

**About The Speakers-** Dr. Geppert works at Batelle and collects data that indicates how states are doing.

A) Discussion Topics/Presentation Points: State Profiles

- Many of you may know about the National Quality Report (NQR) and how it sets forth benchmarks that tell us if we have made progress since the previous year in terms of preparedness.
- The NQR helps us create a profile of how states are doing etc.
- ASPR/AHRQ joined together on a project and outlined the following goals:
  1. Task 1-Develop state data profile template.
  2. Task 2-Develop emergency preparedness measures.
- The purpose of the state profiles project is to: build on existing work at AHRQ's and extend AHRQ's quality indicators to include healthcare emergency preparedness, to respond to Federal mandates.
- We adopted measurable evidence -based benchmarks and objective standards and decided what are the most meaningful things to report.
- State snapshots focus on a state's abilities and performance measures.
- Task 1-Data profiles for states:
  1. State -by -state profiles will allow for comparison across states and content will include existing data in healthcare emergency preparedness.
  2. The initial focus is on hospitals with later attention on alternative sites.
    - i. Version 1- Includes HPP grant data and state information.
    - ii. Version 2- Incorporates measures from other sources like US census, AHA annual survey, AHRQ HCUP data.
    - iii. Version 3 -Walked through the newly developed measures that looked at general population, at-risk individuals, healthcare facilities and capabilities and health care workforce availability etc. to assess a hospital's ability to absorb extra patients in a surge.
- Task 2: To develop 20-30 evidence-based measures that focus on healthcare emergency preparedness, not public health.
  1. Compile a list of candidate measures.
  2. Review all literature.
  3. Evaluate measures based on criteria.
  4. Tier measures.
  5. Develop a strategy to address gaps.
  6. Gather evidence as needed.
  7. Select most promising measures.
- The greatest source of improvement in the structure is in the use and the feedback that we get for people in the field.
- In version 3 we narrowed down 800+ indicators to 200 for review.
- Evidence- based means that the measure is developed using a process that is grounded in the scientific method.
- Four key components to evidence-based material:
  1. There is a specific idea about how things work.
  2. There is a framed and testable hypothesis.
  3. The evidence is measured and expressed in probabilistic terms.
  4. Open to critique and review.
- Results/Key Findings/ Conclusions:
  1. There are opportunities for improvement
  2. There is variation across HHS regions so that issue needs to be addressed.

3. The dimensionality of emergency preparedness is not always clear because large variations are often explained in relatively few indicators of preparedness.
4. Looking at the way the data are correlated increases our ability to look at trends over time.
5. To move forward with this we need to get stakeholder input in order to make the measures and state data more useful.

B) Question and Answer Session: Open to all participants

1. Q (Knebel ): I think we need more discussion and dialogue about this. I think the offer to have discussion and dialogue as we move on is good.
2. Q: The process is good for design- Microsystems are collecting a lot of data and they must have a reason for collecting that data, is anybody looking at the data that the Microsystems are collecting and can you use those indicators to formulate your own indicators? R (Geppert): [Yes, we are using that as our basis.](#)
3. Q: Will the data provided back to the states, (those specific indicators) tell you if a hospital is ready for the surge? Will hospitals be given an explanation of that? R (Geppert): [Yes, the hospitals will be given a report with an explanation that explains the data measures and why they were collected. What are the things that are most useful and predictive that we really care about?](#)