The Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE), through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), cultivates, facilitates, and maintains the online National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP) Community of Practice.

CSTE is seeking input on how well the NSSP Community of Practice is meeting the needs of its members. As a valuable member of the community, CSTE invites you to participate in this member satisfaction and needs assessment. Your feedback is important to us and will be used to make improvements and plan future activities for the Community of Practice.

Completing the assessment is voluntary and takes approximately 15 minutes. Please complete the assessment in a single session as you will not be able to save it and return to it later.

Results of the assessment will be aggregated and shared with CDC and the NSSP Community of Practice membership via a final report, webinar, and/or publication. CDC and CSTE will not publish or share any identifying information about individual respondents or health departments/agencies.

If you have questions regarding the assessment or the NSSP Community of Practice, please contact Hayleigh McCall at [hmccall@cste.org](mailto:hmccall@cste.org) or (770) 458-3811.

Thank you for your participation.

Hayleigh McCall, MPH

Program Analyst III

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Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

*“Using the power of epidemiology to improve the public’s health”*  
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2635 Century Parkway NE, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30345  
Tel: 770.458.3811 | Fax: 770.458.8516

1. Which best describes the type of public health agency or department in which you work?

* State
* Local
* Federal

1. Which of the following best describes your role in relation to syndromic surveillance? *Select all that apply.*

* BioSense Platform Site Administrator
* Data Analyst
* Environmental Health specialist
* Emergency Preparedness and Response specialist
* Epidemiologist
* Health Communicator
* HL7 Data Analyst
* IT/Informatics specialist
* Physician/Medical Officer
* Policy Analyst
* Program Evaluator
* Program Manager/Coordinator
* Project Officer
* Statistician
* Web manager/developer
* Other, specify: [open-ended text field]

1. Overall, how long have you been working in syndromic surveillance (even if it’s only part of your role)?

* 1 year or less
* 2-5 years
* 6-10 years
* More than 10 years

1. Do you regularly attend (at least once every 3 months) the monthly NSSP Community of Practice call/webinar on the third Tuesday of each month from 3pm-4:30pm Eastern Time?

* Yes
* No [selecting ‘No’ displays Question 6]

1. How satisfied are you with the following aspects of the monthly NSSP Community of Practice call/webinar?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Satisfied** | **Somewhat satisfied** | **Somewhat dissatisfied** | **Dissatisfied** |
| The video conferencing tool (WebEx) |  |  |  |  |
| The NSSP updates provided by CDC NSSP staff |  |  |  |  |
| The variety of syndromic surveillance presentations |  |  |  |  |
| The length of the call/webinar (90 mins.) |  |  |  |  |
| The amount of time allotted for Q&A |  |  |  |  |
| The ability to view the call/webinar slides and recording on the Knowledge Repository following the meeting |  |  |  |  |
| Please explain why you selected being “somewhat dissatisfied” or “dissatisfied” with any of the above aspects of the monthly NSSP Community of Practice call/webinar. [open-ended text field] [displays only if ‘Somewhat dissatisfied’ OR ‘Dissatisfied’ selected at least once (1) within Question 5] | | | | |

1. If no, please explain why not. *Select all that apply.* [Question 6 displayed only if ‘No’ selected for Question 4]

* I was not aware of the monthly NSSP Community of Practice call/webinar.
* The day of the week (third Tuesday of the month) is inconvenient for me.
* The time of the call (from 3pm-4:30pm Eastern Time) is inconvenient for me.
* I don’t have the time.
* The presentations on the webinars rarely interest me or relate to my work.
* Other, specify: [open-ended text field]

1. Which syndromic surveillance-related topic(s) would you like highlighted on future NSSP Community of Practice monthly calls/webinars? *Select all that apply.*

* Infectious Disease
* Chronic Disease
* Injury Prevention
* Mental/Behavioral Health
* Environmental Health
* Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response
* Emerging diseases or conditions
* BioSense Platform enhancements/new functionalities
* Updates from the NSSP Community of Practice subcommittees and workgroups
* Data sharing barriers between jurisdictions
* Data sharing for public use
* Other, specify: [open-ended text field]

1. Please provide any feedback on how the monthly NSSP Community of Practice call/webinar can be improved. [open-ended text field]
2. Do you participate in any of the following NSSP Community of Practice subcommittees, workgroups or user groups? *Select all that apply.*

* Data Quality Subcommittee (DQ)
* Syndrome Definition Subcommittee (SD)
* Syndromic Surveillance Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Subcommittee (SPHERR)
* Technical Subcommittee (Tech)
* Data Sharing Workgroup
* Training Workgroup
* Racial and Ethnicity Data Quality Improvement Workgroup
* NSSP R User Group
* NSSP ESSENCE User Group
* None [exclusive choice – cannot be selected with other Question 9 choices]

1. Through being a member of the NSSP Community of Practice, to what extent…

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **To a great extent** | **To a moderate extent** | **To a small extent** | **Not at all** |
| Has your knowledge of syndromic surveillance increased? |  |  |  |  |
| Have you made new syndromic surveillance contacts? |  |  |  |  |
| Have you been able to get help with solving syndromic surveillance related issues/problems? |  |  |  |  |
| Have your career prospects improved? |  |  |  |  |
| Have you been better able to find syndromic surveillance resources? |  |  |  |  |
| Have your leadership skills improved? |  |  |  |  |
| Have you been able to transfer what you heard/learned back to your team or department/agency? |  |  |  |  |

1. To what extent do you think the NSSP Community of Practice…

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **To a great extent** | **To a moderate extent** | **To a small extent** | **Not sure** |
| Has leveraged the expertise and resources of its members? |  |  |  |  |
| Has helped build syndromic surveillance expertise and capacity in your jurisdiction/department/agency? |  |  |  |  |
| Has helped increase interjurisdictional collaborations? |  |  |  |  |
| Has helped increase interjurisdictional data sharing? |  |  |  |  |
| Has helped increase collaborations between CDC and your jurisdiction? |  |  |  |  |
| Has helped increase data sharing between CDC and your jurisdiction? |  |  |  |  |
| Has done a good job of promoting the utility and application of syndromic surveillance? |  |  |  |  |
| Has helped to integrate syndromic surveillance into everyday public health practice? |  |  |  |  |
| Has created an inclusive and welcoming environment where members feel comfortable expressing their opinion? |  |  |  |  |

1. Which of the following do you want the NSSP Community of Practice to provide? *Select all that apply.*

* Syndromic surveillance-specific tools, dashboards, or methods
* Syndromic surveillance-related trainings
* Data sharing workshops
* Specific activities and resources for new syndromic surveillance users
* One-on-one consultations/problem solving with SMEs
* Peer-to-peer mentoring
* Recognition for contributions and participation in the NSSP Community of Practice
* A designated venue for getting member’s input on relevant decisions affecting the entire NSSP Community of Practice
* Presentations from other federal agencies (DoD, Veterans Affairs, SAMHSA, or others)
* Presentations from other public health organizations (non-profits, academia, or others)
* Other, specify: [open-ended text field]

1. Overall, how satisfied are you with your membership in the NSSP Community of Practice?

* Satisfied
* Somewhat satisfied
* Somewhat dissatisfied
* Dissatisfied

1. Please explain why you selected being “somewhat dissatisfied” or “dissatisfied” with your membership in the NSSP Community of Practice. [open-ended text field] [displays only if ‘Somewhat dissatisfied’ OR ‘Dissatisfied’ selected for Question 13]
2. Do you have any additional feedback to provide on your experience with the NSSP Community of Practice? [open-ended text field]

1. How important are the following NSSP Community of Practice resources in helping you stay current in syndromic surveillance?

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Critical** | **Important** | **Somewhat important** | **Not important** | **Not aware of this resource** | **Aware of this resource but have not used** |
| [NSSP CoP Knowledge Repository](https://knowledgerepository.syndromicsurveillance.org/) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| [CDC NSSP Technical Resource Center](https://www.cdc.gov/nssp/resources.html) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| [CSTE NSSP CoP Webpage](https://nsspcommunityofpractice.org/) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Monthly NSSP Newsletter](https://www.cdc.gov/nssp/news.html) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| NSSP CoP Slack Channel |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Health Surveillance Slack Channel |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1. How often do you use the following NSSP Community of Practice Knowledge Repository-related tools?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Frequently** | **Occasionally** | **Rarely** | **Never** |
| NSSP CoP monthly meeting recordings |  |  |  |  |
| NSSP CoP subcommittee meeting recordings |  |  |  |  |
| Syndrome definition library |  |  |  |  |
| Stories of surveillance in action |  |  |  |  |
| Use case library |  |  |  |  |
| Syndromic surveillance webinar library |  |  |  |  |
| Trending topics |  |  |  |  |
| The “Search All” function to find other content |  |  |  |  |

1. Please provide any feedback on how the NSSP CoP Knowledge Repository can be improved. [open-ended text field]
2. Please select up to 5 topics that reflect your most important syndromic surveillance training needs. [validation allows for respondents to select between 1-5 choices for Question 19]

* Data analytics (analyzing and interpreting raw data to help with public health decision making)
* Data visualization (graphs, tables, dashboards)
* Recognizing and improving data quality
* Developing and evaluating new syndromes
* Strategies to increase data sharing
* Conducting an after-action review, hotwash, and implementing corrective actions
* Data mining, machine learning, API
* Developing and writing success stories
* Using syndromic surveillance in a national response
* NSSP ESSENCE (beginner to intermediate)
* NSSP ESSENCE (advanced)
* NSSP R (beginner to intermediate)
* NSSP R (advanced)
* NSSP SAS Studio
* Other, specify: [open-ended text field]

1. If the following data sources were available in the NSSP ESSENCE application, how useful would they be for your site’s surveillance activities?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Very useful** | **Somewhat useful** | **Not**  **useful** | **Not sure** |
| Ambulatory care/urgent care data |  |  |  |  |
| Department of Defense ED and urgent care facilities data |  |  |  |  |
| EMS/911 records |  |  |  |  |
| Federally Qualified Health Centers data |  |  |  |  |
| Health care data from correctional facilities |  |  |  |  |
| Health care data from facilities supporting people experiencing homelessness (heating and cooling shelters, clinics, etc.) |  |  |  |  |
| Indian Health Services ED and urgent care facilities data |  |  |  |  |
| Inpatient data |  |  |  |  |
| Mortality data |  |  |  |  |
| Over-the-counter drug sales |  |  |  |  |
| Poison center call records |  |  |  |  |
| Reportable disease case data |  |  |  |  |
| School absenteeism data |  |  |  |  |
| Test orders and results for all drug tests (opioids, cocaine, etc.) from commercial laboratory data |  |  |  |  |
| Test orders and results for all reportable conditions from commercial laboratory data |  |  |  |  |
| Veterans Affairs ED and urgent care facilities data |  |  |  |  |
| Wastewater disease surveillance data |  |  |  |  |
| Please describe other datasets that would be useful for your site if they were available in the NSSP ESSENCE application. [open-ended text field] | | | | |

1. How has your jurisdiction used syndromic surveillance to support the COVID-19 response? *Select all that apply.*

* Internal situational awareness (dashboards, PowerPoint slides, reports, etc.)
* Public situational awareness (dashboards, PowerPoint slides, reports, etc.)
* Communication with leadership (dashboards, PowerPoint slides, reports, etc.)
* Decision-making (policy changes)
* Case finding (early in the response)
* Intervention (infection control in at-risk facilities)
* Not sure (while I work with syndromic surveillance data, I am not aware of how it is used)
* Other, specify: [open-ended text field]
* Did not use [exclusive choice – cannot be chosen with other Question 21 choices]
  1. If you have not used syndromic surveillance to support the COVID-19 response in your jurisdiction, why not? [open-ended text field] [displays only if ‘Did not use’ selected in Question 21]

1. To what extent has your involvement in the NSSP Community of Practice aided your response to a public health emergency in the past 12 months?

* To a great extent
* To a moderate extent
* To a small extent
* Not at all

1. How can the NSSP Community of Practice better support your jurisdiction/department/agency during a public health emergency? [open-ended text field]
2. Please provide any additional comments on issues or concerns we might not have addressed in this assessment. [open-ended text field]

Thank you for participating in this assessment. Your input will help improve the NSSP Community of Practice.

Advancing to the next page will save and submit your responses.