

Chronic Disease

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DPHS) is interested in hosting a CSTE Fellow within the Health Promotion Unit to work with the Chronic Disease Branch. The Branch includes programs addressing diabetes, cardiovascular health, arthritis, comprehensive cancer, obesity, school health, asthma and Alzheimer's Disease. The Fellow will have access to several large data systems, including: BRFSS, birth and death certificate data, hospital discharge data, YRBS, School Physical Activity and Nutrition (SPAN) data, Youth Tobacco Survey and Adult Tobacco Survey. Arrangements can also be made to analyze the Cancer and Birth Defects Registries.

It is expected that the CSTE Fellow will actively participate in responding to a variety of chronic disease data inquiries. Other projects that the selected Fellow may participate in include:

1. Review comprehensive chronic disease burden reports from other states and recommend additions/revisions to the TX report. Coordinate the process to update the TX chronic disease burden report for the next 2 years, and develop fact sheets and Power Point presentations based upon the report.
2. Analyze the Texas SPAN data, develop reports, prepare data for the Web site, develop fact sheets, etc.
3. Determine what data are available that would have the most direct impact on student health and develop an instrument that could either be web-based or easily updated to allow schools to go in and capture data from their region, county, etc.
4. Work with the Chronic Disease Epi team to prepare tables/charts of data and fact sheets for the Web site.
5. Work closely with at least one chronic disease program area to produce disease burden reports, annual and semiannual program progress reports, fact sheets, and other written materials for a wide variety of audiences.
6. Assist with the continuing evaluation of the chronic disease surveillance system and help develop and implement evaluation of special projects within the program areas.

Assignment Location: Austin, Texas

Primary Mentor: Philip Huang, MD, MPH (EIS '90)
Medical Director, Chronic Disease Prevention

Advanced Degrees: M.D., University of Texas, Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, TX (1986)
MPH, Harvard School of Public Health (1990)

Secondary Mentor: Vince Fonseca, MD, MPH
State Epidemiologist, Texas Department of State Health Services

Advanced Degrees: MD, Boston University Medical School (1987)
MPH Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA (1992)