

2016 Annual Report of Major Accomplishments and Impacts

(July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016)

Mississippi State Department of Health

Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Surveillance Program

Grant Number: 1 U60 OH010918-01

A. Major Accomplishments

The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Surveillance Program continues to address the specific goals and objectives that were listed in the Program’s research plan. The goals are:

1. Compile, analyze, and interpret data.
2. Identify work related injury, illness, and exposure trends.
3. Develop MSDH OHS Surveillance Program priorities.
4. Develop recommendations, prevention, and outreach activities throughout Mississippi.

In our efforts to obtain the goals and objectives previously stated, the MSDH OHS Surveillance Program has met major milestones and accomplishments. Accomplishments for the twelve month budget/performance period ending on June 30, 2016 include:

- MSDH appointment of Ms. Sirisha Reddy Tippani as a full-time Epidemiologist for the OHS Surveillance Grant.
- MSDH appointment of Candice J. Travis as the OHS Program Coordinator.
- The collecting of data for 21 occupational health indicators by the OHS Surveillance Program epidemiologist.
- Completion of the collection of Adult Blood Lead data for years 2012, 2014, and 2015.
- Completion of and analysis of 15 required indicators for the year 2013. The indicators include:

| Indicator Name and Number | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| Indicator 3: Fatal Work-Related Injuries | Indicator 5: State Workers’ Compensation Claims for Amputations with Lost Work Time | Indicator 6: Hospitalizations for Work-Related Burns | Indicator 8: State Workers’ Compensation Claims for Carpal Tunnel Syndrome with Lost Work-Time | Indicator 10: Mortality from or with Pneumoconiosis |
| Indicator 11: Acute Work-Related Pesticide-Associated Illness and Injury Reported to Poison Control Centers | Indicator 12: Incidence of Malignant Mesothelioma, Ages 15 and Older | Indicator 13: Elevated Blood Levels (BLL) Among Adults | Indicator 14: Percentage of Workers Employed in Industries at High Risk for Occupational Morbidity | Indicator 15: Percentage of Workers Employed in Occupations at High Risk for Occupational Morbidity |
| Indicator 16: Percentage of Workers Employed in Industries and Occupations at High Risk for Occupational Mortality | Indicator 17: Occupational Safety and Health Professionals | Indicator 18: OSHA Enforcement Activities | Indicator 19: Workers’ Compensation Awards | Indicator 21: Asthma Among Adults Caused or Made Worse by Work |

- The program successfully built an OHS Surveillance Program web page on the MSDH website, http://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/31,0,299,717.html
- The OHS Surveillance Program drafted a factsheet that includes the 2013 indicators from the Occupational Health Surveillance in Mississippi.
- The OHS Surveillance Program met with the federal agency Occupational Safety Health Administration (OSHA) Program Director, Margo Westmoreland, in Mississippi on January 29, 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to foster a partnership.

B. Impacts

Due to collection and analysis of many indicators, the Occupational Health and Safety Surveillance Program is able to potentially impact several programs and agencies throughout the state of Mississippi including:

- Occupational Heat-Related Hospitalizations; one of the 21 indicators focused on by the MSDH OHS Surveillance Program. Three years (2010-2012) of aggregated occupational Heat-Related Emergency Department (ED) visit data was collected and analyzed. As a result of the collection and analysis of the data, the findings can be used to enhance the existing surveillance system, help the programs to target certain working populations, and hence decrease the occupational Heat-Related ED visits in Mississippi.
- The OHS Surveillance Advisory Committee and other potential partners. The MSDH OHS Surveillance Program recently drafted a factsheet on Occupational Health Surveillance in Mississippi. The factsheet as well as any additional surveillance products produced will be distributed among steering committee members and any other potential partners. From this distribution, the OHS Surveillance Program will receive inputs and additional plans to implement intervention programs to reduce the risk among workers.

C. Presentations and Conferences

The MSDH OSH Surveillance Program participated in numerous presentations and conferences throughout the budget/performance period ending on June 30, 2016. A select few of the presentation and conferences the MSDH OHS Surveillance Program participated in include:

- The American Public Health Association (APHA) conference in Chicago, Illinois which took place October 31-November 4, 2015. During this conference, the MSDH OHS Surveillance Program presented a poster presentation on Occupational Heat-Related Illness in Mississippi.
- The NIOSH State Partners' Meeting, December 2015, in Cincinnati, OH. The principal investigator, Dr. Lei Zhang, attended the meeting.
- The 5th Annual Southeastern States Occupational Network (SouthON) meeting which was held March 8-9, 2016 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Dr. Lei Zhang facilitated a quick takes presentation.

- The 2016 Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologist (CSTE) Annual Conference held in Alaska, June 19-23, 2016. During this event the OHS Surveillance Program presented a poster on the “Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking by Industry and Occupation among Mississippi Adults”. In addition, Dr. Lei Zhang served on an interview panel discussing the challenges in Occupational Health Surveillance.

D. Plans

Although the MSDH OHS Surveillance Program has accomplished many goals and met numerous milestones, we are still in the process of further developing our program to collect all the required indicators. As a result, there are plans that have been established which will allow our OHS Surveillance Program to continue to thrive. The following plans for the 12 month budget/performance period ending June 30, 2017 include:

- The MSDH OHS Surveillance Program establishing an advisory committee. The program staff is currently in the process of contacting potential advisory committee members for the OHS Advisory Committee. The OHS Advisory Committee will be composed of representatives from different programs of focus, will meet twice a year for program discussions and suggestions, and will work together to identify relevant state-specific issues and priorities for state surveillance.
- The MSDH OHS Surveillance Program inviting Dr. Kenneth D. Rosenman—Division Chief of the Occupational and Environmental Medicine Program at Michigan State University—to visit the MSDH OHS Surveillance Program in Mississippi. With this visit, the MSDH OHS Surveillance Program hopes to gain vital insight about ways to improve and expand our program.
- The OHS Surveillance Program receiving the 2013-2014 Hospital Discharge Data towards the end of August 2016.
- The OHS Surveillance Program reporting four additional indicators related to ED visits and hospitalizations—apart from the 15 indicators already reported.
- The OHS Surveillance Program making the factsheet available to the public by posting the factsheet on the MSDH OHS Surveillance webpage, http://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/31,0,299,717.html
- The development of an annual surveillance report using the indicator data.