE subcommittee calls.
 - Through CDC Foundation funding, CSTE provided support to Utah Department of Health to successfully conduct end-to-end testing with the public health agency, 3 healthcare organizations, and EHR vendors to ensure eCR production implementation with a focus on Parkinson's Disease reporting. This project concluded in December 2021.
 - Continues to support and facilitate the NSSP CoP (over 750 members) through various activities including, but not limited to: administrative support of the NSSP CoP Core Committee, five NSSP CoP Subcommittees, three NSSP CoP Workgroups, and two NSSP CoP User Groups; developing an SOP for reviewing, triaging, and fulfilling data requests received by NSSP; providing avenues for STLT community discussion through Slack and ad hoc calls on current topics; maintenance of the [NSSP CoP website](#); and identification and promotion of opportunities for NSSP CoP and CSTE member collaboration.
- **Policy and Position Statements**
 - After completing the open membership review in December 2019, the Data Standardization Workgroup reconciled member comments and finalized the CSTE Issue Brief titled "Data Standardization: Dates of Importance to Public Health Surveillance" with consensus definitions for Illness (Symptom) Onset Date, Report Dates, Laboratory- Related Dates, (Clinical) Diagnosis Date. The brief was pending final CSTE Board review and publication on the CSTE website and is currently being reviewed by the authors for current applicability and comparison against related USCDI data elements.
 - To align with the vision set forth by recent [mandates](#) and [recommendations](#), and recognizing the potential risks of data misuse, CSTE and CDC convened a workgroup of STLT epidemiologists in leadership positions and Syndromic practitioners to provide input into a report on considerations and implementation strategies regarding revisions to permitted federal NSSP data access. The workgroup discussed approaches for maximizing the surveillance utility of the data while mitigating any anticipated problems that could arise from expanded access to NSSP data. The draft report will be shared with State Epidemiologists and the NSSP Community of Practice (CoP) in early 2022.