

SECTION 3: DATA AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS



FACILITATOR



Description

To effectively support adolescent health initiatives, systems should have sound surveillance and data systems to systematically collect, analyze, distribute and use data to support program planning, implementation and evaluation. Data also play a critical role in securing commitment for adolescent health, determining training and technical assistance activities and methods as well as contributing to legislative and system policies.



Element #1: Data Practices and Sources

GOAL:

Document and assess data practices and sources of adolescent health data.

Activity 1A:

Assess data practices

Using the list of data sources (gathered from the pre-assessment survey) as a reference, document these data practices:

1. Benchmarks and Indicators used for adolescent population (e.g. state or national Healthy People 2010 goals/objectives)

- Within the MCH program; in other areas of the organization
- Description (if there are adolescent-specific benchmarks or indicators)
- Integration of adolescent-specific benchmarks or indicators
 - Into MCH program benchmarks or indicators (e.g. Title V Block Grant performance measures)
 - Into organization's public health goals and objectives
- Ownership (e.g. how these benchmarks and indicators are chosen; ease of including adolescent-specific benchmarks and indicators)
- Other issues

2. Guidelines or standards that guide the collection, analysis and use of data

- Developing new data systems and/or initiating collection of new data
- Coordination or linking of data systems and/or sets (includes guidelines for standardization)
- Reviewing and assessing data systems and data collection processes (e.g. availability of data, appropriateness of data, data gaps)
- Addressing and maintaining anonymity or confidentiality

3. Strategic use of data perspective in adolescent health

- Role in process (e.g. are people with data expertise/knowledge involved in the process of adolescent health prioritization, program development, program evaluation)
- Decision-making (e.g. how are data used to guide decision-making about adolescent health programs, policies, priorities?)
- Influences (e.g. what influence does data have on adolescent health within the MCH program and/or organization?)

DISCUSSION:

- Levels meet expectations?
- What issues arise?
- Areas of particular strength or weakness?
- Can any broad characterizations be made?

Activity 1B:

Assess data sources #1

Review adolescent health data sources list. For each adolescent health area (see "*Matrix of Programs that Address Adolescent Health*"), indicate which data source is used.

DISCUSSION:

- Is coverage adequate?
- Areas of particular strength or weakness?
- Can any broad characterizations be made?
- Select **most** critical data sets



Element #1: Data Practices and Sources (Continued)

Activity 1C:

Assess data sources #2

Assess how well key data sources provide adolescent health data. Select the 3 most critical data sets used in the MCH program or public health agency (e.g. YRBSS). Using the document, “*Critical Data Set Analysis*”, assess how well key sources provide data useful for adolescent health. For each critical data set, document the following information:

- Who “owns” the data
- Process (data collection, analysis, reporting, access)
- Funding
- Priority status
- Data “breakouts”
 - Age
 - Race/ethnicity
 - Geographic (e.g. urban, suburban, rural)
- Comprehensiveness of data collected
 - Traditional health measure
 - Ecological and/or developmental measures (e.g. youth development measures, parenting measures, quality of life measures)
- Frequency of collection
- Consistency with standards

DISCUSSION:

- What issues arise?
- Areas of particular strength or weakness?
- Can any broad characterizations be made?
- Do any opportunities exist?

RATING:

- Using the data gathered and discussion, rate the capacity.
- Capture response range
- Develop consensus rate



Element #2: Data Analysis

GOAL:

Document and assess analysis conducted for adolescent health data

Activity 2A:

Assess the analysis of adolescent health data

Continue documenting adolescent health specific information for each critical data set.

1. **List analysis efforts conducted with the data set.**
2. **Circle key analysis for each.**
3. **Document the following information for each key analysis:**
 - Owner/instigator
 - Purpose
 - Funding
 - Collaborations/partners
 - Process
 - Strategic; used

DISCUSSION:

- Other important criteria to consider?
- Culture promotes?
- Adequate coverage?
- Areas of particular strength or weakness?
- Can any broad characterizations be made?
- Do any opportunities exist?

RATING:

- Using the data gathered and discussion, rate the capacity.
- Capture response range
- Develop consensus rate



Element #3: Resources for Data

GOAL:

Assess the adequacy of data resources dedicated to adolescent health.

Activity 3A:

Assess resources dedicated to adolescent health data

Identify and create a list of resources required to meet the needs of adolescent health efforts within the agency:

1. Staff/human resources
2. Technology
3. Status/location in section/department
4. Funding
5. Other

For each type of resource discuss and assess its adequacy using the criteria below:

1. Staff/human resources

- Coverage
- Access
- Level of involvement
- Expertise
 - Technical (data)
 - Topical (injury)
 - MCH
 - Adolescent development (see attached)
 - Cultural competence

2. Technology

- Systems
- Expertise
- Access
- Support

3. Adolescent health status within section/department

- Location
- Involvement
- Input

4. Funding

- Adequacy
- Influence
- Sustainability

DISCUSSION:

- Are the resources adequate?
- What issues arise?
- Areas of particular strength or weakness?
- Can any broad characterizations be made?
- Do any opportunities exist?

RATING:

- Using the data gathered and discussion, rate the capacity
- Capture response range
- Develop consensus rate



Overview of Capacity Area

CONDUCT OVERALL ANALYSIS:

- Strengths
- Challenges
- Opportunities

IDENTIFY TOP ISSUES:

- Brainstorm top issues – remind that these are the issues that need to be addressed
- Develop consensus on top 3-5 issues

Identify the overall “score” or rating for the capacity area (i.e. average the Element scores)

PARTICIPANT



Description

To effectively support adolescent health initiatives, systems should have sound surveillance and data systems to systematically collect, analyze, distribute and use data to support program planning, implementation and evaluation. Data also play a critical role in securing commitment for adolescent health, determining training and technical assistance activities and methods as well as contributing to legislative and system policies.

This capacity area explores 3 Sections or Elements:

- Data Practices and Sources
- Data Analysis
- Resources for Data



Element #1: Data Practices and Sources

GOAL:

Document and assess data practices and sources of adolescent health data

Activity 1A:

Assess data practices

Using the list of adolescent health data collected and/or used by the organization (gathered prior to the assessment meeting), document these data practices:

1. **Benchmarks and Indicators used for adolescent population (e.g. state or national Healthy People 2010 goals/objectives)**
 - Within the MCH program; in other areas of the organization
 - Description (if there are adolescent-specific benchmarks or indicators)
 - Integration of adolescent-specific benchmarks or indicators
 - Into MCH program benchmarks or indicators (e.g. Title V Block Grant performance measures)
 - Into organization's public health goals and objectives
 - Ownership (e.g. how these benchmarks and indicators are chosen; ease of including adolescent-specific benchmarks and indicators)
 - Other issues
2. **Guidelines or standards that guide the collection, analysis and use of data**
 - Developing new data systems and/or initiating collection of new data
 - Coordination or linking of data systems and/or sets (includes guidelines for standardization)
 - Reviewing and assessing data systems and data collection processes (e.g. availability of data, appropriateness of data, data gaps)
 - Addressing and maintaining anonymity or confidentiality
3. **Strategic use of data perspective in adolescent health**
 - Role in process (e.g. are people with data expertise/knowledge involved in the process of adolescent health prioritization, program development, program evaluation)
 - Decision-making (e.g. how are data used to guide decision-making about adolescent health programs, policies, priorities?)
 - Influences (e.g. what influence does data have on adolescent health within the MCH program and/or organization?)

DISCUSSION:

- Do these practices meet expectations and needs?
- What issues arise?
- Areas of particular strength or weakness?
- Can any broad characterizations be made?

Activity 1B:

Assess data sources 1

Using the list of adolescent health data collected and/or used by the organization (gathered prior to the assessment meeting). Review adolescent health data sources. For each adolescent health area, indicate the primary data sources that are used.

DISCUSSION:

Overall -

- Is coverage adequate?
- Areas of particular strength or weakness?
- Can any broad characterizations be made?



Element #1: Data Practices and Sources (Continued)

Activity 1C:

Assess data sources 2

Select the 3 most critical data sets used in the MCH program or organization (e.g. YRBSS). Assess how well key sources provide adolescent health data. For each critical data set, document the following information:

- Who “owns” the data
- Process (data collection, analysis, reporting, access)
- Funding
- Priority status
- Data “breakouts”
 - Age
 - Race/ethnicity
 - Geographic (e.g. urban, suburban, rural)
- Comprehensiveness of data collected
 - Traditional health measure
 - Ecological and/or developmental measures (e.g. youth development measures, parenting measures, quality of life measures)
- Frequency of collection
- Consistency with standards

DISCUSSION:

- What issues arise?
- Areas of particular strength or weakness?
- Can any broad characterizations be made?
- Do any opportunities exist?

RATING:

- Develop consensus rating for Element 1



Element #2: Data Analysis

GOAL:

Document and assess analysis conducted for adolescent health data

Activity 2A:

Assess the analysis of adolescent health data

Continue documenting adolescent health specific information for each critical data set used in Element #1.

1. **List analysis efforts conducted with the data set.**
2. **Circle key analysis for each.**
3. **Document the following information for each key analysis:**
 - Owner/instigator
 - Purpose
 - Funding
 - Collaborations/partners
 - Process
 - Strategic (e.g. is analysis used?)

DISCUSSION:

- Other important criteria to consider?
- Organizational culture promotes data analysis and use?
- Adequate coverage?
- Areas of particular strength or weakness?
- Can any broad characterizations be made?
- Do any opportunities exist?

RATING:

- Develop consensus rating for Element 2.



Element #3: Resources for Data

GOAL:

Assess the adequacy of data resources dedicated to adolescent health data

Activity 3A:

Assess resources dedicated to adolescent health data

Complete building the list of data resources required to meet the needs of adolescent health efforts within the organization:

1. Staff/human resources
2. Technology
3. Status/location in section/department
4. Funding
5. Other

For each type of resource discuss and assess its adequacy using the criteria below:

1. Staff/human resources

- Coverage
- Access
- Level of involvement
- Expertise
 - Technical (data)
 - Topical (injury)
 - MCH
 - Adolescent development (see attached)
 - Cultural competence

2. Technology

- Systems
- Expertise
- Access
- Support

3. Adolescent health status within section/department

- Location
- Involvement
- Input

4. Funding

- Adequacy
- Influence
- Sustainability

DISCUSSION:

- Are the resources adequate?
- What issues arise?
- Areas of particular strength or weakness?
- Can any broad characterizations be made?
- Do any opportunities exist?

RATING:

- Develop consensus rating for Element 3



Overview of Capacity Area

CONDUCT OVERALL ANALYSIS:

- Strengths
- Challenges
- Opportunities

IDENTIFY TOP ISSUES:

- Brainstorm top issues – remind that these are the issues that need to be addressed
- Develop consensus on top 3-5 issues

Identify the overall rating for the capacity area
(i.e. average the Element scores)

HANDOUT



Data Set Profile

Write name of data set here: _____

	Notes
OWNERSHIP	
PROCESS	
FUNDING	
PRIORITY STATUS	
RACE/ETHNICITY (disparities)	
GEOGRAPHIC (meaningful breaks?)	
AGE BREAKS	
FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION	
ECOLOGICAL	
CONSISTENCY WITH STANDARDS	



Data Analysis

Write name of data set here: _____

	Notes
ANALYSIS CONDUCTED (list all, then circle analysis to be reviewed below)	
OWNER OR INSTIGATOR	
PURPOSE	
FUNDING	
COLLABORATIONS OR PARTNERS	
PROCESS	
STRATEGIC GETS USED	