



CSTE Executive Board Meeting September 2011

Cross Cutting I Steering Committee Update

Substance Abuse/Workforce/Local Epidemiology

Steering Committee Chair: Katrina Hedberg

CSTE lead staff: Amanda Masters, Annie Tran

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

- The Alcohol Subcommittee is actively working on a multi-state collaborative project to produce alcohol-related mortality estimates by state and by selected demographic characteristics, for potential submission in the MMWR. A number of states and a major municipality are actively engaged in this project; and, with CDC support, the subcommittee is working with the CDC Alcohol-Related Disease Impact (ARDI) site to generate these estimates. The group is will begin to prepare state data for input into ARDI for further analysis in September.
- The AOD Indicator Group continues to hold monthly conference calls. A status report of the AOD indicator was provided at an annual conference discussion session and participants provided valuable feedback. The set of ICD9CM codes to identify alcohol-attributable hospitalizations has been finalized. The group is currently addressing whether E-codes should be used to identify AOD cases, and is starting to discuss the ICD9CM codes for other drugs.
- The Overdose subcommittee has put in a request with the Safe States Alliance to present the ISW 7 report's matrix of overdose ICD codes. The subcommittee plans to host a webinar to introduce members to the report following the release of the report in late September. Subcommittee activities have been stalled on the release of the ISW 7 report – alternative activities may need to be identified if the project does not move forward soon.
- The Substance Abuse Epi Capacity subcommittee is working on a brief Substance Abuse Epi Capacity Assessment to capture a snapshot of characteristics of the current substance abuse workforce. A draft of the assessment has been shared with NASADAD. A follow-up conversation is needed for both organizations to determine how to proceed with a joint capacity assessment tool. Because of the broad memberships, the focus of the assessment may need to be altered to be mutually beneficial.

Workforce – Bob Harrison

- 27 new Class IX fellows began between June-August 2011. Fellows are placed in 17 different states and 4 local/county health departments. Subject areas include: 3 chronic, 5 environmental health, 11 infectious, 6 infectious-HAI, 1 infectious-quarantine, and 1 maternal and child health.
- CSTE welcomed the new fellows at the Fellowship Orientation in Atlanta August 29-September 2. The agenda included 22 sessions from state, local, and federal senior epidemiologists as well as CDC site visits.
- CSTE will accept Class X Host Site applications September 21-October 26. The Class X Fellowship application will be open November 1, 2011-February 1, 2012.
- The CDC/CSTE Applied Epidemiology Fellowship Advisory committee will convene for the annual webinar/call in October to consider changes to the program, including the addition of an informatics competency.
- An online database of training opportunities for the existing epidemiology workforce is in the final stages of development and will be sent to State Epidemiologists and piloted soon. The catalogue will go live on CSTE's website in September.
- The CSTE Workforce Subcommittee will convene a call in September to discuss follow up items from the 3rd Workforce Summit.
- CDC awarded funding to CSTE and ASTHO to begin an applied public health informatics fellowship program. The first fellows will begin in June 2012.
- 2010 Epidemiology Enumeration Assessment – MMWR article is currently in draft and under revision by Matt Boulton and James Hadler. Scheduled for MMWR submission late this Fall. Separate CSTE 4-page summary report currently under draft.