

INFECTIOUS DISEASE STEERING COMMITTEE

Infectious diseases are a significant cause of death worldwide. CSTE's Infectious Disease subcommittees are among the largest and most active groups within CSTE. In alignment with their respective local, state and territorial public health departments, CSTE members collaborate with federal public health programs (e.g., CDC, FDA, USDA, etc.) and CSTE sister organizations (e.g., APHL, ASTHO, NACCHO, NASTAD, etc.) to support projects related to infectious disease research, surveillance, preparedness, response, and prevention.

Infectious Disease subcommittee members also work collaboratively with other CSTE program areas to facilitate investigation, identification, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease. In their efforts to prevent further spread of infectious diseases and to encourage timely reporting, CSTE's Infectious Disease subcommittee members participate in the annual CSTE position statements process. This process is to update case definitions for various infectious diseases as well as to place and remove infectious diseases from the list of Nationally Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIR: Al DeMaria

SUBCOMMITTEE

Adult Immunization
 Childhood Immunization
 Food Safety
 HIV
 Healthcare Associated Infections
 Influenza
 STDs

CHAIR

Kathleen Harriman
 Paul Cieslak
 Kirk Smith
 Angelique Griffin
 Marion Kainer
 Christine Hahn &
 Matthew Cartter
 Cortland Lohff

INTEREST AREAS

ABC surveillance • EIP • Emerging Infections •
 TB • Viral Hepatitis • Vectorborne & Zoonoses

STAFF LEADS: Lisa Ferland, Andrea Giorgi, Jennifer Lemmings, Lauren Rosenberg



Recent Programs & Activities

- Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak and Response (CIFOR) *Guidelines to Improve Foodborne Disease Outbreak Response* and Toolkit
- CIFOR *Guidelines* implementation trainings
- Regular Epidemiology/Laboratory Integrated Reporting Pilot
- HIV/AIDS Surveillance Coordinator Orientation Manual
- National Assessment of HIV/AIDS Surveillance Capacity
- Influenza Hospitalization Surveillance Project
- Influenza Incidence Surveillance Project
- National Assessment of Food Safety Epidemiology Capacity
- National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians (NASPHV) compendium meetings
- CIFOR law project

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For more information about all of CSTE's activities and news.

Infectious Disease Activities

- **The Food Safety Subcommittee** is made up of public health professionals dedicated to building epidemiology capacity for the detection and prevention of foodborne illness and death. The Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak and Response (CIFOR) is a multi-agency organization co-chaired by CSTE and NACCHO that is dedicated to improving the detection, investigation, control, and prevention of foodborne disease. In 2009 CIFOR released the *Guidelines for Foodborne Disease Outbreak Response*, a comprehensive source of information on foodborne disease outbreak investigation and response, developed by CIFOR Council members and subject matter experts. In 2011, CIFOR released a Toolkit to aid in the implementation of the *Guidelines*. The Toolkit leads multi-disciplinary teams through a series of worksheets to determine how to best implement the recommendations in the *CIFOR Guidelines*. CIFOR has funded 19 sites to conduct trainings using the Toolkit to implement the *Guidelines*.

- **The Influenza Subcommittee** includes participation from CSTE members and staff as well as public health partners such as APHL and CDC. CSTE currently funds 4 sites for the Influenza Hospitalization Surveillance Project and 12 sites for the Influenza Incidence Surveillance Project; this funding enables states to detect and control public health threats including influenza and to develop new strategies for effective influenza surveillance. In particular, the Influenza Incidence Surveillance Project identifies the incidence and patterns of influenza and other sources of acute respiratory infection. The Influenza Hospitalization Surveillance Project describes the temporal trends of laboratory-confirmed influenza hospitalization and identifies high-risk persons for severe influenza illness and complications. In addition, CSTE partners with CDC's Influenza

Division to conduct influenza surveillance reviews and to provide technical assistance worldwide.

- **The HIV Subcommittee** includes an active group of HIV Surveillance Coordinators with many interests and activities surrounding HIV surveillance. This subcommittee works with CDC's HIV Incidence and Case Surveillance Branch and uses its expertise in HIV epidemiology to effectively use epidemiologic HIV data to guide public health practice and to inform public health policy. CSTE supports peer-to-peer technical assistance consultations and other training activities, such as SAS and eHARS training. A surveillance training manual to help new Surveillance Coordinators and their staff will be published in 2012.

- **The National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians (NASPHV)**, a professional organization of over 150 public health veterinarians, was established in 1953. Since the early 1990s, the organization has hosted its annual meeting in conjunction with the CSTE annual conference. The organization works closely with CSTE and several other partner organizations to promote the role of veterinarians in public health and to address zoonotic disease and issues of public health concern. NASPHV periodically updates compendia that provide standardized national recommendations for key zoonotic disease issues, such as animal rabies and veterinary infection control.

