

New data for HIV prevention



This month, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) was awarded competitive funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to implement National

HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS) in the Portland metropolitan area. NHBS involves ongoing data collection through interviews and HIV testing among high-risk populations. OHA is partnering with Portland State University (PSU) to conduct NHBS.

NHBS offers valuable information to help Oregon better understand and address its HIV epidemic.

The project collects data on sexual and drug use risk behaviors, use of prevention services and the prevalence of undiagnosed HIV infection. NHBS is conducted in rotating annual cycles among men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs and heterosexuals at increased risk for HIV. Data are collected from each population every three years to assess trends over time.

Sean Schafer, M.D., M.P.H. (OHA) and Roberto Orellana, PhD, M.P.H., M.S.W. (PSU) are the co-principal investigators. Dano Beck, M.S.W. is the project coordinator, moving from the OHA HIV Prevention Program to the HIV Data and Analysis Program. In the coming months, OHA and PSU will hire additional project staff and invite stakeholders to participate in an NHBS advisory group.

Demonstration project results

A new OHA report describes outcomes and lessons learned from Oregon's technology-based demonstration projects launched in late 2012. A few key results are highlighted below:

- More than 1,900 people enrolled in Oregon Reminders (www.OregonReminders.org), which offers text, email and voice reminders to test for HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) every three to six months, to take medications daily and to refill prescriptions monthly.
- Twenty-three businesses and organizations added HIV prevention content to websites or mobile applications (apps) serving high-risk populations, including Hornet, a dating app with millions of users.
- Four people were newly diagnosed with HIV and four people were linked to or re-engaged in care through Social Network Strategy (SNS) HIV testing programs that used both in-person and technology based recruitment and training methods.

SNS and efforts to expand online HIV prevention content were completed in December 2014. Oregon Reminders is continuing with an alternative funding source. OHA thanks HIV Alliance, Cascade AIDS Project, the Multnomah County Health Department and YTH (youth+tech+health) for their innovative work on these projects. For more information about project outcomes, please read the full report at <http://bit.ly/ORreports>.

Expanded STI screening

Since 2014, the OHA STD Program has provided funding for local health departments and other safety net clinics to provide free chlamydia and gonorrhea screening to certain groups of young women, in partnership with the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory. We are pleased to announce the STD Program now covers chlamydia and gonorrhea lab screening costs at eligible safety net STD sites for both females and males younger than 25 years of age who are uninsured or underinsured. Specimens must be sent to the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory. To learn more or to determine if your site is eligible, contact Josh Ferrer with the OHA STD Prevention Program at joshua.s.ferrer@state.or.us or 971-673-0149.

Upcoming events

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

Feb. 7

Learn more at www.blackaidsday.org.

National Condom Week

Feb. 8–14

Learn more at <http://bit.ly/NaConWk>.

Who do I contact?

Staff members from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), HIV and STD Prevention Programs are available to provide technical assistance related to a variety of topics. Please see the table below with contact information as of January 1, 2016.

Name	Title	Program	Phone	Email	Primary contact for questions related to:
Josh Ferrer	Technical Consultant	STD/HIV Prevention	(971) 673-0149	joshua.s.ferrer@state.or.us	HIV/STD partner services, testing, STD treatment protocols, STD program condom distribution
Irina Kasarskis	Program Evaluator	STD/HIV Prevention	(971) 673-0165	irina.m.kasarskis@state.or.us	HIV/STD testing data and program evaluation, sHIVer, Orpheus
Larry Hill	Program Development Analyst	HIV Prevention	(971) 673-0162	larry.d.hill@state.or.us	HIV prevention program planning and capacity building assistance, Integrated Planning Group (IPG), needle exchange
Warren Scott	Office Specialist	HIV Prevention	(971) 673-1161	warren.r.scott@state.or.us	IPG travel and lodging, administrative operations, receives HIV test forms from non-funded counties for data entry
Gary Fosnaugh	Administrative Specialist	STD Prevention	(971) 673-0152	gary.d.fosnaugh@state.or.us	Syphilis registry and Orpheus entry, inter-state communications of STD issues, STD medication orders, CT and GC registry, STD lab results, administrative operations
Abdon Correa	Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS)	STD Prevention	(503) 510-2316	abdon.correa@state.or.us	HIV/STD case-specific questions and technical assistance for Lincoln, Polk, Linn, Benton, Marion, Jefferson, Crook, Grant, Deschutes, Wheeler, and Baker counties
Patrick Dinwiddie	Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS)	STD Prevention	(971) 673-0168	patrick.dinwiddie@state.or.us	HIV/STD case-specific questions and technical assistance for Tillamook, Clatsop, Columbia, Washington, Yamhill, Clackamas, Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla, Union and Wallowa counties
Kym Coleman	Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS)	STD Prevention	(541) 915-2062	kym.coleman@state.or.us	HIV/STD case-specific questions and technical assistance for Lane, Douglas, Coos, Curry, Josephine, Jackson, Klamath, Lake, Harney and Malheur counties
Barbara Keepes	Fiscal Analyst	HIV/STD/TB Section	(971) 673-0573	barbara.j.keepes@state.or.us	HIV prevention condom distribution, fiscal operations
Ruth Helsley	HIV/STD Prevention Program Manager	STD/HIV Prevention	(971) 673-0867	ruth.helsley@state.or.us	General program, policy and procedure questions, complaints, problem-solving needs, CDC requirements, funding