The Contribution of Field Services Unit Interview Data to the New York City HIV/AIDS Surveillance Registry, 2006-2011

Laura Stadelmann, MPH1,2; Sara Bodach, MPH2; Angelica Bocour, MPH2; Tamar Renaud, MPH2; Sarah Braunstein, PhD, MPH2; Colin Shepard, MD2
1CDC/CSTE Applied Epidemiology Fellowship, 2New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Abstract

• Medical record abstraction and case interviews during field investigation
• Investigations done for all potential new cases
• Medical record abstraction during field investigation

The contribution of FSU to HSR has not yet been evaluated.

NYC HIV Surveillance Unit
• Medical record abstraction during field investigation
• Investigations done for all potential new cases

NYC HIV Field Services Unit (FSU)
• Medical record abstraction and case interviews during field investigation
• Investigations done for a subset of new HIV cases at designated high prevalence facilities

Objective: To evaluate the contribution of HIV Field Services Unit data to HIV Surveillance data with respect to timing of case ascertainment and completeness of demographic and transmission risk variables.

Methods
• We merged data from Surveillance Unit field investigations with data from FSU partner services investigations.
• We evaluated timeliness by:
  • Comparing assignment dates among cases investigated by both units from 7/1/2006 (FSU establishment) through 12/13/2011
  • Comparing Surveillance Unit assignment date with FSU interview date among cases investigated by both units and interviewed by FSU
• We evaluated data quality by:
  • Comparing completeness of transmission risk information in HSR prior to and after FSU establishment
  • Comparing completeness of demographic variables in Surveillance Unit data versus FSU data among cases investigated by both units

Background
• The New York City (NYC) HIV/AIDS Surveillance Registry (HSR) includes all cases of HIV/AIDS diagnosed and reported in NYC.
• Two units that ascertain cases and contribute data to the HSR are:
  • NYC HIV Surveillance Unit
  • NYC HIV Field Services Unit (FSU)

Results
Analysis Flow Chart

FSU Data
FSU assignment date earlier than Surveillance assignment date
FSU interview date also earlier than Surveillance assignment date

FSU assignment date first
FSU interview first
Surveillance Assignment Date First
Median interval between dates:
17 days (IQR = 10 - 24)
35% FSU Assignment Date First
53% FSU Interview First
47% Surveillance Assignment Date First

FSU interview date first
FSU interview date later than Surveillance assignment date
FSU interview date also later than Surveillance assignment date

FSU interview date first
FSU interview date also first
Surveillance Assignment Date First
Median interval between dates:
15 days (IQR = 9 - 22)
64% FSU Assignment Date First
35% FSU Interview First

FSU investigation occurred prior to the Surveillance investigation for a majority of the cases investigated by both units.

Conclusions
• HIV data collected by FSU were shown to be timely and complete.
• The FSU investigation occurred prior to the Surveillance investigation for a majority of the cases investigated by both units.
• Recommendation: Newly-reported HIV cases assigned for FSU investigation may not need an additional medical record review by Surveillance staff. More rapid integration of FSU data into the HSR could lead to efficiency gains for the portion of HIV cases investigated by FSU and reduce duplication of work.
• Limitations: Completeness was used to reflect data quality because we are limited in our ability to assess the validity of the data. Additionally, only a portion of total cases in the HSR are investigated by FSU.

Acknowledgements: CDC/CSTE Applied Epidemiology Fellowship and HIV Epidemiology & Field Services Staff