

2012-2013 CSTE Executive Board Meeting

March 19-March 21, 2013

Washington, DC

Executive Board Present

Laurene Mascola (CA)
Marci Layton (NY)
Sharon Watkins (FL)
Sara Huston (ME)

Tim Jones (TN)
Katrina Hedberg (OR)
Janet Hamilton (FL)

Tom Safranek (NE)
Alfred DeMaria (MA)
Joseph McLaughlin (AK)

CSTE Staff Present

Jeff Engel
Jennifer Lemmings

Beverly Christner
Lauren Rosenberg

LaKesha Robinson

Tuesday, March 19

Guest

1. Emily Holubowich, Senior Vice President for Cavarocchi Ruscio Dennis Associates, LLC

Emily and her CRD colleagues facilitate and advocacy workshop to review the current political and fiscal environment and prepared the Executive Board for their congressional visits.

The Executive Board met with their elected officials and their congressional staff to share more about the importance of epidemiology and reviewed CSTE's advocacy priorities.

Wednesday, March 20

Guests *(Discussions are not recorded)*

1. John Howard, CDC/NIOSH
2. Paul Etkind: NACCHO
3. Alex Garza: DHS

Minutes

The minutes from the January Executive Board Meeting in Atlanta GA were discussed.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the January Executive Board Meeting.

Motion: Approved with edits.

Annual Conference Update and Discussion

(Handouts were prepared and in meeting package)

The 2013 Annual Conference review consist of the following logistics:

1. Board Candidates Suggestions
2. Awards History/Nominations
3. Proposed Award Schedule
4. Executive Bard Activities
5. Proposed Business Meeting Agenda
6. 2013 CSTE Annual Conference Daily Glance Agenda

National Office Updates

(Handouts were prepared and in meeting package)

Cooperative Agreement

The final draft of CSTE's response to the release FOA has been submitted. A reminder that CST is submitting one application for cross-cutting capacity building assistance for the state, territorial, local and tribal epidemiology workforce for approximately \$8 million. The budget narrative is completed and it supports the activities that were proposed.

Budget Report

Jeff reviewed the Statements of Accounts for period October 2012 through February 2013. He noted that CSTE financials are in good standing without any discrepancies.

Position Statements

At this time, there are 17 expected position statements as of March 12, 2013.

Infectious

1. Novel influenza (interim to be voted on) (Steve Ostroff)
2. Syphilis case definition (Lynn Sosa, Hillard Weinstock)
3. Gonorrhea case definition (Lynn Sosa, Hillard Weinstock)
4. Cryptococcus gattii case definition (Paul Cieslak)
5. Amebic encephalitis (make condition nationally notifiable)
6. RSV deaths (Craig Conover & Susan Gerber)
7. STEC (John Dunn, Ellyn Marder)
8. Culture independent diagnostic testing (Al DeMaria)

Infectious HAI

9. Inter-facility communication (Brynn Berger)
10. LabID event for MRSA and C. diff (Rich Melchreit)
11. Data analysis & presentation standards in NHSN (Andrea Alvarez)
12. Recommendations for strengthening public health surveillance of antimicrobial resistance in the United States (Marion Kainer, Dan Pollock)

Non Infectious

13. Chronic disease indicators (Sara Huston)
14. Carbon monoxide poisoning (Steve Macdonald)

15. Incorporating a Binational Variable into the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) Generic Variables (Ken Komatsu, Perry Smith, Steve Waterman)
16. Update to 06-EC-02, proposal to establish CDA as standard for public health messaging (TBD)
17. Expanding NVDRS to additional states (Michael Bauer)

Assessment Queue and Consultant Reports

Consultant Report

Jennifer gave a brief overview of the consultant report from June 2012-Present along with the written trip reports which were included in the meeting package.

CSTE Assessment Queue – March 2013

Upcoming and Under Consideration

- 2013 Epidemiology Capacity Assessment (ECA), Spring 2013
 - State Epidemiologists to complete organizational level questionnaire and distribute individual questionnaire to their staff.
 - Program-specific modules to be sent to appropriate points of contact via State Epidemiologists: chronic, MCH, environmental, and oral health
- 2013 National ELR Assessment, Spring 2013
 - To be completed by ELR contacts within states.
 - Based on 2011 National ELR Survey; editorial review board currently in the review/update process to ensure relevancy of questions and to not duplicate efforts of ELC ELR surveys
- 2012/2013 SRCA (Combined), August 2013
 - To be completed by State Epidemiologists and/or their designees
 - Few changes from 2011, will be pre-populated with 2011 data to reduce burden on respondents
 - Currently devising plan with programmers on how to collect 2012 data concurrently with 2013 data
- Assessment of state activities in non-infectious environmental health/exposure/contamination monitoring and investigation, Summer 2013
 - To be completed by State Epidemiologists or lead environmental epidemiologist

Assessments completed since September 2012

- HIV Surveillance Coordinator training needs assessment
- Evaluation of the CIFOR *Guidelines for Foodborne Disease Outbreak Response* and Toolkit
- 2012 NEDSS Assessment
- Varicella Surveillance Assessment
- CSTE Member Survey
- CSTE Disaster Mental Health Surveillance Assessment

Marketing and Communications

Provided a progress table review on the following:

1. Membership

2. Newsletter/Electronic newsletter
3. Emails
4. Website
5. Social media

Committee Reports

Cross Cutting I: Steering Committee Chair: Katrina Hedberg

Discussion Items

- **Fellowships** – Class II APHIF and Class XI Epidemiology Fellowship applications are in final stages of review. Interviews for both programs will be held at CSTE late March-early April.
- **2013 ECA** - Completed questionnaires for organizational-level and individual forms and four modules: Environmental Health, Chronic, MCH, and Oral Health. Tentatively planning piloting in March/early April.

Substance Abuse (Alcohol, Alcohol and Other Drugs Indicators (AOD), Overdose (OD), and Substance Abuse Epidemiology Capacity) – Jim Roeber, Steve Wirtz and Tom Largo, Denise Paone, Corrine Miller and Michael Landen

- The Alcohol Subcommittee continues to prepare state level estimates of alcohol-related mortality by select demographic features using the CDC Alcohol-Related Disease Impact (ARDI) software. The subcommittee is reviewing the most recently submitted data from members to inform the MMWR article draft.
- The AOD Indicator Group continues to hold monthly conference calls to develop the definitions for the hospitalization indicator. A small workgroup is creating a dummy dataset and quality assurance protocol for members to test their indicator data against.
- The Overdose subcommittee is coordinating the Poisoning Surveillance Workgroup and will be presenting this work at the 2013 CSTE Annual Conference in the Substance Abuse Preconference Workshop, Poisoning Panel, and roundtable discussion. This work has also been accepted for a presentation at the Safe States Meeting in Baltimore, MD in June 2013.
- The Substance Abuse Subcommittees are planning a preconference workshop for the 2013 CSTE Annual Conference on public health surveillance of drug use, excessive alcohol use and related harms. Speakers have been invited and the agenda is being confirmed.

Workforce – Bob Harrison

- Current Fellowship status: 30 Class X CDC/CSTE Applied Epidemiology Fellows in their 1st year and 27 Class IX Fellows are in their 2nd year. There are 8 Applied Public Health Informatics Fellows (APHIF).
- The Class XI Fellowship application closed February 1, 2013. 668 applications were started and 238 completed applications that met the minimum application criteria were reviewed internally. The top 104 applications were identified and sent to the external review panel. External review scores are due the week of March 11. Top candidates will be interviewed in-person March 21-29.
- CSTE accepted 23 Class II APHIF Host Site applications.
- The Class II APHIF application deadline was February 15, 2013. There were 40 completed applications of which 17 were selected by review panel to interview in-person April 8-12.

- CSTE is continuing to support existing applied epidemiologists to complete UIC's online Public Health Informatics Certificate program. The first cohort of scholarship recipients entered their third semester in January 2013. 10 new epidemiologists were selected and began the program in January 2013.
- CSTE has convened a workgroup to plan the 2013 national Epidemiology Capacity Assessment (ECA). Matt Boulton and Jim Hadler are lead consultants for the ECA. The assessment is complete and is expected to be piloted in late March/early April with a complete technical report by Jun 2013, and published in MMWR by Dec. 2013.
- The CDC Orientation for New State Epidemiologists was held Feb 25-27, 2013. 8 participants attended (Colorado, Arkansas, Texas, Utah, Florida, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Virgin Islands)
- CSTE submitted request for funding to begin implementation and administration of an Applied Epidemiology Externship Program (AEEP) for MPH epidemiology students (formerly the Epi Scholars program in NYC, LA, and Seattle.)

Local Epidemiology – Brian Labus

- At the last EB meeting, the board decided Local Epidemiology Subcommittee would be better served as a liaisonship to NACCHO's Epidemiology Workgroup instead of an active CSTE subcommittee.

Cross Cutting II: Steering Committee Chair: Joseph McLaughlin

Border / International Health – Ken Komatsu

- The subcommittee has updated the draft position statement to add a "binational case" field. This position statement will be submitted to the Surveillance/Informatics Steering committee.
- An abstract for an International Health Regulations Panel with invited speakers from international organizations has been accepted for presentation at the annual conference.
- The subcommittee is working with other state epidemiologists and CDC DGMQ to draft a position statement outlining the process for a state to initiate a potential PHEIC notification with CDC
- Subcommittee members provided feedback on a data dictionary and universal screen form from the Association of Refugee Health Coordinators to help standardize data collection across states.

Health Disparities – Duc Vugia and James Hadler

- 11 CSTE health disparities pilot project participants (7 state and 4 county health agencies) submitted abstracts, all of which were accepted for the Annual Conference program.
- Finalized review panel and abstracts eligible for the National Award for Outstanding Epidemiology Practice in Addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities, which will be presented at the upcoming CSTE Annual Conference.

Public Health Law – Jean O'Connor & Priscilla Fox

- As previously noted, the subcommittee was reconvened with new leadership and held a kick-off call on Jan 11. The subcommittee remains in the process of identifying its priorities and areas of focus for the next year.
- The abstract for a Public Health Law Roundtable was accepted for presentation at the conference.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness – Richard Danila

- Subcommittee members submitted 28 sets of responses to CDC's questionnaire on PHEP Performance Measures. These responses were shared with the subcommittee, respondents, and CDC.
- Rich Danila participated in an expert panel convened by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the American Water Works Association (AWWA) to develop recommendations for actions and communications to occur regarding the contamination of the drinking water following a wide area airborne release of anthrax. The meeting was held in Washington, DC Jan 29-30, 2013. A full report is included in the consultancy database.

Tribal Epidemiology – Michael Landen

- The Tribal Epidemiology Subcommittee Quarterly Call was held on February 7. The subcommittee provided updates on ongoing activities such as the TEC Data Sharing Assessment, plans for the next tribal epidemiology meeting, the 2009 flu study manuscript, and AI/AN sessions at the conference. The next call will be on May 9.

Environmental/Occupational/Injury: Steering Committee Chair: Sharon Watkins

Injury Subcommittee: Michael Bauer (NY) Chair

- CSTE signed on to written testimony to reduce gun violence in a letter to the Senate. The letter was very similar to the letter that was addressed to VP Biden's Task Force.
- Michael Bauer is drafting a position statement to support the expansion NVDRS to more states.
- Subcommittee members continue to participate on the Poisoning Surveillance Workgroup with the Overdose Subcommittee.

Occupational Subcommittee: Tish Davis (MA) and Ken Rosenman (MI) Co-Chairs

- Since the list of Nationally Notifiable Conditions (NNC) has been expanded to include four non-infectious conditions, CSTE has asked CDC to include acknowledgment and reference to case-based non-infectious condition surveillance and outbreak surveillance in the MMWR annual surveillance summary publication.
- The Subcommittee sponsors one health department annually to host two student interns for an occupational health related work experience each summer – currently selecting the location for 2013 interns.
- The Subcommittee will host a follow up meeting to a 2009 meeting convened entitled *Counting work-related injuries and illnesses: Taking Steps to Close the Gap* on April 17 - 18, 2013 in Washington D.C. It will bring together invited state and federal surveillance experts, researchers, industry and key stakeholders to review new knowledge and advances made

since the 2009 meeting, and identify concrete next steps forward to improve surveillance of work-related injuries and illnesses at the national and state levels.

- The success stories workgroup finalized guidance for states on submitting short, written success stories, which will be published on the CSTE website in the future. We have received 4 state success stories. It is estimated that at least 23 states will contribute at least one story.
- Ten states included state added questions on industry and occupation (I/O) in the 2012 BRFSS. Twenty states will be adding a NIOSH sponsored I/O module or state added questions in their 2013 BRFSS. Responses will be coded using a NIOSH automated coding system (NIOCCS). NIOSH and CSTE have created a BRFSS workgroup to manage this process and analysis.
- CSTE staff continues to facilitate publication of state surveillance articles in monthly e-newsletter from NIOSH.

Environmental Subcommittee: Henry Anderson (WI) and Martha Stanbury (MI) Co-Chairs

- The fourth annual National Disaster Epidemiology Workshop will be held in Atlanta, Georgia on May 8-9, 2013. The theme this year is: Partners in Disaster Response—Crosscutting Collaborations in Disaster Epidemiology.
- CSTE is collaborating with CDC/NCEH/ATSDR and CDC/NIOSH to coordinate regional disaster epidemiology trainings. CSTE received 31 applications from states and territories. Three regional trainings are scheduled for 2013 – Austin, TX (April 10-11), Tampa, FL (May 1-2), New Orleans, LA (July 31-Aug 1) with more being planned for 2014-2015.
- Publications:
 - In Process (CDC internal review) – *The Role of Applied Epidemiology Methods in the Disaster Management Cycle*, *Guidelines for Investigating Cancer Clusters*, and *Developing New Environmental Public Health Indicators*.

Chronic Disease/Maternal & Child Health/Oral Health: Steering Committee Chair: Sara Huston

Discussion Items

- Candidates for Committee Chair and EB member for Chronic Disease/MCH/Oral Health and leadership transition.

Chronic Disease Epi Capacity Building – Renee Calanan

- The Chronic Disease Epidemiologist Orientation Manual is currently being reviewed by members of the workgroup.
- A committee of members is planning series webinar trainings that will take place between spring and summer 2013. Possible webinar training subjects include multi-level modeling, geospatial analysis, program evaluation, and publication preparation. The webinars are intended for chronic disease epidemiologists but may be useful to other epidemiologists as well.
- There will be roundtable at the Annual Conference to discuss CD/MCH/OH epidemiology capacity building programs.

Chronic Disease Surveillance and Informatics Subcommittee/NACDD Liaison – Khosrow Heidari

- CSTE will be hosting a half-day (chronic disease) informatics workshop at the conference focused on the current landscape of health information technology with an emphasis on practical applications for stakeholders in population health management.

Cancer Subcommittee/BRFSS Liaison – Youjie Huang

- BRFSS Liaison: Youjie traveled to Bangladesh Feb 14-28 to provide continued technical support in initiating a BRFSS-like health survey in Bangladesh. Assisting with Bangladeshi delegation traveling to Missouri to learn more about BRFSS. These activities are follow-ups to a previous consultation conducted in Dec 2011 supported by CDC/OGH.
- Youjie will also be representing CSTE at the BRFSS Working Group Meeting in March and will present CSTE member's questions/concerns/suggestions to the Working Group.

Maternal and Child Health Subcommittee – Patricia McKane

- Patti attended the National Birth Defects Prevention Network Annual Meeting Partnership Breakfast on Feb 27 and shared parts of CSTE's strategic plan. Also reported potential collaborative projects for CSTE.
- Patti sent the current MCH position papers and information about position paper development to the members of the MCH Epi group leadership team for review.
- CSTE will host an MCH Symposium with CDC/DRH as a Sunday workshop at the conference in Pasadena.

Oral Health – Gregg Reed

- A consultant has been chosen to develop an operational definition for HP 2020 Objective OH-16 and write a paper describing oral and craniofacial health surveillance and detailing components of a state oral and craniofacial health surveillance system. The consultant will begin work in March.

Other Updates

- Chronic Disease Indicators: A workgroup comprised of members from CDC, NACDD, and CSTE are finalizing the indicators.
 - An abstract on the CDI revision was accepted to the CSTE Annual Conference.
 - The workgroup will begin drafting a position statement on adopting the revised CDIs for the CSTE Annual Conference
- 2013 Annual Conference Planning – Members of the committee have accepted 76 abstracts submitted for the Chronic Disease/Maternal & Child Health/Oral Health conference track (34 breakouts, 36 posters, 6 roundtables).
- 2013 Epidemiology Capacity Assessment (ECA): Chronic Disease, MCH, and Oral Health modules are being built for the 2013 ECA and should be released in March/April.

Surveillance/Informatics: Steering Committee Chair Janet Hamilton

Discussion Items:

- Reportable Conditions Knowledge Management System (RCKMS): secured funding through June 2013; currently in stage 2 of pilot (in CO, DE, NY, NYC, San Diego Co., UT, WA); front end of web-based data repository currently being tested for usability.
- ELDRS workgroup will be testing ability of public health systems to accept messages that pass 2014 EHR certification criteria and identifying any issues to be discussed or coordinated across states.

- Public Health Reporting C-CDA Pilot Project: pilot funded by CSTE and NACCHO to demonstrate electronic case reporting using C-CDA and guidelines developed by the Standards & Interoperability Framework Public Health Reporting Initiative. RFP was released Feb. 25, applications are due March 15. Awardees will be notified by March 29.
- Public Health Stage 2 MU Readiness Task Force: developing fact sheets on declaration of readiness with CMS and registration of provider's intent.

Surveillance Practice and Implementation Subcommittee (Lesliann Helmus)

- State Reportable Conditions Assessment (SRCA): workgroup decided to move forward with 2013 SRCA with tentative launch date of August 2013; currently devising plan to collect 2012 data concurrently; 2013 SRCA will include 2011 data pre-populated; CSTE staff continuing to work with programmers.
- Travel History: workgroup postponed position statement development on guidelines for how travel history is collected electronically and during case investigations until 2014.
- Antibiotic Resistance Reporting: AR surveillance position statement currently going through CDC clearance, has been shared with HAI and HAI Standards Committees
- New Case vs. Ongoing Illness: updated position statement template includes criteria for distinguishing new vs. ongoing illness

Surveillance Policy Subcommittee (Tim Jones)

- Updated position statement template to clarify "National Surveillance" terminology; new template was posted in late Feb. for authors to use for 2013 position statements.
- Letter to CDC about inclusion of non-infectious conditions in the *MMWR* was sent Feb. 15.
- For next call (April 5), plan to discuss Binational Technical Workgroup position statement on adding binational variables to the NNDSS, resubmitted from 2012.

Electronic Laboratory and Disease Reporting Subcommittee (Kathy Turner)

- CDA for Public Health Reporting: CDC proposed to establish CDA as the standard for public health messaging, replacing HL7 version 2.5.1. Position statement is being drafted to update 06-EC-02.
- NNDSS Evaluation: Final report is being edited and formatted to be posted publically on the CSTE website by the end of March.
- National ELR Workgroup: plans to release National ELR Assessment in May 2013; editorial review board currently reviewing and updating questionnaire to minimize duplication with CDC ELR monitoring activities and other assessments.
- 2012 NEDSS Assessment: analyzing data and developing reports, including planned 4-pager, roundtable at 2013 Annual Conference, and potential *MMWR* or peer-reviewed articles

BioSense 2.0

- Continuing to manage BioSense 2.0 Implementation Support Grants to 9 funded jurisdictions through May 2013 (AR, DC, IL, LA County, MN, ND, PA, RI, WV)
- BioSense governance group held elections to form the permanent governance group; ASTHO will host in-person governance meeting May 3, 2013

Infectious Disease: Steering Committee Al DeMaria

Food Safety – Kirk Smith, Dhara Patel

- The February Food Safety Subcommittee call was very successful and will be repeated on a regular basis.

Healthcare Associated Infections – Marion Kainer, Meredith Lichtenstein

- CRE reportability will be discussed on the March 19 Subcommittee call.
- Subcommittee may develop comments on the AHRQ Common Formats for Patient Safety Data.
- Subcommittee provided input on the HAI Standards Committee's draft position statements on inter-facility communication, NHSN data analysis and presentation standards, and labID events for MRSA and *C. difficile*, as well as the Antimicrobial Resistance Reporting Workgroup's AR surveillance position statement.
- CSTE continues work with consultant Rachel Stricof to develop training webinars on the NHSN Data Audit and Validation Toolkit. The webinars will take place in late spring 2013.

HIV – Thomas Shavor, Dhara Patel

- In-person eHARS trainings for HIV surveillance staff will take place in summer and fall 2013.
- Peer-to-peer technical assistance consultations continue to provide peer-based support for programs.

Adult and Child Immunizations – Kathleen Harriman and Paul Cieslak, Meredith Lichtenstein

- These subcommittees will merge to form the Vaccine Preventable Diseases Subcommittee, and a new subcommittee lead will be identified.

Influenza – Chris Hahn, Matt Cartter, Andrea Giorgi

- CSTE will support a new surveillance project monitoring Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (SARI) in hospitals in Minnesota through September. The project will aim to describe the incidence and etiologies of SARI.
- Planning for a data management and writing workshop in West Africa has begun. Led by CDC and CSTE epidemiologists, the workshop will help participants from 10 African countries prepare manuscripts for conference presentation and publication.

NASPHV – Carina Blackmore, Meredith Lichtenstein

- The Q-fever workgroup has made final edits on a consensus document about human and animal health considerations when responding to Q fever events; will be finalized this spring.
- The Animal Contact Compendium group has drafted recommendations on reducing infection risk associated with animals in public settings.
- The Animal Contact Compendium swine flu appendix group is drafting swine influenza guidelines for fairs.

STD – Lynn Sosa, Meredith Lichtenstein

- The subcommittee has developed position statements to update the gonorrhea and syphilis case definitions.

Other

- A series of 5 webinars will take place starting April 2013 to help state & local jurisdictions implement the Data Security & Confidentiality Guidelines for HIV, STD, TB, & hepatitis programs.

- CDC's Division of Viral Hepatitis is developing promotional efforts for the hepatitis C screening recommendations. A *Vital Signs* will be published about implementation and testing strategies.

Bylaws Committee Update

The draft Bylaws document was discussed and some suggested language edits were made. Jeff will incorporate edits into the Bylaws documents.

Thursday, March 21

Guest (*Discussion is not recorded*)

1. Scott Becker: APHL
2. Farzad Mostashari, ONCHIT

- *Noted that committee reports were continued on this day*