

**CSTE Executive Board Meeting September 2011
Cross Cutting II Steering Committee Update**

BT Preparedness/Border & International Health/Health Disparities/Public Health Law/Tribal Epidemiology

Steering Committee Chair: Joseph McLaughlin

CSTE Lead Staff: Lisa Ferland, Erin Simms, Annie Tran

Bioterrorism / Public Health Emergency Preparedness – Patricia Quinlisk

- Rich Danila represented CSTE in the PHEP Evaluation Workgroup meeting held June 7-8, 2011 to discuss PHEP measurement strategy, review and discuss the following performance measures: local sampling strategy review local sampling strategy performance measure, community resilience and surge management. The PHEP evaluation workgroup will continue to review measures as they are developed by OMEB.

Border International Health – Ken Komatsu

- Ken Komatsu presented a position statement at the Annual Conference on the mutual notification between CDC and state health departments of communicable disease among travelers on commercial conveyances. A call was held in September with members of the Quarantine and Border Health Services Branch, CDC to discuss domestic flight illness reports as follow up to this position statement.

Public Health Law – John Middaugh

- CSTE is providing comments on 45 CFR 46, Human Subjects Research Protections: Enhancing Protections for Research Subjects and Reducing Burden, Delay and Ambiguity for Investigators to HHS to address the proposed rule making for the Common Rule. Comments include periodic evaluations of IRB performance, secondary use of data, FERPA, and definitions of public health practice activities. Comments are due to HHS October 26, 2011.

Health Disparities – Duc Vugia

- An in-person meeting in collaboration with CDC Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities and other CDC partners was held on May 24 to discuss geocoding public health data and connecting geocoded data to census tract poverty data to analyze for socioeconomic health disparities. A summary of the meeting has been finalized.
- A Harvard consultant experienced with this analytic method is drafting recommendations for CSTE to fold into a general guidance for local and state epidemiologists to use geocoded disease data, census-tract socioeconomic data, and racial/ethnicity data to analyze for health disparities.
- A CSTE guidance of this analytic method is planned along with a call for volunteer local and state epidemiologists to participate in a pilot using this method on select diseases during this year.

Tribal Epidemiology – Michael Landen

- The Tribal Epidemiology Subcommittee Quarterly Update Call was August 3rd
- A workgroup is finalizing the Legal Issues Concerning Identifiable Health Data Sharing between State/Local Public Health Authorities and Tribal Epidemiology Centers in Select U.S. Jurisdictions (Hodge Report) and the expected completion date is late October
- A workgroup continues to plan for a Western Region TEC and States meeting to bring together state, federal and tribal partners to discuss issues of data sharing, possibly to be held in Phoenix in Spring 2012
- Monthly calls continue for the Novel H1N1 Death Case-Control Study. The five participating states (AK, AZ, NM, OK, WY) are in various stages of the study and are working to finish controls and case proxies interviews. They are committed to a timeline to complete the data collection phase of the study by later this summer. Two of the three funded states have finished their contract while one state has extended its contract through Dec
- The CSTE National Office is continually updating/adding to the list of State Tribal Epidemiology liaisons (connection point between Tribal Epidemiology Centers and the States).