

National Syndromic Surveillance Program
Community of Practice
Advancing the Science and Practice of Syndromic Surveillance

2020 Syndromic Surveillance Symposium
Event Final Packet

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. **Event Overview...**Page 2
2. **Session Type Descriptions...**Page 2
3. **Daily Block Schedules...**Pages 3-5
 - a. Description:
 - i. Visual display and time stamps of sessions being provided each day
 - ii. Color-coded by Track
 - iii. Includes session titles
 - b. **Day 1 – November 17, 2020...**Page 3
 - c. **Day 2 – November 18, 2020...**Page 4
 - d. **Day 3 – November 19, 2020...**Page 5
4. **Daily Agendas...**Pages 6-15
 - a. Description:
 - i. Sessions by daily schedule time blocks (i.e., concurrent sessions)
 - ii. Includes session track, title, descriptions, moderators, and speakers
 - iii. Annotated with session recordings and slides
 - b. **Day 1 – November 17, 2020...**Page 6
 - c. **Day 2 – November 18, 2020...**Page 10
 - d. **Day 3 – November 19, 2020...**Page 13
5. **Content by Track...**Pages 16-24
 - a. Description:
 - i. Sessions by track type
 - ii. Includes session track, title, descriptions, moderators, and speakers
 - iii. Annotated with session recordings and slides
 - b. **Opening, Welcoming Remarks, Keynote, and Closing...**Page 16
 - c. **Data Sharing...**Page 17
 - d. **Practical Methods and Application...**Page 18
 - e. **Innovation...**Page 20
 - f. **Training...**Page 21
 - g. **COVID...**Page 22
 - h. **NSSP Community of Practice...**Page 24



Event Overview

The Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE), in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP), virtually convened the **2020 Syndromic Surveillance Symposium** from **November 17-19, 2020**. The event was held during the following dates and times:

- Tuesday, November 17, 2020 – 1:00-6:00pm EST
- Wednesday, November 18, 2020 – 1:00-5:00pm EST
- Thursday, November 19, 2020 – 1:00-5:15pm EST

CSTE partnered with Kahuina Consulting to provide an engaging and interactive virtual forum for the syndromic surveillance community to exchange experiences, share best practices, and take away innovative solutions and strategies for advancing syndromic surveillance practice. Attendees had the opportunity to learn new skills from technical experts, from the basics to the latest analytical techniques. There was also a forum to discuss the NSSP Community of Practice's future and increasing syndromic surveillance capacity at the state, local, and national levels. The first two days concluded with informal sessions hosted by colleagues (not included in this final formal packet).

All events were held on CSTE's RingCentral platform. Recordings and PDFs of presented slides have been included in this final event packet.

Session Type Descriptions

Breakout – 10-minute presentations connected by a common theme followed by a moderated Q&A

Lightning – 5- to 7-minute presentations connected by a common theme followed by a moderated Q&A

Roundtable – Facilitated topical discussions to share experiences, generate ideas, and brainstorm solutions with others

Training – Step-by-step live demonstration or verbal training

Daily Block Schedules

Day 1 – Tuesday, November 17, 2020

1:00-1:15pm EST	Daily Opening, Logistics, Overview			
1:15-1:30pm EST	Welcoming Remarks			
1:30-1:45pm EST	Keynote Address			
1:45-2:00pm EST				
2:00-2:15pm EST	...BREAK...			
2:15-2:30pm EST	Training: NSSP ESSENCE 101	Breakout: Spike, Alert, GO!	Breakout: Data Access and Integration	Breakout: Successful State-led Data Sharing Collaborations
2:30-2:45pm EST				
2:45-3:00pm EST				
3:00-3:15pm EST		...BREAK...		
3:15-3:30pm EST		Lightning: Significant Findings	Roundtable: Bringing New Partners to the Table	Breakout: Can I Do That? Ask a Lawyer.
3:30-3:45pm EST				
3:45-4:00pm EST				
4:00-4:15pm EST	...BREAK...			
4:15-4:30pm EST	Training: Custom Syndrome Definition in NSSP ESSENCE	Breakout: Match Point - Data Matching Across Sources		Roundtable: Establishing a Public Use Shared Data Set
4:30-4:45pm EST				
4:45-5:00pm EST				
5:00-5:15pm EST	...BREAK...			
5:15-5:30pm EST	Virtual Happy Hour			
5:30-5:45pm EST				
5:45-6:00pm EST				

2020 Syndromic Surveillance Symposium Tracks
Daily Openings, Virtual Happy Hours, Symposium Closing
Welcoming Remarks + Keynote
Data Sharing
Practical Methods and Application
Innovation
Training
COVID
NSSP Community of Practice

Day 2 – Wednesday, November 18, 2020

1:00-1:15pm EST	Daily Opening, Logistics, Overview		
1:15-1:30pm EST	Training: Call Up Your Data Using APIs	Breakout: Querying from Scratch - Cooking Up New Syndromes	Training: Data Sharing Step-by-Step Using the AMC
1:30-1:45pm EST			
1:45-2:00pm EST	...BREAK...		
2:00-2:15pm EST	Training: Telling Your Story - Insights and Tips to Promote Syndromic Surveillance	Breakout: The Art of Surveillance - Data Visualizations	Lightning: New Tactics for Old Problems
2:15-2:30pm EST			
2:30-2:45pm EST			
2:45-3:00pm EST	...BREAK...		
3:00-3:15pm EST	Training: Dashboard Creation in NSSP ESSENCE	Breakout: Making the Best of a SyS Situation - Data Quality for SyS	Roundtable: COVID, Current Events, and More - Discussing Syndromic Surveillance Practices in 2020
3:15-3:30pm EST			
3:30-3:45pm EST			
3:45-4:00pm EST	...BREAK...		
4:00-4:15pm EST	Virtual Happy Hour		
4:15-4:30pm EST			
4:30-4:45pm EST			
4:45-5:00pm EST			
5:00-5:15pm EST			
5:15-5:30pm EST			
5:30-5:45pm EST			
5:45-6:00pm EST			

2020 Syndromic Surveillance Symposium Tracks
Daily Openings, Virtual Happy Hours, Symposium Closing
Welcoming Remarks + Keynote
Data Sharing
Practical Methods and Application
Innovation
Training
COVID
NSSP Community of Practice

Day 3 – Thursday, November 19, 2020

1:00-1:15pm EST	Daily Opening, Logistics, Overview			
1:15-1:30pm EST	Plenary: NSSP and the Federal COVID Response			
1:30-1:45pm EST				
1:45-2:00pm EST				
2:00-2:15pm EST	Plenary Panel: Syndromic Surveillance during a National Emergency - the State and Local Experience			
2:15-2:30pm EST				
2:30-2:45pm EST	...BREAK...			
2:45-3:00pm EST	Breakout: COVID Syndrome Definition Update	Roundtable: Data Integration to Monitor COVID Vaccine Rollout	Roundtable: Data Quality and COVID	Demo/Technical Walkthrough: Analytic Innovations for the COVID Response - RShiny Dashboard
3:00-3:15pm EST				
3:15-3:30pm EST				
3:30-3:45pm EST	...BREAK...			
3:45-4:00pm EST	Who We Are and Where We're Going - NSSP Community of Practice Participation and Strategic Framework			
4:00-4:15pm EST				
4:15-4:30pm EST	Ongoing Activities - NSSP Community of Practice Subcommittee, Workgroup, and User Group Updates			
4:30-4:45pm EST				
4:45-5:00pm EST	Looking Ahead - Engaging in the NSSP Community of Practice Moving Forward			
5:00-5:15pm EST	Symposium Closing Session			
5:15-5:30pm EST				
5:30-5:45pm EST				
5:45-6:00pm EST				

2020 Syndromic Surveillance Symposium Tracks
Daily Openings, Virtual Happy Hours, Symposium Closing
Welcoming Remarks + Keynote
Data Sharing
Practical Methods and Application
Innovation
Training
COVID
NSSP Community of Practice

Daily Agendas

Day 1 – Tuesday, November 17, 2020

OPENING REMARKS AND KEYNOTE

Daily Open, Logistics, and Overview

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH
Kahuina Consulting, LLC
President & Principal Consultant

Welcoming Remarks

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Speakers:

- CAPT Loren Rodgers, Ph.D. – CDC/NSSP, Acting National Syndromic Surveillance Program Lead
- Krystal Collier, BA – Arizona Department of Health Services, NSSP CoP Core Committee Chair
- Yushuan Chen, MPH – Tri-County Health Department (Colorado), NSSP CoP Core Committee Deputy Chair
- Hayleigh McCall, MPH – CSTE, 2020 Syndromic Surveillance Symposium Staff Lead

Keynote Address: Exploring the Past, Present, and Future of Public Health Surveillance

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Janet Hamilton, MPH
Executive Director
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE)

BLOCK 1

Training: NSSP ESSENCE 101

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Training

Description: An orientation for new users including 1) a brief introduction to syndromic surveillance and the NSSP and 2) an NSSP-ESSENCE step-by-step live demonstration highlighting how to navigate the tool and run, save, and share a query.

Trainer: Wayne Loschen, MS – Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (JHUAPL)

Additional Speaker: Aaron Kite-Powell, MS – CDC/NSSP

Breakout: Spike, Alert, GO!

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Practical Methods and Application

Description: Learn about experiences determining, setting, and utilizing syndromic surveillance alerts for public health action.

Moderator: Anna Frick, MPH – Alaska Department of Health and Human Services

Presenters:

- Tim Collins, MPH, MS, MA – Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC)
- Kara Manchester, MS – Ohio Department of Health
- Sindu Shamasunder, MPH + Hailey Hartman, MPH – North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- Howard Burkom, Ph.D. – Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (JHUAPL)

Breakout: Data Access and Integration

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Innovation

Description: Hear how APIs can be used to access and integrate other data sources with syndromic data.

Moderator: Caleb Wiedeman, MPH – Tennessee Department of Health

Presenters:

- Sara Chronister, MPH – Maricopa County Department of Public Health (Arizona)
- Josh Love, MPH – Metro Public Health Department (Nashville-Davidson County, Tennessee)

Breakout: Successful State-led Data Sharing Collaborations

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Data Sharing

Description: Setting the foundation for the day's Data Sharing Track sessions, hear of CDC and CSTE activities that have advanced syndromic data sharing, and examples of successful state-led data sharing collaborations.

Moderators:

- Dave Swenson, MEd, PMP – New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
- CAPT Loren Rodgers, Ph.D. – CDC/NSSP
- Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH – Kahuina Consulting, LLC

Presenters:

- Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH – Kahuina Consulting, LLC
- CAPT Loren Rodgers, Ph.D. – CDC/NSSP
- Zach Faigen, MSPH, REHS + Mike Dolan Fliss, Ph.D., MPS, MSW – North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- Veronica Fialkowski, MPH – Vermont Department of Health

Block 2

Lightning: Significant Findings

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Practical Methods and Application

Description: Discover 1) different analyses/statistics to assist in using syndromic data for decision-making and 2) syndromic surveillance alerts and how they can be interpreted to trigger public health action.

Moderator: MisChele Vickers, MPA – Alabama Department of Public Health

Presenters:

- MisChele Vickers, MPA – Alabama Department of Public Health
- Ami Gandhi, MPH – Georgia Department of Public Health
- Diksha Ramnani, MPH – Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- Darcy Phelan-Emrick, DrPH, MHS – Baltimore City Health Department (Maryland)
- Kelley Bemis, MPH – Cook County Department of Public Health (Illinois)

Roundtable: Bringing New Partners to the Table

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Innovation

Description: Discuss 1) approaches to engaging new partners and stakeholders with syndromic surveillance data and 2) methods to utilize new data and partnerships to address public health concerns.

Moderator: LT Kathleen Hartnett, Ph.D., MPH – CDC/NSSP

Invited Panelists:

- Alexander Senetcky, MPH – Connecticut Department of Public Health
- Grace Marx, MD, MPH – CDC/Division of Vector-Borne Diseases
- Marc Paladini, MPH – New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Stephanie Dietz, Ph.D., MSc – CDC/NSSP
- Jamaal Russell, DrPH, MPH – Contractor DoD/Armed Forces Health Surveillance Division

Breakout: Can I Share That? Ask the Lawyers.

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Data Sharing

Description: Hear varying perspectives on 1) the legal framework that applies to sharing public health surveillance data, 2) ways to overcome barriers to sharing data, 3) approaches to working with privacy officers on data sharing projects, and 4) best practices for working within your jurisdiction on data sharing projects.

Moderator: Deborah Gould, Ph.D., MS – CDC/DHIS

Presenters:

- Rachel Hammond, CIPP/G/US, HCISPP, CIPM – New Jersey Department of Health
- Matthew Penn, JD, MLIS – CDC/Office of Public Health Law Services

- Carrie Waggoner, JD – Network for Public Health Law

BLOCK 3

Training: Custom Syndrome Definition in NSSP ESSENCE

[Recording](#)

Track: Training

Description: Receive instruction on creating a custom syndrome query in NSSP ESSENCE, including information on which data sources to use for validation and analysis and tips to limit processing time.

Trainers:

- Rasneet Kumar, MPH – Tarrant County Public Health (Texas)
- Rosa Ergas, MPH – Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- Zach Stein, MPH – ICF Consultant, CDC/NSSP

Breakout: Match Point – Data Matching Across Sources

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Practical Methods and Application

Description: Hear about multiple methods for matching data across different data sources and systems.

Moderator: Kelley Chester, DrPH, MPH – Thought Bridge, LLC

Presenters:

- Josh Levy, MS – Levy Informatics, LLC + Kelley Chester, DrPH, MPH – Thought Bridge, LLC
- Dana Quesinberry, JD – Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center
- Madison Schaeffer, MS, MPH + Keaton Hughes, MPH + Lori Zigich, MPH – New Mexico Department of Health

Roundtable: Establishing a Public Use Shared Data Set

[Recording](#)

Track: Data Sharing

Description: Discuss and build community consensus on a public HHS-region level syndromic surveillance summary dataset.

Moderator: CAPT Loren Rodgers, Ph.D. – CDC/NSSP

Invited Panelists:

- Zach Faigen, MSPH, REHS – North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- Krystal Collier, BA – Arizona Department of Health Services
- Rob Mathes, MPH – New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Scott McNabb, Ph.D., MS – Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University
- Rachel Hammond, CIPP/G/US, HCISPP, CIPM – New Jersey Department of Health

Day 2 – Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Block 1

Training: Call Up Your Data Using APIs

[Recording](#)

Track: Training

Description: Receive instruction on how to access and utilize NSSP data through APIs.

Trainer: Michael Sheppard, MS – CDC/NSSP

Breakout: Querying from Scratch – Cooking Up New Syndromes

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Practical Methods and Application

Description: Hear about the process of designing a new syndrome definition query, including how surveillance objectives inform query design.

Moderator: Rosa Ergas, MPH – Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Presenters:

- Ashley Hawes, MPH – Austin Public Health (Texas)
- Gabriel Ann Haas, MPH – Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- Catherine Wolff, MS + Danielle Brathwaite, BA – University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Training: Data Sharing Step-by-Step Using the AMC

[Recording](#)

Track: Training

Description: Go through step-by-step instructions on how to share data with other jurisdictions through the AMC and discuss how building relationships, defining the purpose of shared-data surveillance and defining AMC data sharing rules are involved in the process.

Trainer: Herbert Okam – Deloitte Consultant, CDC/NSSP

Block 2

Training: Telling Your Story – Insights and Tips to Promote Syndromic Surveillance

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Training

Description: Learn from public health communication experts on identifying and successfully communicating syndromic surveillance success stories.

Trainers:

- Oona Powell, MA – CDC/Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance
- Michael Latham, BBA – CDC/Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance

Breakout: The Art of Surveillance – Data Visualizations

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Practical Methods and Application

Description: Hear about different visualizations used to share syndromic surveillance analyses through engaging dashboards and presentations effectively.

Moderator: Yushuan Chen, MPH – Tri-County Health Department (Colorado)

Presenters:

- Amanda Dylina Morse, MPH – Washington State Department of Health
- MisChele Vickers, MPA – Alabama Department of Public Health
- Michelle Carr, MPH + Yifang Dang, MS – Houston Health Department (Texas)

Lightning: New Tactics for Old Problems

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Innovation

Description: Learn about examples of new ways to apply syndromic surveillance to public health problems.

Moderators:

- Bill Smith, MS – Maricopa County Department of Public Health (Arizona)
- Fatema Mamou, MPH – Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Presenters:

- Amy Ising, MSIS – University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Sandra Gonzalez, Ph.D., MPH – Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
- James Muncy, MPH – South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
- Dave Atrubin, MPH – Florida Department of Health
- Lakshmi Radhakrishnan, MPH – CDC/NSSP
- Zach Stein, MPH – ICF Consultant, CDC/NSSP

BLOCK 3

Training: Dashboard Creation in NSSP ESSENCE

[Recording](#)

Track: Training

Description: Walk step-by-step through a demonstration of myESSENCE dashboard functionalities.

Trainer: Amanda Dylina Morse, MPH – Washington State Department of Health

Breakout: Making the Best of a SyS Situation – Data Quality for Syndromic Surveillance

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Practical Methods and Application

Description: Learn different methods for identifying and interpreting varying data quality

elements.

Moderator: Harold Gil, MSPH – Washington State Department of Health

Presenters:

- Dave Atrubin, MPH – Florida Department of Health
- Viacony Herzi, MPH, MLS(ASCP)^{CM} – Maricopa County Department of Public Health (Arizona) + Sasha Harb, MPH – Pima County Health Department (Arizona)
- PJ Gibson, BS – Indiana Department of Health

Roundtable: COVID, Current Events, and More – Discussing Syndromic Surveillance Practices in 2020

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Innovation

Description: Discuss definitions and/or other SyS activities regarding protests, police-involved shootings, COVID race inequalities, health equity, etc.

Moderator: Jim Nowicki, MBA – GDIT

Invited Panelists: Arden Norfleet, MPH – Virginia Department of Health

Day 3 – Thursday, November 19, 2020

PLENARIES

Plenary: NSSP and the Federal COVID Response

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Paula W. Yoon, ScD, MPH
Director, Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Plenary Panel: Syndromic Surveillance during a National Emergency – the State and Local Experience

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Moderator: Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH – Kahuina Consulting, LLC

Panelists:

- Natasha Close, Ph.D., MPH – Washington State Department of Health
- Scott Hutton, Ph.D., MPH – Idaho Division of Public Health
- Stacey Hoferka Jensen, MPH, MSIS – Illinois Department of Public Health
- Rob Mathes, MPH – New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

BLOCK 1

Breakout: COVID Syndrome Definition Update

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: COVID (COVID Track 1 RingCentral Space)

Description: Hear and discuss 1) updates to the national COVID syndrome definition, 2) information being considered by CDC about the definition, and 3) jurisdictional experiences refining the COVID definition for specific surveillance purposes.

Moderators/Presenters:

- Amanda Smith, Ph.D., MPH – CDC/NSSP (EIS Officer)
- Zach Stein, MPH – ICF Consultant, CDC/NSSP
- Michael Sheppard, MS – CDC/NSSP

Roundtable: Data Integration to Monitor COVID Vaccine Rollout

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: COVID (COVID Track 2 RingCentral Space)

Description: Discuss how NSSP data, adverse event data, poison control data, and other sources can be leveraged for rapid analysis to identify potential issues from the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines.

Moderator: Jim Nowicki, MBA – GDIT

Roundtable: Data Quality and COVID

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: COVID (COVID Track 3 RingCentral Space)

Description: Discuss the unique data quality challenges identified or exposure during the COVID response.

Moderators:

- Diksha Ramnani, MPH – Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- Jamie Smimble, MPH – CDC/NSSP
- Lakshmi Radhakrishnan, MPH – CDC/NSSP

Invited Panelist: Stephanie Dietz, Ph.D., MSc – CDC/NSSP

Demo/Technical Walkthrough: Analytic Innovations for the COVID Response – R Shiny Dashboard

[Recording](#)

Track: COVID (COVID Track 4 RingCentral Space)

Description: Participate in a demonstration, and technical (i.e., code) walkthrough of the R Shiny Dashboard created for the COVID response.

Demonstrators:

- Aaron Kite-Powell, MS – CDC/NSSP
- Douglas Wirtz, MS – ICF Consultant, CDC/NSSP

NSSP COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (CoP) SESSIONS

Who We Are and Where We're Going – NSSP CoP Participation and Strategic Framework

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Moderator: Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH – Kahuina Consulting, LLC

Presenters:

- Deborah Gould Ph.D., MS – CDC/DHIS, NSSP CoP Technical Monitor
- Krystal Collier, BA – Arizona Department of Health Services, NSSP CoP Core Committee Chair
- Yushiuan Chen, MPH – Tri-County Health Department (Colorado), NSSP CoP Core Committee Deputy Chair
- Hayleigh McCall, MPH – CSTE, NSSP CoP Staff Lead

Ongoing Activities – NSSP CoP Subcommittee, Workgroup, and User Group Updates

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Moderator: Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH – Kahuina Consulting, LLC

Presenters: NSSP CoP Core Committee Representatives and Workgroup Co-Chairs

Looking Ahead – Engaging with the Nssp CoP Moving Forward

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Moderator: Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH – Kahuina Consulting, LLC

Presenters:

- Deborah Gould, Ph.D., MS – CDC/DHIS, Nssp CoP Technical Monitor
- Krystal Collier, BA – Arizona Department of Health Services, Nssp CoP Core Committee Chair
- Yushiuan Chen, MPH – Tri-County Health Department (Colorado), Nssp CoP Core Committee Deputy Chair
- Hayleigh McCall, MPH – CSTE, Nssp CoP Staff Lead

SYMPOSIUM CLOSE

Symposium Closing Session

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH
Kahuina Consulting, LLC
President & Principal Consultant

Content by Track

Symposium Opening, Welcoming Remarks, Keynote, and Symposium Closing

Daily Open, Logistics, and Overview

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH
Kahuina Consulting, LLC
President & Principal Consultant

Welcoming Remarks

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Speakers:

- CAPT Loren Rodgers, Ph.D. – CDC/NSSP, Acting National Syndromic Surveillance Program Lead
- Krystal Collier, BA – Arizona Department of Health Services, NSSP CoP Core Committee Chair
- Yushiuan Chen, MPH – Tri-County Health Department (Colorado), NSSP CoP Core Committee Deputy Chair
- Hayleigh McCall, MPH – CSTE, 2020 Syndromic Surveillance Symposium Staff Lead

Keynote Address: Exploring the Past, Present, and Future of Public Health Surveillance

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Janet Hamilton, MPH
Executive Director
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE)

Symposium Closing Session

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH
Kahuina Consulting, LLC
President & Principal Consultant

Data Sharing

Breakout: Successful State-led Data Sharing Collaborations

[Recording](#) | [Slides](#)

Track: Data Sharing

Description: Setting the foundation for the day's Data Sharing Track sessions, hear of CDC and CSTE activities that have advanced syndromic data sharing, and examples of successful state-led data sharing collaborations.

Moderators:

- Dave Swenson, MEd, PMP – New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
- CAPT Loren Rodgers, Ph.D. – CDC/NSSP
- Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH – Kahuina Consulting, LLC

Presenters:

- Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH – Kahuina Consulting, LLC
- CAPT Loren Rodgers, Ph.D. – CDC/NSSP
- Zach Faigen, MSPH, REHS + Mike Dolan Fliss, Ph.D., MPS, MSW – North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- Veronica Fialkowski, MPH – Vermont Department of Health

Breakout: Can I Share That? Ask the Lawyers.

[Recording](#) | [Slides](#)

Track: Data Sharing

Description: Hear varying perspectives on 1) the legal framework that applies to sharing public health surveillance data, 2) ways to overcome barriers to sharing data, 3) approaches to working with privacy officers on data sharing projects, and 4) best practices for working within your jurisdiction on data sharing projects.

Moderator: Deborah Gould, Ph.D., MS – CDC/DHIS

Presenters:

- Rachel Hammond, CIPP/G/US, HCISPP, CIPM – New Jersey Department of Health
- Matthew Penn, JD, MLIS – CDC/Office of Public Health Law Services

Roundtable: Establishing a Public Use Shared Data Set

[Recording](#)

Track: Data Sharing

Description: Discuss and build community consensus on a public HHS-region level syndromic surveillance summary dataset.

Moderator: CAPT Loren Rodgers, Ph.D. – CDC/NSSP

Invited Panelists:

- Zach Faigen, MSPH, REHS – North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- Krystal Collier, BA – Arizona Department of Health Services
- Rob Mathes, MPH – New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

- Scott McNabb, Ph.D., MS – Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University
- Rachel Hammond, CIPP/G/US, HCISPP, CIPM – New Jersey Department of Health

Practical Methods and Application

Breakout: Spike, Alert, GO!

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Practical Methods and Application

Description: Learn about experiences determining, setting, and utilizing syndromic surveillance alerts for public health action.

Moderator: Anna Frick, MPH – Alaska Department of Health and Human Services

Presenters:

- Tim Collins, MPH, MS, MA – Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC)
- Kara Manchester, MS – Ohio Department of Health
- Sindu Shamasunder, MPH + Hailey Hartman, MPH – North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- Howard Burkom, Ph.D. – Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (JHUAPL)

Lightning: Significant Findings

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Practical Methods and Application

Description: Discover 1) different analyses/statistics to assist in using syndromic data for decision-making and 2) syndromic surveillance alerts and how they can be interpreted to trigger public health action.

Moderator: MisChele Vickers, MPA – Alabama Department of Public Health

Presenters:

- MisChele Vickers, MPA – Alabama Department of Public Health
- Ami Gandhi, MPH – Georgia Department of Public Health
- Diksha Ramnani, MPH – Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- Darcy Phelan-Emrick, DrPH, MHS – Baltimore City Health Department (Maryland)
- Kelley Bemis, MPH – Cook County Department of Public Health (Illinois)

Breakout: Match Point – Data Matching Across Sources

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Practical Methods and Application

Description: Hear about multiple methods for matching data across different data sources and systems.

Moderator: Kelley Chester, DrPH, MPH – Thought Bridge, LLC

Presenters:

- Josh Levy, MS – Levy Informatics, LLC + Kelley Chester, DrPH, MPH – Thought Bridge, LLC
- Dana Quesinberry, JD – Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center

- Madison Schaeffer, MS, MPH + Keaton Hughes, MPH + Lori Zigich, MPH – New Mexico Department of Health

Breakout: Querying from Scratch – Cooking Up New Syndromes

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Practical Methods and Application

Description: Hear about the process of designing a new syndrome definition query, including how surveillance objectives inform query design.

Moderator: Rosa Ergas, MPH – Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Presenters:

- Ashley Hawes, MPH – Austin Public Health (Texas)
- Gabriel Ann Haas, MPH – Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- Catherine Wolff, MS + Danielle Brathwaite, BA – University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Breakout: The Art of Surveillance – Data Visualizations

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Practical Methods and Application

Description: Hear about different visualizations used to share syndromic surveillance analyses through engaging dashboards and presentations effectively.

Moderator: Yushuan Chen, MPH – Tri-County Health Department (Colorado)

Presenters:

- Amanda Dylina Morse, MPH – Washington State Department of Health
- MisChele Vickers, MPA – Alabama Department of Public Health
- Michelle Carr, MPH + Yifang Dang, MS – Houston Health Department (Texas)

Breakout: Making the Best of a SyS Situation – Data Quality for Syndromic Surveillance

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Practical Methods and Application

Description: Learn different methods for identifying and interpreting varying data quality elements.

Moderator: Harold Gil, MSPH – Washington State Department of Health

Presenters:

- Dave Atrubin, MPH – Florida Department of Health
- Viacony Herzi, MPH, MLS(ASCP)^{CM} – Maricopa County Department of Public Health (Arizona) + Sasha Harb, MPH – Pima County Health Department (Arizona)
- PJ Gibson, BS – Indiana Department of Health

Innovation

Breakout: Data Access and Integration

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Innovation

Description: Hear how APIs can be used to access and integrate other data sources with syndromic data.

Moderator: Caleb Wiedeman, MPH – Tennessee Department of Health

Presenters:

- Sara Chronister, MPH – Maricopa County Department of Public Health (Arizona)
- Josh Love, MPH – Metro Public Health Department (Nashville-Davidson County, Tennessee)

Roundtable: Bringing New Partners to the Table

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Innovation

Description: Discuss 1) approaches to engaging new partners and stakeholders with syndromic surveillance data and 2) methods to utilize new data and partnerships to address public health concerns.

Moderator: LT Kathleen Hartnett, Ph.D., MPH – CDC/NSSP

Invited Panelists:

- Alexander Senetcky, MPH – Connecticut Department of Public Health
- Grace Marx, MD, MPH – CDC/Division of Vector-Borne Diseases
- Marc Paladini, MPH – New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Stephanie Dietz, Ph.D., MSc – CDC/NSSP
- Jamaal Russell, DrPH, MPH – Contractor DoD/Armed Forces Health Surveillance Division

Lightning: New Tactics for Old Problems

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Innovation

Description: Learn about examples of new ways to apply syndromic surveillance to public health problems.

Moderators:

- Bill Smith, MS – Maricopa County Department of Public Health (Arizona)
- Fatema Mamou, MPH – Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Presenters:

- Amy Ising, MSIS – University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Sandra Gonzalez, Ph.D., MPH – Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
- James Muncy, MPH – South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
- Dave Atrubin, MPH – Florida Department of Health
- Lakshmi Radhakrishnan, MPH – CDC/NSSP

- Zach Stein, MPH – ICF Consultant, CDC/NSSP

Roundtable: COVID, Current Events, and More – Discussing Syndromic Surveillance Practices in 2020

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Innovation

Description: Discuss definitions and/or other SyS activities regarding protests, police-involved shootings, COVID race inequalities, health equity, etc.

Moderator: Jim Nowicki, MBA – GDIT

Invited Panelists: Arden Norfleet, MPH – Virginia Department of Health

Training

Training: NSSP ESSENCE 101

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Training

Description: An orientation for new users including 1) a brief introduction to syndromic surveillance and the NSSP and 2) an NSSP-ESSENCE step-by-step live demonstration highlighting how to navigate the tool and run, save, and share a query.

Trainer: Wayne Loschen, MS – Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (JHUAPL)

Additional Speaker: Aaron Kite-Powell, MS – CDC/NSSP

Training: Custom Syndrome Definition in NSSP ESSENCE

[Recording](#)

Track: Training

Description: Receive instruction on creating a custom syndrome query in NSSP ESSENCE, including information on which data sources to use for validation and analysis and tips to limit processing time.

Trainers:

- Rasneet Kumar, MPH – Tarrant County Public Health (Texas)
- Rosa Ergas, MPH – Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- Zach Stein, MPH – ICF Consultant, CDC/NSSP

Training: Call Up Your Data Using APIs

[Recording](#)

Track: Training

Description: Receive instruction on how to access and utilize NSSP data through APIs.

Trainer: Michael Sheppard, MS – CDC/NSSP

Training: Data Sharing Step-by-Step Using the AMC

[Recording](#)

Track: Training

Description: Go through step-by-step instructions on how to share data with other jurisdictions through the AMC and discuss how building relationships, defining the purpose of shared-data surveillance and defining AMC data sharing rules are involved in the process.

Trainer: Herbert Okam – Deloitte Consultant, CDC/NSSP

Training: Telling Your Story – Insights and Tips to Promote Syndromic Surveillance

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: Training

Description: Learn from public health communication experts on identifying and successfully communicating syndromic surveillance success stories.

Trainers:

- Oona Powell, MA – CDC/Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance
- Michael Latham, BBA – CDC/Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance

Training: Dashboard Creation in NSSP ESSENCE

[Recording](#)

Track: Training

Description: Walk step-by-step through a demonstration of myESSENCE dashboard functionalities.

Trainer: Amanda Dylina Morse, MPH – Washington State Department of Health

COVID

Plenary: NSSP and the Federal COVID Response

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Paula W. Yoon, ScD, MPH

Director, Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Plenary Panel: Syndromic Surveillance during a National Emergency – the State and Local Experience

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Moderator: Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH – Kahuina Consulting, LLC

Panelists:

- Natasha Close, Ph.D., MPH – Washington State Department of Health
- Scott Hutton, Ph.D., MPH – Idaho Division of Public Health
- Stacey Hoferka Jensen, MPH, MSIS – Illinois Department of Public Health
- Rob Mathes, MPH – New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Breakout: COVID Syndrome Definition Update

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: COVID

Description: Hear and discuss 1) updates to the national COVID syndrome definition, 2) information being considered by CDC about the definition, and 3) jurisdictional experiences refining the COVID definition for specific surveillance purposes.

Moderators/Presenters:

- Amanda Smith, Ph.D., MPH – CDC/NSSP (EIS Officer)
- Zach Stein, MPH – ICF Consultant, CDC/NSSP
- Michael Sheppard, MS – CDC/NSSP

Roundtable: Data Integration to Monitor COVID Vaccine Rollout

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: COVID

Description: Discuss how NSSP data, adverse event data, poison control data, and other sources can be leveraged for rapid analysis to identify potential issues from the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines.

Moderator: Jim Nowicki, MBA – GDIT

Roundtable: Data Quality and COVID

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Track: COVID

Description: Discuss the unique data quality challenges identified or exposed during the COVID response.

Moderators:

- Diksha Ramnani, MPH – Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- Jamie Smimble, MPH – CDC/NSSP
- Lakshmi Radhakrishnan, MPH – CDC/NSSP

Invited Panelist: Stephanie Dietz, Ph.D., MSc – CDC/NSSP

Demo/Technical Walkthrough: Analytic Innovations for the COVID Response – R Shiny Dashboard

[Recording](#)

Track: COVID

Description: Participate in a demonstration, and technical (i.e., code) walkthrough of the R Shiny Dashboard created for the COVID response.

Demonstrators:

- Aaron Kite-Powell, MS – CDC/NSSP
- Douglas Wirtz, MS – ICF Consultant, CDC/NSSP

NSSP Community of Practice

Who We Are and Where We're Going – NSSP CoP Participation and Strategic Framework

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Moderator: Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH – Kahuina Consulting, LLC

Presenters:

- Deborah Gould, Ph.D., MS – CDC/DHIS, NSSP CoP Technical Monitor
- Krystal Collier, BA – Arizona Department of Health Services, NSSP CoP Core Committee Chair
- Yushiuan Chen, MPH – Tri-County Health Department (Colorado), NSSP CoP Core Committee Deputy Chair
- Hayleigh McCall, MPH – CSTE, NSSP CoP Staff Lead

Ongoing Activities – NSSP CoP Subcommittee, Workgroup, and User Group Updates

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Moderator: Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH – Kahuina Consulting, LLC

Presenters: NSSP CoP Core Committee Representatives and Workgroup Co-Chairs

Looking Ahead – Engaging with the NSSP CoP Moving Forward

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)

Moderator: Charlie Ishikawa, MSPH – Kahuina Consulting, LLC

Presenters:

- Deborah Gould, Ph.D., MS – CDC/DHIS, NSSP CoP Technical Monitor
- Krystal Collier, BA – Arizona Department of Health Services, NSSP CoP Core Committee Chair
- Yushiuan Chen, MPH – Tri-County Health Department (Colorado), NSSP CoP Core Committee Deputy Chair
- Hayleigh McCall, MPH – CSTE, NSSP CoP Staff Lead