

Annual Report of Major Outputs & Outcomes

July 2015 to June 2016

Illinois Occupational Safety and Health Surveillance, Fundamental Program Plus

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Specific aims of the Illinois Occupational Surveillance Program are to:

Aim #1. Enhance the use of federal and state data sources for occupational surveillance with a particular focus on low wage, immigrant, minority, and precarious workers and those employed by small businesses.

Aim #2. Conduct research based on secondary data analyses using cutting edge hypotheses, mixed methods approaches, and advanced quantitative statistical methods aimed at primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention of severe occupational injuries.

Aim #3. Re-establish the adult lead poisoning prevention program in Illinois

Aim #4. Improve sustainability of an active occupational surveillance program by collaboratively establishing real-time surveillance and reporting of OH sentinels; embedding academic personnel at state agencies, producing state approved publications; co-authoring manuscripts; jointly attending national occupational surveillance meetings; training the next wave of public/occupational health professionals; and collaborating with local health departments employers, and worker advocates to set priorities and initiate interventions.

MAJOR OUTCOMES - Collaboration and Partnership

Partnerships

- Intergovernmental agreements with the Illinois Department of Public Health renewed April 16, 2016.
- Intergovernmental agreements with the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission renewed through 2020.
- Coordinate with the Illinois Department of Public Health to co-manage the Adult Blood Lead Registry. All call backs and data management is handled through our team at the University of Illinois.
- Collaborative projects with worker centers in Illinois – Chicago Workers Collaborative, Latino Union, ARISE Chicago, Restaurant Opportunity Center, Interfaith Worker Justice, Warehouse Workers For Justice, Community Health Partnership of Illinois.
- Collaborative projects with community health centers – Community Health Partnership, Miles Square, Salvation Army.
- Collaboration with Labor Unions – Chicago Federation of Labor, Raise the Floor, Change to Win, Service Employees International Union.
- IOSP2 convened a stakeholders meeting May 26, 2016 to discuss interests in doing collaborative work going forward. Brainstormed collaboration ideas and made plans for sharing data. The following organizations were represented:
 - Illinois Workers Compensation Commission
 - Illinois Department of Public Health
 - Worker Centers: Chicago Workers Collaborative. Warehouse Workers for Justice. Arise Chicago
 - Illinois Poison Center
 - Unions: Chicago Federation of Labor
 - OSHA Region 5 Officers
 - OSHA Illinois Area Office Directors
 - Academic Investigators
 - Workers' Compensation Attorney
- IDPH Awarded the CDC/NCIPC. CDC-RFA-CE16-1602 Core State Violence and Injury Prevention Program. IOSP is supporting surveillance activities in the realm of traumatic brain injury, motor vehicle crashes, child abuse and neglect, and intimate partner violence.
- Collaboration on mining safety and respiratory health programs in Illinois, US, and internationally in coordination with Dr. Robert Cohen's research team. Dr. Friedman traveled to meet with PATHAUT research group in South Africa.

- Collaborating with New Lenox Safety Community Coalition to solicit businesses to complete the CDC's Worksite Health ScoreCard

Community Service Activities

- Cook County Department of Public Health. Friedman and Holloway-Beth. Invitation to serve on committee to develop a surveillance System for police officer and civilian injuries related to law enforcement
- Health and Medicine Policy Research Group. Friedman and Holloway-Beth. Invitation to serve on a work group on surveillance of police and civilian injuries
- National Safety Council. Friedman. Invited to assist in evaluating Safe Communities coalitions
- National Safety Council. Forst. Invited to speak at summer conference on Safe Communities and serve on strategic planning for Illinois.
- Canadian Ministry of Labour. Swedler. Grant review for Research Opportunities Program.
- Friedman joined advisory board of Midwest Injury Prevention Alliance, an organization of injury professionals from state in Federal Health and Human Services Region V.
- Miles Square research advisory board. Forst.
- Little Village Community Health Assessment. Hebert-Beirne

MAJOR OUTPUTS - Advancement of Surveillance Methods and Activities

Increased credibility among peer reviewers/experts

- Invitation to NIOSH's Workers' Compensation "think tank" meeting in December 2016. Forst.
- 7 Solicitations for peer reviewing manuscripts by journals. Forst & Friedman.
- Editorial Advisory Board membership for *Accident Analysis and Prevention* and *ad hoc* review for 4 additional journals. Swedler
- Invitation to present at American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine annual conference. April, 2016. Forst
- Invitation to review at the American Public Health Association annual meeting and the Safe States Alliance 2016 conference. Swedler
- Invitation to serve on ad hoc study section for NIOSH on ERC applications.
- Invitation to serve on ad hoc study section for NIOSH on agricultural center applications.

Publications

- Holloway-Beth A, **Forst L**, Freels S, Brandt-Rauf S, **Friedman L**. Occupational Injury Surveillance Among Law Enforcement Officers Using Workers' Compensation Data, Illinois 1980 to 2008. *J Occup Environ Med*. 2016 Jun;58(6):594-600. doi: 10.1097/JOM.0000000000000708. PMID: 27035107
- Holloway-Beth A, **Forst L**, Lippert J, Brandt-Rauf S, Freels S, **Friedman L**. Risk factors associated with legal interventions. *Inj Epidemiol*. 2016;3:2. Epub 2016 Jan 15. PMID:26807346
- Sinelnikov S, **Friedman LS**, Chavez EA. Injuries and Safe Communities Accreditation: Is there a link? *Accid Anal Prev*. 2016 Jun;91:84-90. doi: 10.1016/j.aap.2016.02.015. Epub 2016 Mar 11.
- Schmitz M, **Forst L**. Industry and Occupation in the Electronic Health Record: An Investigation of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Industry and Occupation Computerized Coding System. *JMIR Med Inform*. 2016 Feb 15;4(1):e5. doi: 10.2196/medinform.4839.PMID:26878932
- Mabila SL, Gracia G, Cohen R, Almberg K and **Friedman LS**. Injury and Illness Data for Illinois Mining Industry Employees, 1990 to 2012. *J Occ Environ Med*. 2015 Dec;57(12):1305-10.
- **Forst L, Friedman L**, Chin B, Madigan D. Spatial clustering of occupational injuries in communities. *Am J Public Health*. 2015 Jul;105 Suppl 3:S526-33.
- **Friedman L**, Friedman M. Financial Conflicts of Interest and Study Results in Environmental and Occupational Health Research. *J Occup Environ Med*. 2016 Mar;58(3):238-47.

Presentations

- Forst L, Friedman L, Chin B, Madigan D. Burden of Occupational Injury on Communities. Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Anchorage Alaska, June 22, 2106
- Forst L. Occupational Hazards among Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Miners. American Occupational Health Conference. Chicago, April 2016
- Swedler D. Homicides of Law Enforcement Officers on-the-job in the United States: Understanding the Role of Firearms. College of Medicine and Public Health, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, February 9, 2016.

- Swedler D. Considering the Evidence on Drug-Involved Truck Crashes in the United States, 2000-2013. Volpe National Transportation Systems Center Speaker Series. Cambridge, MA, July 27, 2015.

Grant Proposals

- Submitted and funded by Illinois Education and Research Center: “Establishing Research Methods to Study the Occupational Health Risks of Hair Braiders” PI: Holloway-Beth; Faculty Mentor: Forst. \$20,000
- Submitted and funded by Illinois Education and Research Center: “Community Concept Mapping to Describe Work as a Determinant of Health” PI: Jennifer Hebert-Beirne; Faculty Mentor: Forst
- Submitted to NIOSH: Total Worker Health Program. R01: “Building a Culture of Total Worker Health at the Community Level.” Co-PIs: Conroy L, Hebert-Beirne J. Co-I: Forst. (in JIT phase)
- Submitted to OSHA/ Susan Harwood: “Training Temp Workers and Employers.” PI: Forst. In review.
- Submitted to National Institute of Justice: Assessing the Involvement of Alcohol and Drugs in Fatal and Non-fatal Assaults on American Law Enforcement. PI: Swedler. In review.
- Renewed Funding. CDC Prevention Research Center. SIP in Worker Health Research Network

Reports

- Occupational Health Indicators, 2013. Reported to NIOSH, Illinois State Based Surveillance

Press Releases/Interviews/Testimonies

- Friedman L. “Clashes with Cops.” Press release. <https://news.uic.edu/clashes-with-cops> and National Public Radio.
- Forst L. Ethnic Disparities in Occupational Injuries. Public Health Minute. January 2016. <http://wp.lehman.edu/public-health-minute-with-william-latimer/ethnic-disparities-in-occupational-injuries-linda-forst-md-mph-university-of-illinois-at-chicago/>
- Swedler D. “Police more likely to be killed on duty in states with high gun ownership.” <https://news.uic.edu/police-more-likely-to-be-killed-on-duty-in-states-with-high-gun-ownership>
- Press conference by Cook County Department
- Friedman L. “Trauma on the South Side”. Crain's Chicago Business, April 11, 2016. Discussing lack of trauma services in southern Cook County that impacts injured workers and non-workers.

State Based Datasets used for Occupational Surveillance Program

- Illinois Trauma Registry, used occupation and industry fields to describe work related traumatic injuries in Illinois
- Hospital outpatient and inpatient databases – used to describe work-related heat and cold injuries, law enforcement injuries, and common occupational respiratory diseases.
- Emergency Medical Services pre-hospital ambulance data – used to evaluate inadequate transport time and care in rural communities
- Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission Claims Database – used in a wide array of analyses including injuries to law enforcement personnel, temp workers, public transportation workers, taxi drivers, workers in the oil refinery industry, and hospital workers.
- Illinois Poison Center Data - used to evaluate the efficacy of poison centers in reducing hospital costs, heavy metal exposures from occupational and non-occupational sources, and pesticide exposures.
- Illinois Police Crash Report Data – used to evaluate truck driver crashes, EMS personnel crashes and safety of all wheel drive vehicles.
- National Burn Repository – used to create a definition to identify work-related injuries and characterize burns by industry. Currently being used in a text analysis to identify hazards and processes associated with burn injuries by industry.

Program Evaluation

- Modified our program evaluation tool to use this summer and in future years

Website

- <http://illinoisinjuryprevention.org/> Populating site with new publications and fact sheets.

Increasing expertise among researchers and practical applications of findings

- 27 public health students trained in occupational surveillance
- 6 Occupational Medicine residents trained in occupational surveillance
- Contract with state work comp commission to reconstruct and reorganize First Reports of Injury system