



Substance Use & Injury Connection

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.

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CSTE Updates



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

Reminder: RFP for STLT Based Projects to Assess Emerging Surveillance Issues in Substance Use and Mental Health is still open!

- CSTE is seeking novel surveillance projects to assess, understand, pilot and evaluate emerging and novel ways of tracking substance use and mental health conditions and improving surveillance and epidemiology practices related to emerging issues and challenges within state, local, tribal, and territorial (STLT) jurisdictions. This RFP will provide support (up to \$50,000 per request) for jurisdictions to pilot projects related to

capacity building in responding to public health issues related to substance use, mental health and behavioral health.

- You can view or download the open request for proposal here: [State, Territorial, Local and Tribal Based Projects to Assess Emerging Surveillance Issues in Substance Use and Mental Health, 2 Opportunities: New and Continuation Projects](#)
- Applications may be emailed or physically mailed to Nikka Sorrells (nsorrells@cste.org) at the CSTE National Office by 11:59 ET on **Friday, September 14th**.

Ongoing Technical Assistance for Drug Poisoning Consultant Opportunity

- CSTE recently sent a small group of consultants to help a state jurisdiction manage their incredible workload and catch up on entering cases into SUDORS. The session was very successful, and we know similar opportunities will be available in the future. We are still seeking to add people to our list of possible consultants. Consultants should have experience with public health surveillance systems and be willing to participate in on-site support for overdose surveillance teams located at state health departments throughout the country. These positions would be individual, short-term consultancies, where the consultant will travel to a health department and help staff with targeted projects. Interested consultants can apply and submit their resumes via [this online form](#).

NAS Environmental Scan

- The CSTE Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) Workgroup just launched the CSTE NAS Definition Environmental Scan to gather information to be used to develop a standardized NAS case definition. CSTE is seeking input from all states and welcomes input from local jurisdictions as well. Complete the assessment [here](#). For more information, see the “CSTE Subcommittee Highlight” in the next section, or contact Nikka Sorrells at nsorrells@cste.org.

Get Involved



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.



CSTE Subcommittee Highlight

Recently, the CSTE Maternal and Child Health and Substance Use and Mental Health Subcommittees worked together to develop the CSTE Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) Workgroup. The purpose of the CSTE NAS Workgroup is to formalize the development of a standard case definition for NAS. The Workgroup will be sending out the CSTE NAS Definition Environmental Scan to all CSTE Maternal and Child Health and Chronic Disease points of contact and State Epidemiologists. The purpose of the scan is to learn more about how NAS surveillance rates across jurisdictions are determined and to use this information to engage public health partners in standardizing the way in which NAS is defined. The assessment will collect information about key contacts at state and local levels, case definitions, operationalization of those definitions, and data sources used to develop a definition of NAS using specific data sources. The findings of this Environmental Scan will inform the development of an NAS standardized surveillance case definition through a position statement to be vetted by CSTE membership at the June 2019 [CSTE Annual Conference](#).

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 (*next call 10/25/18*)
- [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 the 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 (*next call 11/13/18 at 2:00pm ET*)
- **Substance Use and Mental Health Indicators**
 - Call Schedule: 3rd Monday of the month at 1:00pm ET
- [Tribal Epidemiology](#)
 - Calls scheduled quarterly (*next call 10/11/18 at 2:00pm ET*)
 - **Tribal Suicide Workgroup**
 - Calls scheduled as needed
 - CSTE Contact: Jessica Arrazola, jarrazola@cste.org

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 misrael@cste.org with questions or to nominate yourself or others to be featured.

Every year at the CSTE Annual Conference the “Robert Wood Johnson Foundation National Award for Outstanding Epidemiology Practice in Addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities” is awarded to one conference presenter.



The 2018 winner is an epidemiologist with a focus on substance use and behavioral health at the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH): **Tamara Rushovich**, for her Lightning Presentation entitled “*Opioid Overdose Deaths in Chicago: An Investigation into the Role of Race, Place, and Economic Hardship*”.

The presentation elucidates the unique characteristics of the opioid epidemic in Chicago by examining the race-ethnicity, socioeconomic conditions and residence location of the decedent. This descriptive study reviewed medical examiner records for all individuals who experienced a fatal opioid related overdose in Chicago in 2016. The differences in demographic groups experiencing high rates of opioid related overdose deaths in Chicago compared to the US supports the need for use of local data when determining policy directions and response efforts. In addition, highlighting the severe impacts that opioids have had on high economic hardship communities and on the African American community in Chicago can better inform public perception and support the inclusion of this community in prevention and treatment efforts. You can read the full abstract and view the recording of Tamara’s presentation [here](#).

Partner Announcements



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.

- CDC recently released the [first-ever multi-state analysis of trends in opioid use disorder \(OUD\) in labor and delivery](#). These data indicate the number of pregnant women with OUD at labor and delivery more than quadrupled from 1999 through 2014, with significant increases in each of the 28 states with available data. OUD during pregnancy has been associated with a range of negative health outcomes for both mothers and their

babies including maternal death, preterm birth, stillbirth, and neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS).

- The FY 2019 release of ICD-10-CM is now available in both PDF (Adobe) and XML file formats. Most files are provided in compressed ZIP format for ease in downloading. These files have been created by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). You can access the files at <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd/icd10cm.htm>.
- CDC and ASTHO co-hosted an [Ask the Experts webinar series](#) featuring panelists working on improving health in communities. In one installment, *Integrating Mental and Public Health*, panelists discussed how public health professionals can integrate mental health services in their work: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XzU_wd-THE&feature=youtu.be
- NIOSH Director John Howard, MD, explains the NIOSH response to the opioid crisis and details how the crisis is affecting workers. Read more at <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/enews/enewsV16N4.html#director> or visit the NIOSH opioid web page at <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/opioids/default.html>.

Resources



1. “The Effect of Incomplete Death Certificates on Estimates of Unintentional Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths in the United States, 1999-2015” available online at *Public Health Reports*: <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0033354918774330>
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>
3. “ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting FY 2019 (October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019)” available online from CDC and NCHS: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd/data/10cmguidelines-FY2019-final.pdf>
4. “Fact Sheet: Overdose Reporting Requirements” available from The Network for Public Health Law: https://www.networkforphl.org/resources_collection/2017/12/06/896/fact_sheet_overdose_reporting_requirements?blm_aid=263195
5. “Proposed Framework for Presenting Injury Data Using the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD–10–CM) Diagnosis Codes” available online from NCHS: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26828779>

6. "The Transition from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM: Guidance for Analysis and Reporting of Injuries by Mechanism and Intent (ISW9), 2016" available online from Safe States Alliance: <https://www.safestates.org/general/custom.asp?page=ISWReports>
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