The purpose of this newsletter is to share bimonthly updates on activities across CSTE programs, our members, and our partners focused on substance use and injury surveillance and epidemiology. Features include highlights of CSTE Subcommittee activities and member accomplishments related to substance use and injury topics. If you have suggestions for content or updates to include, please submit them to Mia Israel at misrael@cste.org. To access the Substance Use & Injury Connection archives, visit https://www.cste.org/page/substanceuseinjury.

Table of Contents

- CSTE Updates
- Get Involved
- Member Spotlight
- Partner Announcements
- Resources

CSTE Updates

This section includes updates and opportunities relevant to substance use and injury epidemiology across CSTE programs.

CSTE Consultant Opportunity

CSTE is seeking a consultant to support the development and analysis of a Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) Informatics Capacity Assessment. Access the RFP here. Please feel free to share this posting with colleagues and/or organizations that may be interested. Proposals are due by
Visit the 2019 CSTE Annual Conference Website!

Visit [www.csteconference.org](http://www.csteconference.org) for up to date information regarding 2019 Annual Conference in Raleigh, NC. Currently you will find a schedule of dates to remember.

### 2019 CSTE Annual Conference Sponsored Travel Request Form

CSTE is able to offer travel funding to support a limited number of travelers to attend the available workshops and the 2019 CSTE Annual Conference. Travel funds may include airfare, conference registration, hotel accommodations, and per diem in accordance with Raleigh rates and the 2019 CSTE Annual Conference Travel Guidelines. Further details will be determined once all requests for funding have been submitted. Attendance to your selected conference workshop will be required for sponsored travelers.

To apply for this travel funding, please complete the form [here](http://www.csteconference.org) no later than **January 11, 2019**.

### CSTE Opioid Response: Technical Assistance Update

CSTE is collaborating with the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention to provide technical assistance to states conducting jurisdiction-level vulnerability assessments for risk of opioid overdose, HIV, and viral hepatitis. Technical assistance will include a webinar series with breakout discussions, guidance documents, and a brief needs assessment to inform additional resource development.

On **Tuesday, January 22, 2019 from 1-2 pm ET**, CSTE will host the second technical assistance webinar which will include presentations on the statistical methods from the national vulnerability assessment as well as CDC’s Social Vulnerability Index. Please email Cailyn for more information at clingwall@cste.org.

### Open Positions: Epidemiologist Recruitment for West Virginia and Delaware

As part of our Opioid Crisis Cooperative Agreement, CSTE is recruiting and placing epidemiologists to conduct opioid related vulnerability assessments in both West Virginia and Delaware. Contact Cailyn Lingwall at clingwall@cste.org with questions.

Visit the following links for more information or to apply:

- **West Virginia**: [https://jobs.cste.org/job/epidemiologist-ii/45402455/](https://jobs.cste.org/job/epidemiologist-ii/45402455/)
- **Delaware**: [https://jobs.cste.org/job/epidemiologist-hcv-surveillance-coordinator/45402467/](https://jobs.cste.org/job/epidemiologist-hcv-surveillance-coordinator/45402467/)
The following groups may be of interest to our CSTE Substance Use and Injury members with ongoing activities related to substance use and injury topics. To join one of the CSTE Subcommittees, make sure you are logged into your CSTE member account, click the link to the Subcommittee page, and click “Join Group” under the group name. To join one of the workgroups, contact CSTE staff to be added to the email list and receive meeting information.

CSTE Subcommittee Highlight
The CSTE Overdose Subcommittee was formed to raise the visibility of drug overdose deaths among CSTE members and other stakeholders. The group focuses on surveillance improvements for data on fatal and nonfatal drug overdoses. The subcommittee has worked on numerous projects over the past three years and is currently focused on wrapping up a multi-state methamphetamines assessment and beginning a new project using State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System (SUDORS) data. The Overdose Subcommittee serves as a platform for epidemiologists to collaborate, discuss, and develop capacity for applying surveillance principles to understanding the existing and emerging trends around drug overdoses. Please join us for our next subcommittee call, January 10 at 1 pm, ET. Contact Valerie Goodson at vgoodson@cste.org for more information.

The following CSTE Subcommittees and Workgroups have ongoing projects and/or discussion topics related to substance use and injury:

- **Alcohol Epidemiology**
  - Call Schedule: 1st Thursday of the month at 1:00pm ET
- **Health Disparities**
  - Call Schedule: 4th Thursday of every other month at 2:00pm ET
- **Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance**
  - Call schedule pending
  - **ICD-10-CM Drug Poisoning Indicators Workgroup**
    - Call schedule: 1st Thursday of the month at 1:00pm ET
    - CSTE Contact: Mia Israel, misrael@cste.org
  - **Injury ICD-10-CM Transition Workgroup**
    - Call schedule: 1st Wednesday and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2:00pm ET
    - CSTE Contact: Mia Israel, misrael@cste.org
  - **Technical Assistance for Drug Overdose Surveillance Workgroup**
    - Calls scheduled as needed
    - CSTE Contact: Danielle Boyd, dboyd@cste.org
- **Marijuana**
  - Call Schedule: 4th Thursday of every other month at 1:00pm ET
- **Maternal and Child Health**
- No call schedule
- **Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) Workgroup**
  - Call schedule: 3rd Tuesday of every other month at 2:00 pm ET
  - CSTE Contact: Nikka Sorrells, nsorrells@cste.org

- **Mental Health**
  - Call Schedule: 1st Thursday of the month at 3:00 pm ET

- **Occupational Health Surveillance**
  - Calls scheduled as needed

- **Healthy Aging Workgroup**
  - Calls scheduled as needed
  - CSTE Contact: Song Xue, sxue@cste.org

- **Overdose**
  - Call Schedule: 2nd Thursday of the month at 1:00pm ET

- **Prescription Drug Monitoring Program**
  - Call Schedule: 4th Thursday of every other month at 1:00pm ET

- **Substance Use & Mental Health**
  - Calls scheduled quarterly

- **Substance Use and Mental Health Indicators**
  - Call Schedule: 3rd Monday of the month at 1:00pm ET

- **Tribal Epidemiology**
  - Calls scheduled quarterly
  - **Tribal Suicide Workgroup**
    - Calls scheduled as needed
    - CSTE Contact: Jessica Arrazola, jarrazola@cste.org

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**Member Spotlight**

This section highlights CSTE member projects and accomplishments in the areas of substance use and injury epidemiology, allowing readers to learn more about their colleagues in the field. Contact Mia Israel at misrae@cste.org with questions or to nominate yourself or others to be featured.

We are currently seeking member accomplishments to highlight in this section. Please send any and all nominations!
This section includes announcements relevant to our substance use and injury members from CSTE partners. Contact Mia Israel at misrael@cste.org if you would like to submit an announcement.

Poison Center Public Health Community of Practice Webinar Now Available

- The Indiana State Department of Health recently hosted a Poison Center Public Health Community of Practice webinar titled “Using Drug Overdose Syndromic Surveillance Data to Impact Local Public Health Action,” presented by CSTE members Mandy Billman, MPH and Kayley Dotson, MPH. You can access the webinar recording here.

CDC WISQARS Data Visualization: Compare Injury Data

- WISQARS Data Visualization displays fatal injury data in an interactive, visual format. You can explore injury death data from 2001 to 2016. Now WISQARS Data Visualization provides new capabilities for comparing injury data:
  - Compare different causes of death to understand their prevalence and rates.
  - Compare injury-related death statistics across states.
  - Compare injury data visually: Share insights and communicate findings in charts, graphs, and maps.

- Learn more at CDC: WISQARS

AJPH Podcast “Pain Management: A Crisis with No End in Sight”

- The dramatic epidemic of opioid addiction and death by overdose has obscured the fact that millions of people suffer from pain, need to be treated, but are denied access to care. The two problems of pain management and opioid addiction are intricate, and the situation has grown out of control. There is little or no evidence to support an alternative approach, and the possible solutions are years away from being implemented. American Journal of Public Health interviewees include Richard Bonnie, Mark Rothstein, Mark Schumacher, and Daniel Carr. Click here to listen.
2. "Development of Indicators for Public Health Surveillance of Substance Use and Mental Health" available online at Public Health Reports: http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0033354918784913