

# NHANES Open Space

## September 11-12, 2003

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**Session Title:** Facilitating and funding collaborations

### **Session Headlines:**

Data are incredibly valuable - while barriers to using it are decreasing, they are still substantial. Web release has reduced barriers. Main barriers remaining are ability to understand the data set and how to work with it, and lack of widespread knowledge of the quality of the data set.

What mechanisms are people utilizing for using the data?

What mechanisms do people want to see?

Web module for training on how to use the data sets for distance learning

Good to do courses here – Data Users Conference, etc., but better to take out to groups like Universities

Consider some administrative overhead capture for people using the data that already exists

Academia would like a fund they could use to do research on topics that could be done in NHANES. For many of them, their topic would be a more narrow research topic that would require specific funding to come with it in order to get them in NHANES – which perhaps supported by NIH.

Centers of Excellence could distribute grants for consortiums to do the research that NCHS is not able to do.

Institute more cooperative agreements between researchers and NCHS so NCHS is not just data gopher – perhaps through a training center.

Additional funding and collaborations have great potential with the possibility of more follow-ups like the PSA and Hepatitis C follow-ups.

NHANES is the only data in some cases, such as oral health, and it is used for developing policy.

Do we have partnerships with the advocacy groups? American Heart Association, American Cancer Society; stroke, diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis foundations, etc.

If there were a process by which academia could be one of the sponsors on a component, there would be more of an incentive for the data to be analyzed.

## **Next Steps/Action Items:**

Like to see a more transparent process for participating in NHANES and funding it.

Work with the advocacy groups more. Check for announcements of funding from groups like AHA, ACS, etc. that fund research. Would they be interested in writing grants that specify using NHANES data?

Need to include public health departments so NCHS gets more examples of how the data are applied to interventions or policies

Web module for training on how to use the data sets for distance learning  
Good to do courses here – DUC, etc., but better to take out to groups like Universities

Consider addressing issues – like dermatology – and invite interested parties to come and decide what they need and then figure out amongst them how they fund it through the complete life cycle of data collection, to data processing, to data analyses and uses.

Need to make more people aware of the timeline for submitting proposals

Need for a National Research Data Repository and Research Center – could be housed at NCHS or could be elsewhere