Attachment I – Powerpoint slides for focus group

Data Linkage Focus Group

Date/Time

Introductions

- Please let us know
  - Your name
  - Job title
  - Duties in relation to CODES/linkage
  - Organization
- Please give your assent to be recorded

Agenda for Focus Group

- Share objectives
- Establish ground rules
- Actual question and answer session

Length of focus group – Two hours maximum

Objectives

- To gain a better understanding of the characteristics of successful linkage and analysis programs in your state.
- To identify barriers and facilitators of current linkage and analysis programs in your state.
- To learn more about the sustainability of linkage and analysis programs for the future.

Base Ground Rules

- The focus group session will run for two hours and no longer.
- There are six areas that will need to be covered. We will have a separate person serve as time keeper for the session to help us stay on task.
- No answer is a bad answer.
- All participants will be asked to give some information. We will go around the room encouraging everyone to respond to each question in some manner.
- All information and ideas will be recorded.

- Any additional ground rules?

Table of Agency Roles N=25

	State Department of Public Health (n)	*Transportation-related state agency (n)	**Other (n)
The coordination of your overall linkage/CODES project?	48% (12)	4% (1)	48% (12)
Your primary linkage/CODES project linkage?	60% (15)	4% (1)	36% (9)
Your primary linkage/CODES project data analysis?	56% (14)	4% (1)	40% (10)

*Transportation – related state agency: Includes state DOT, Office of Traffic Safety, Highway Safety Office, Traffic Safety Bureau, Dept. of Public Safety = 16% (4)

****Other includes the following responses, not divided by coordination, linkage, analysis:**
Includes a University or center associated with a University or other research type of entity= 28% (7)
Includes a project housed jointly between a DOT and DOH and a project in a state statistics office 4% (1)

Organizations on Board of Directors N=21

Organization	% states reporting organization as a member (n)
State Department of Public Health	95% (20)
State Highway Safety Office	86% (18)
State Department of Transportation/Highways	85% (17)
State Department of Motor Vehicles	71% (15)
State Police	71% (15)
State Deparment of Public Safety	52% (11)
University	48% (10)
State level hospital association	33% (7)
State trauma board	29% (6)

* Others indicated include: AAA, Coalition for Utah Traffic Safety, Health Data Clearinghouse, Safe Kids, Vital Records

Funding Sources N=22

Agency	Percent of states funded by agency (n)
NHTSA	82% (18)
State Highway Safety Office	50% (11)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	27% (6)
State Department of Public Health	18% (4)
State Department of Transportation/Highways	9% (2)
*Other	9% (2)

*Other included: In-kind, other state agencies

Interactions with other Agencies

Agency	Interact N=25		Provide data N=24		Data requests N=23	
	Freq	Occ	Freq	Occ	Freq	Occ
Traffic Records Coordinating Committee	84%	16%	21%	42%	17%	30%
Department of Public Health-Injury Surveillance	60%	32%	17%	46%	18%	45%
Strategic Highway Safety Plan	48%	28%	17%	21%	18%	26%
State Core Violence and Injury Prevention Program	48%	16%	17%	17%	17%	5%
NHTSA Regional Office	15%	36%	9%	13%	0%	13%

*other specified interactions occur with other state agencies not listed, legislatures, and media

Frequency of using linked data by purpose

Purpose	Use data N=22		
	Ongoing basis/ several times a year	Occasionally	Rarely/ Never
To identify traffic safety problems	55% (12)	32% (7)	14% (3)
To support traffic safety decision makers	36% (8)	41% (9)	23% (5)
To educate the public	41% (9)	36% (8)	23% (5)
For use in legislative decision making	36% (8)	41% (9)	23% (5)

State's capability in software

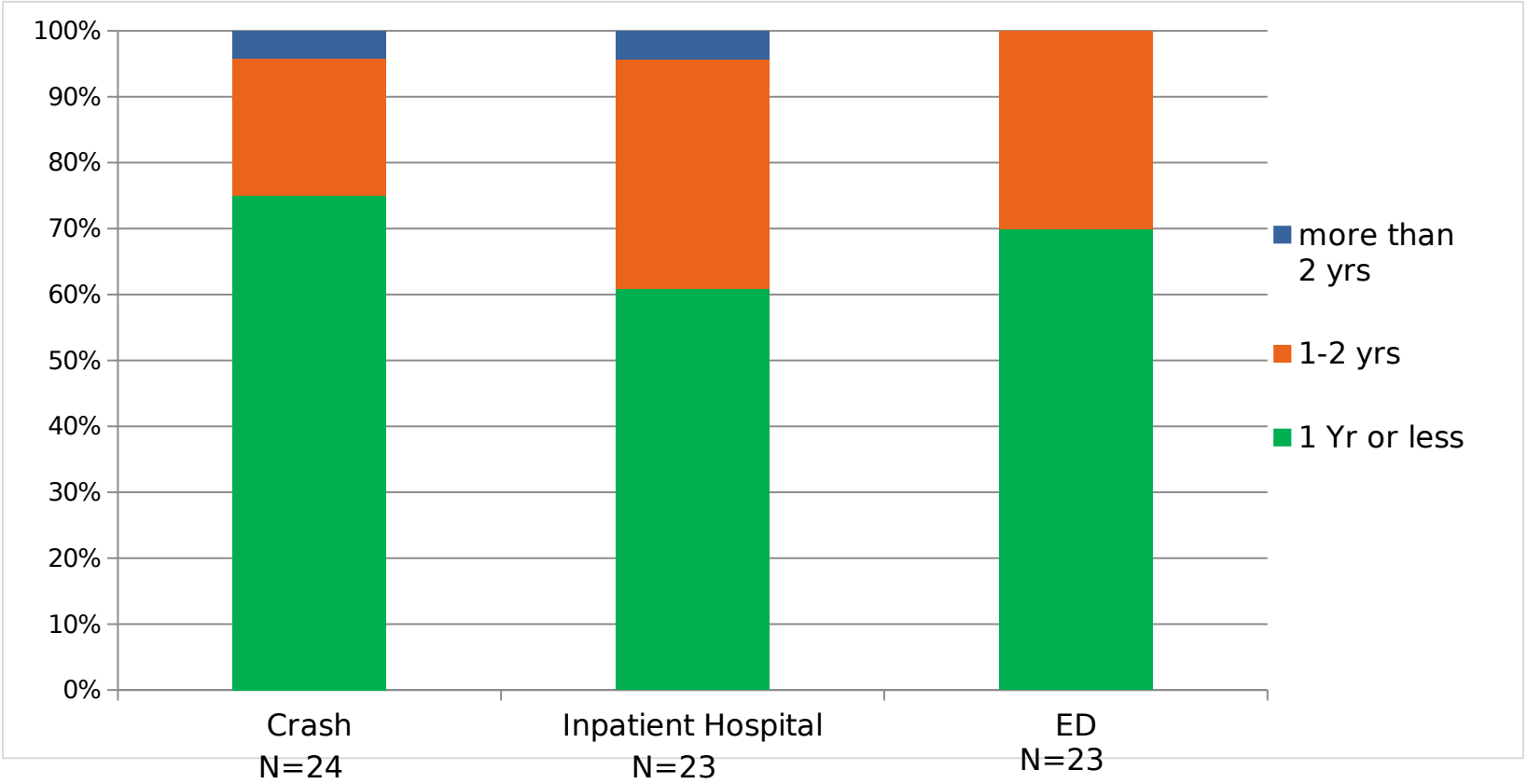
Software	Proficiency in linking			Proficiency analysis		
	Expert	Int	Beg	Exp	Int	Beg
Linksolv	28%	22%	17%	8%	15%	15%
CODES2000	32%	36%	5%	13%	20%	13%
IVEWARE	5%	24%	19%	14%	29%	14%
SAS/ACCESS	64%	23%	0%	74%	26%	0%
EXCEL	44%	23%	0%	22%	0%	0%

*Those who don't use these software indicated: ArcGIS, LinkPro, STATA, LinkPlus, Statistical software program R

Areas in which state received technical assistance or training

Area		Percent
Data Preparation	Understanding the structure and content of crash data (n=22)	59% (13)
	Creating clean useable datasets for analysis: using linkage results (n=21)	57% (12)
Linkage	Linkage using CODES2000 (n=22)	77% (17)
	Linkage using Linksolv (n=20)	50% (10)
	Linkage using other linkage software (n=17)	18% (3)
Analysis	Missing data imputation (n=22)	77% (17)
	Analyzing linked, imputed data (n=21)	71% (15)

Lag times for receiving data



Challenges in linking data

- Data problems
  - quality
  - lack of identifier
  - prepping source data
- Linkage software
  - buggy
  - hard to learn
  - lack of timely technical assistance
- Staffing
  - hard to obtain
  - turnover
- Funding issues
- Computer capabilities
  - speed
  - memory, etc.
- Competing priorities

Challenges in analyzing data

- Data limitations
  - lacking variables of interest
  - converting linked data to analytical database
  - lack of data dictionary
  - data quality
- Staffing
  - not enough time
  - high turnover
  - need high level staff
- Funding issues
- Statistical knowledge lacking
- Lack understanding of databases
- Training others to understand analysis
- Competing priorities