



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. To access the Substance Use & Injury Connection archives, visit <https://www.cste.org/page/substanceuseinjury>.

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CSTE Updates



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

CSTE [Nonfatal Opioid Overdose and NAS Position Statement Discussion](#) Webinar Scheduled for May 7 from 3:30-4:30pm EDT

(CSTE Members Only Access)

CSTE has scheduled three position statement discussion webinars before the formal discussions that will take place in Steering Committee voting sessions at the 2019 CSTE Annual Conference. The purpose of these webinars is to allow more time for members and position statement authors to

interact and engage in discussions of submitted position statements.

During each webinar, position statements will have a designated discussion time. During this time frame, the authors will provide a brief summary of the position statement and then CSTE members will be invited to provide feedback and discuss the position statement (up to 20 minutes per Position Statement). At the end of each webinar, participants will be encouraged to send additional feedback to the primary author. Member discussions will continue at the Annual Conference at informal roundtable sessions as well as during the formal Steering Committee voting sessions. [Click here](#) to view webinar agendas and access the webinar details (members only).

Upcoming CSTE Assessment: Non-Communicable Disease Informatics Capacity Assessment

This month, CSTE will launch the Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) Informatics Capacity Assessment. In recent years, state health departments have struggled to tap into broader, diverse data to measure and manage non-communicable public health needs and evaluate health outcomes for chronic disease, injury, and beyond. The goals of this assessment are to:

- Identify current health department capacity and needs for state-level non-communicable disease epidemiologists in areas including informatics, using and applying clinical and non-traditional health data, and using novel analytic methods toward diversifying public health's surveillance portfolio.
- Determine critical enablers and barriers among the non-communicable disease epidemiology workforce in order to strengthen non-communicable disease surveillance, management, and program evaluation capacity in state health departments.

This assessment has been sent to State Epidemiologists with request for input from applied epidemiologists in the NCD program areas of Chronic Disease, Environmental Health, Injury, and Maternal and Child Health. For more information, please contact Mia Israel at misrael@cste.org.

2019 CSTE Annual Conference Registration

Visit www.csteconference.org to register for the 2019 CSTE Annual Conference in Raleigh, NC. You can also find a preliminary agenda, schedule of important dates to remember, and additional information. CSTE has applied with CDC to provide Continuing Education (CE). Details on how to register and claim CE will be released in May pending activity approval.

CSTE STLT Substance Use and Mental Health Novel Surveillance Pilot Webinar Series

CSTE is pleased to announce the STLT Substance Use and Mental Health Novel Surveillance Pilot Webinar Series. Over the last three years, CSTE has funded over 20 novel surveillance projects

with the goal of improving surveillance for substance use and mental health in their jurisdictions. Registration is required for all webinars.

- February 13, 2019 at 3 pm, ET
 - Access the recording from this webinar [here](#).
- March 13, 2019 at 3 pm, ET
 - Access the recording from this webinar [here](#).
- April 10, 2019 at 3 pm, ET
 - Access the recording from this webinar [here](#).
- May 15, 2019 at 3 pm, ET
 - To register for this webinar, click [here](#).

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 peer discussion groups, webinars, guidance documents, as well as one-on-one phone consultations for mapping/mapping software as well as statistical methods/statistical software needs. Contact Cailyn Lingwall for more information at clingwall@cste.org.

CSTE Drug Overdose Surveillance Regional Workshop Series Update

CSTE Drug Overdose Surveillance Regional Workshop Series will hold its fourth regional workshop in Portland, Oregon on May 23-24. Beginning in January 2019, this series has served 26 state jurisdictions and their partners, nearly 90 participants. These teams have been guided through two days of dynamic exercises to understand drug overdose surveillance data and how to better engage stakeholders. Please contact Danielle Boyd (dboyd@cste.org) if you have any questions about attending the May workshop.

CSTE PMP Subcommittee March Call Presentations

On March 26, the CSTE Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PMP) subcommittee call featured presentations from three jurisdictions that are integrating PMP data with public health initiatives including provider notifications and integration into SUDORS cases. The presentation recordings can be found below.

- Presentation 1: [New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Presenter: Kendall Lasane](#)
- Presentation 2: [Tennessee Department of Health, Presenter: Sarah Nechuta](#)
- Presentation 3: [Georgia Department of Health, Presenter: Laura Edison and team](#)

CSTE Mental Health Subcommittee March Call Presentation

On March 6, the CSTE Mental Health subcommittee call featured a presentation by Sarah Brummett, Director, Office of Suicide Prevention, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). The Office sets statewide priorities and works with state agencies and community organizations to develop and implement effective strategies. Before joining CDPHE, Ms. Brummett practiced family and appellate law in both Colorado Springs and the Denver Metro area. Presentation recordings can be accessed [here](#).

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. 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 Substance Use and Mental Health \(SUMH\) Indicators Subcommittee](#) supports CSTE's efforts to promote state and local epidemiologic capacity for SUMH surveillance and to establish guidelines for the selection and use of related surveillance indicators. Formerly the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Hospitalization Indicator Subcommittee, the group expanded focus in 2018 and updated the name. The SUMH Indicator Subcommittee is now the home for the [Recommended CSTE Surveillance Indicators for Substance Abuse and Mental Health](#) and leads the dissemination, creation of tools and guidance, and regular review and updates for the indicators.

Learn more about the indicators here: <https://www.cste.org/members/group.aspx?id=87611>
CSTE is currently working with 11 state public health agencies to collect and report one year of data for the 18 CSTE Recommended Indicators for Substance Abuse and Mental Health, version 3 to be available at the CSTE website later in 2019. The participating states are also testing detailed instructions for the indicators that was developed by the SUMH Indicator Subcommittee. The purpose of this project is to generate multi-state data for each indicator, to improve the recommendations and guidelines for the indicators, and to disseminate the results on a publicly available resource.

The SUMH Indicator Subcommittee is currently seeking a co-chair to assist with the leadership and support of this work. Contact Megan Toe at mtoe@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

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.



Nadia Bekka is an epidemiologist at the Office of Injury Prevention (OIP) at the Texas Department of State Health Services in Austin, Texas. She earned a bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Sciences and Technology of Algiers, and a master's in Health Education from the University of Texas at Austin. Before working with OIP, Nadia worked in communicable diseases at a nonprofit organization and later at the Texas Department of State Health Services at the TB/HIV/STD Epidemiology Surveillance Branch and at The Emerging and Acute Infectious Disease Branch. Currently she is responsible for data requests for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Trauma Registries, data clean-up, presentations, and annual reports. She has been a member of the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologist (CSTE) since 2016. In 2016, she volunteered and was sponsored by CSTE and the Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention (CDC) to assist in Ebola Surveillance in West Africa. She has since volunteered for CSTE projects including reviewing Annual Conference abstracts, participating in the CSTE Mentorship Program, and the development of the CSTE ICD-10-CM Injury Surveillance Toolkit.

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.

ISDS Upcoming Subcommittee Call on Friday, May 17 at 1:00pm ET

The International Society for Disease Surveillance (ISDS) Overdose Surveillance Committee (ODSC) Meeting occurs every two months, **on the first Friday of the month, from 1 - 2 pm ET** (dates subject to change). Join the call to learn about various programs and initiatives focused on overdose surveillance. Listen in to also learn about various workgroup projects to you may wish to participate in. Be sure to join the ODSC on the ISDS website to receive regular updates from the group, including news about new resources and discussions of interest. [Register here.](#)

New CDC Widget to Help States Select Strategies to Reduce Injuries from Motor Vehicle Crashes

Every day, more than 100 people die in motor vehicle crashes and thousands more are injured. The economic impact is notable: in 2015, the cost of medical care and productivity losses associated with occupant injuries and deaths from motor vehicle traffic crashes exceeded \$63 billion. More can be done to prevent crashes and reduce injuries. State-level changes are especially effective. CDC is releasing a [widget](#) in support of the [Motor Vehicle Prioritizing Interventions and Cost Calculator for States \(MV PICCS 3.0\)](#), a free interactive calculator that helps states and state decision makers prioritize and select from 14 effective motor vehicle injury prevention strategies. The MV PICCS widget provides each state with: a summary of which of 14 evidence-based interventions are currently being used as well as the ones that could be implemented, an overview of the potential benefits of strategies not currently being implemented, and additional information on each strategy.

HRSA Funding Opportunity: Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Initiative

The Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) will be releasing a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for a new Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) initiative called RCORP-Medication-Assisted Treatment Expansion (HRSA-19-102). HRSA plans to invest approximately \$8 million in rural communities as part of this funding opportunity. The funding opportunity can be found [here](#).

New Blog Post from the Network for Public Health Law: “A Confusing Path Forward for Federal Regulation of Cannabidiol Products”

The FDA's recent announcement regarding next steps in addressing the regulation of cannabidiol (CBD) products has caused a lot of confusion, especially as dietary supplements and foods containing CBD, a chemical derived from the marijuana plant or industrial hemp, are currently being sold over-the-counter throughout the United States. The legality of this practice is in question because of CBD's association with marijuana and recent changes in the 2018 Farm Bill which removed industrial hemp from the Controlled Substances Act. Network attorneys have received

numerous inquiries about the regulatory changes and are closely monitoring new developments. Read the full post [here](#).

New Article in *Indian Country Today*: “Opioid Use Creates ‘Public Health Emergency’ for Pregnant Native Women”

A recent article from *Indian Country Today* highlights the Indian Health Service's work with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists to develop an opioid treatment program for those most at risk for dying of opioid overdose: American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) women, who already face special barriers and challenges. This treatment specifically targets AI/AN women who are pregnant or of childbearing age. Integrating culture and tradition, as well as trauma-informed approaches, is key. Read the full article [here](#).

Save the Date: 13th National Harm Reduction Conference

[Harm Reduction Coalition](#) is a national advocacy and capacity-building organization that promotes the health and dignity of individuals and communities impacted by drug use. Our efforts advance harm reduction policies, practices and programs that address the adverse effects of drug use including overdose, HIV, hepatitis C, addiction, and incarceration. Recognizing that social inequality and injustice magnify drug-related harm and limit the voice of our most vulnerable communities, we work to uphold every individual's right to health and well-being and their competence to participate in the public policy dialogue. Join us in San Juan, Puerto Rico for the 13th National Harm Reduction Conference: October 17 - 20, 2020.

Resources



This section contains resources that might be valuable to substance use and injury epidemiologists.

1. “CSTE Recommended Surveillance Indicators for Substance Abuse and Mental Health, Version 3” available for download at https://www.cste.org/resource/resmgr/crosscutting/CSTE_Substance_Abuse_and_Men.pdf
2. “Evaluation of a Mobile Device Survey System for Behavioral Risk Factors (SHAPE): App Development and Usability Study,” Oakley-Girvan et al., available at https://formative.jmir.org/2019/1/e10246/?utm_source=TrendMD&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=JMIR_Formative_Research_TrendMD_0

3. "Smart(phone) Approaches to Mobile App Data Collection," Miller et al., available at <https://www.surveypractice.org/article/4943-smart-phone-approaches-to-mobile-app-data-collection>.
4. "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>
5. "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>
6. "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>
7. "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
8. "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>
9. "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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