

Sentinel Centers Network

FEBRUARY 2006 NEWS

This is an update to the Sentinel Centers and their stakeholders from the Network staff at Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI). We will be sending out these newsletters monthly to keep all participants and stakeholders informed of the status of data collection, analysis, reporting and other project activities.

Network staff have enjoyed communicating with many of you about your Centers! We are most impressed with the work you do to provide healthcare to the underserved of this country. We are honored to be entrusted with the data and the responsibility to quantify and demonstrate your work.

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◇ **As of February 2006, we have received data from 23 Sentinel Centers!**

Thank you to all Centers that have already submitted data! Currently, we have a 60% submission rate. Other Centers should submit data by **March 10th** to enable timely analysis and reporting. If you have questions or need assistance with your data submission, please contact Josh Adams at jadams@mphi.org or (517) 324-7325.

◇ **Office of Management and Budget Clearance**

HRSA's OMB has approved the SCN data set without change through February 28, 2009.

◇ **Data submission process**

To keep Centers informed of the status of their data, Network staff have developed the following process:

- Data files are received from a Center.
- A network staff member sends a courtesy email acknowledging data receipt.
- Within one week, a data analyst examines the data for problems and appropriate documentation, and contacts the Center for clarification.
- Once data files are complete, data are managed and analyzed to ascertain completeness and quality of specific fields.
- Each Center will then receive a summary of data completeness and quality.
- Each Center will receive a summary of analyzed data.

◇ **Immediate Objectives of the Network**

- Collect data from all participating sites.
- Analyze and disseminate data received to date.
- Refine the data submission process to be more automated and user friendly.

◇ **We need your participation!**

It is very important that the Sentinel Centers understand and assist in the process and goals of the SCN. Therefore, Network staff are making plans to facilitate feedback and involvement of the Sentinel Centers. Specifically, watch for the unveiling of the new and improved SCN website. On the website, we intend to recognize all participating Centers, provide regular updates on data status, and provide a forum for Center interaction as well as contact information for Network staff at MPHI. Similarly, as we prepare to disseminate the results of this recent round of data collection, we will be soliciting feedback from the Centers on past reports and potential future enhancements.

◇ **Share your news and/or send us suggestions!**

Our goal is to utilize this newsletter to share information about the SCN and the participating Centers on a monthly basis. We want everyone involved with the SCN to provide thoughts on content and feedback on our newsletter. So, if you would like to share news related to your center or if you have suggestions on topics, news, and features for the newsletter, please send the information to SCN@mphi.org and we will include it in the monthly newsletter.

We also want to expand our contact list so updates can be sent to a broad range of individuals at participating Centers. Please complete the attached contact list and return it to us at SCN@mphi.org.

→ Please contact us at SCN@mphi.org with feedback, questions, or to become more involved! ←