

Occupational Health

Assignment Description:

The Fellow will act as the chief epidemiologist for the Occupational Health Surveillance Program (under the mentorship of Drs. Armenti and Laviolette). Work will include performing analysis on CSTE/NIOSH occupational health indicators and submitting these data to NIOSH, writing reports and issue briefs on specific projects/topics, preparing manuscripts for publication in peer reviewed journals, performing analysis for all research projects (described below), presenting data graphically using ArcGIS software, designing epidemiology studies, program strategic planning and program evaluation, working with program Advisory Committee, developing outreach with partners, creating new research projects using existing data sources, working with Division staff to prepare data for web-based query system, managing the IRB process for new research studies.

Day-to-Day Activities:

The fellow should expect to take part in data analysis, data interpretation, technical writing and data dissemination, program evaluation, developing and supporting new projects (emerging issues). Efforts will be made to include the Fellow in Division-wide meetings, including the Epi Luncheon and Data Users' Workgroup. There will be opportunities for the Fellow to speak about his/her work at these meetings.

Potential Projects:

Current projects include, data analysis of 20 occupational health indicators; the characterization of lower adult blood lead levels, 10 to 25 mcg/dL (via our ABLES program - includes calling providers and surveying patients); occupational poisoning data linkage project (linking Poison Center data to hospital ED data to better understanding underreporting of occupational poisonings and to identify proxy variables for determining work related poisonings in the hospital discharge data); data analysis of NH EMS data to better understand work related traumatic injuries (NH has a "work-related" field in its database); data analysis of BRFSS data by industry and occupation; participation in state and national discussions around electronic medical records - work with Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in building its EMR specifically to include work related fields and risk data; data analysis of survey data from immigrant/refugee and youth worker populations (looking at occupational health inequities); build performance measures for program and key indicators to be part of web-based query system; data analysis of workers' compensation data (descriptive epi at first); and participate in OHSP Advisory Committee, guiding its work toward meeting our program objectives.

Preparedness Role

The fellow will participate in consultations with Bureau of Disease Control on protection of State emergency personnel, healthcare personnel, and Division staff during a public health emergency. He/she will also participate in outbreak investigations of work-related events.

Assignment Location:	Concord, NH
Primary Mentor:	Karla Armenti, ScD, MS Principle Investigator, Occupational Health Surveillance Program New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services
Secondary Mentor:	Michael Laviolette, PhD, MPH Senior Management Analyst New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services