

**Occupational Health Indicator Workgroup call
Friday, February 03, 2012 at 3:00 pm Eastern Time**

Participants: John Myers, Alicia Fletcher, Sybil Wojcio, Adrienne Kari, Carol Braun, Allison Keyser-Metobo, Tom Largo, Jeff shire, Svetla Slavova, Susan Payne, David Bonauto, Naomi Anderson, Jamie Walters, Stephanie Moraga-McHaley, Yvonne Boudreau, Susan Prosperie, David Elenbaas, Kathy Leinenkugel, Juanita Chalmers, Fran Marshall, Matthew Groenewold, Meredith Towle, Erin Simms

Operating Guidelines

The OHI workgroup Operating Guidelines have been finalized and sent to the workgroup.

Action: Erin will post to CSTE website.

Member list

Send out member list with each call announcement and people can let us know of changes at that time in order to keep it current.

Action: Erin will send out after call

To-Do list

This list of action items and tasks was updated at our recent December meeting. In order to keep current, we will periodically send out to have items added to it. Matt and Meredith will keep it updated.

Action: Put a date on the to-do list for timeline purposes (to keep track when updates are made).

Timeline

Sent out prior to call. Purpose of this document is to hold ourselves accountable with an overall goal of shortening or compressing this timeline to reduce the inherent lag in when these indicators are posted. Updates to previous year's data has been added in this timeline (ie – submit missing 2008 data that are now available).

Important notes for indicator leads:

- Send changes to co-chairs in track changes or highlighted. It was suggested that leads should go through the entire process of filling out the indicators to identify if there are any edits needed.
- Update to HP 2020 guidelines through entire document.
- Check background information when updating each year. References should be added or updated.

Request to indicator leads: make it clear in the guide how to access national data that is provided by NIOSH –formerly CSTE (pesticides, OSHA enforcement, professional associations) with a statement like “X will make available national level data to states upon request at X”.

Decided: Timeline was approved by the workgroup

Indicator issues

Sent out prior to call. This document contains calculation and case definition issues for a couple of the indicators. Co chairs will contact people to form workgroups to report on issues at the next conference call.

Action: co-chairs will form workgroups that will address each issue and report back to group. Erin will re-send to workgroup.

Indicator #8 – Dave Bonauto is taking the lead on developing a crosswalk between BLS OIICs and NCCI coding systems for carpal tunnel syndrome specifically. This request was put into our CSTE cooperative agreement. Need volunteers:

- Must have access to workers comp data where coded by NCCI and OIICs systems
- Few conference calls (1/2 hour – 1 hour)
- Analysis
- Then the workgroup would update the indicator document with the correct codes
- Volunteers: WA, OR, NM

Proposed template for new indicators/substantive changes

Meredith put together a potential template and process for proposing new indicators or recommending major changes to OHI methodology. The only thing that is not included in this proposal is who will be responsible for updating the how-to guide (i.e. creating the indicator documents and establishing a member lead). A skeleton of the newly proposed how to guide will be needed when discussing with the group because the group will have to assess whether accessing/analyzing the data is cumbersome and whether data is accessible in most states before approving the indicator.

Action: Think about this proposal along with your PI and suggest changes/edits before the next conference call. This will be a discussion on the next call.

New Indicator Proposal: Influenza vaccination coverage among HCP

Bob discussed this potential new indicator at the December meeting. There are several ways for states to have access to influenza data that will be reported by hospitals.

Action: He will fill out the template form for new indicators and send it prior to the next call for discussion. If the workgroup has any changes to this document, email co chairs.

NIOSH Project scientist Perspective and Questions

Jeff Shire provides technical consultation to state surveillance programs and often interfaces with NIOSH surveillance leadership and wanted to address the workgroup concerning NIOSH's perception of the OHIs and OHI state reports. It's hard for him to understand how the state indicator reports are useful or meaningful especially when directions are given in the indicator document to not compare indicators across states yet they appear on a chart with other states and he also does not understand how untimely the data are when posted. Why is there a 3 or 4 year lag?

Proposed for discussion: Include more information on relevance of indicator and data limitations in how to guide; potentially post some indicators earlier than others as soon as the data becomes available; or create new charts to display data which does not list all of the states together.

Action: Bring this discussion up to OH leadership group. Jeff will participate on next leadership group call.

Announcement

John Myers will move offices to Chief of the Surveillance & Field Investigations Branch within the Division of Safety Research in the next couple of weeks, so his communication with this group may lessen over this transition period. He will assign someone else to provide input into the indicators for this group.

Next conference call...