

May 9, 2019

New Community of Practice Cooperative Agreement

Dear Nssp Community of Practice members:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the International Society for Disease Surveillance (ISDS) are strong advocates for syndromic surveillance—both the science, and the practice.

One way in which CDC has provided its support is by funding a partner organization to facilitate the Nssp Community of Practice (CoP). For three years, **ISDS has served in this role and been a valued partner in advancing syndromic surveillance and energizing the community.** CDC and ISDS have worked on your behalf to build a strong, *sustainable* community of practice.

On May 7, 2019, Nssp representatives spoke with members of the Nssp CoP Steering Committee and leadership teams for the Nssp CoP committees and workgroups about CDC's cooperative agreement with ISDS. **The current cooperative agreement with ISDS for support of the Nssp CoP will end June 30, 2019.** It will be replaced by a new partner cooperative agreement being competed through CDC's Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support National Partnership (CSTLTS) cooperative agreement (<https://www.cdc.gov/publichealthgateway/partnerships/capacity-building-assistance-OT18-1802.html>).

Be assured, CDC and ISDS are committed to continuation of the Nssp CoP. Attached are some questions posed during the call and an explanation about how the CSTLTS partnership cooperative agreement process works. As the details of this transition are finalized, we will share information through emails and the monthly *Nssp Update*. A new partner will be identified in September 2019 *after* the competitive process for the new cooperative agreement concludes. To bridge the period between the two cooperative agreements, CDC will provide essential support to the Nssp CoP committees and workgroups (described in the FAQs).

We ask for your patience and understanding throughout this transition. Look for an email from ISDS with additional information about transitioning your Nssp CoP membership and contact information.

Together, we have made great strides in advancing syndromic surveillance and fully intend to build on the momentum achieved. Please contact Nssp@cdc.gov if you have concerns or questions. Attached are some frequently asked questions that you may find helpful.

Regards,

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National Syndromic Surveillance Program

Shandy Dearth, Executive Director
International Society for Disease Surveillance

Attachment: Frequently Asked Questions for All Community of Practice Members