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Sent: Friday, June 27, 2008 11:50 AM
To: NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)
Cc: Chen, Jihong (Jane) (CDC/NIOSH/EID) (CTR); Doyle, Glenn (CDC/NIOSH/EID)
Subject: 135 - HCWorker Comments

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Comments

The American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Inc. (AAOHN) has conducted web surveys using non-probability or convenience samples and statistical samples. The advantages of web surveys are 1) easier to respond in most cases, 2) cost effective and 3) quick results. The disadvantages include 1) if too complex and/or lengthy increases difficulty for responders, 2) limited to type of questions that may be asked, and 3) some individuals still experience challenges with technology. AAOHN will not provide email list of members. The association will provide links to members so they can respond and coordinate communication and promotion.

AAOHN has staff that can manage/coordinate sample selection. Sample selection can be targeted (e.g., educational level, business sector, membership classification, etc.) based on audiences to be targeted. AAOHN's experience has shown that short and less complex questionnaires receive a better response, higher percentage of members respond earlier in the process than close to the deadline, several communications (e.g., emails, electronic newsletters) increase participation, and the significance/importance of the topic increases participation. AAOHN's response rate is approximately 20-30 percent of the sample. Rarely does the association use incentives. We do post an executive summary on the association web site and in some cases; participants can obtain a copy of the survey results.

AAOHN communications vehicles used to promote participation can include 1) letter from the association President, 2) weekly electronic newsletter, 3) monthly printed newsletter, 4) targeted audiences' emails, and 5) email blasts. The association does not specifically identified IRB review as it relates to study protocols; however, the association's policy is as follows:

- Participation is strictly voluntary,
- Data is reported as an aggregate,
- Responses are anonymous,
- Data are used for no other purpose and
- Only data that is required for the purposes of the project is asked.

As for reporting we recommend electronic and printed formats, links, presentations (e.g., face to face, web casts, etc). We prefer reading a summary/executive summary so that we can immediately see the results and implications. Details can be made available. .

Worker Survey

AAOHN feedback is as follows:

- 1) Recommend using the term "health" instead of "medical" surveillance.
Health is a broader term encompassing healthy workers as well as those affected workers. It also

reflects the diverse group of health care providers responsible for health surveillance.

2) Regarding emerging hazards or issues, what about musculoskeletal issues (e.g., lifting), blood and body fluid and latex exposure, and exposure to infectious diseases.

Management Survey

AAOHN feedback is as follows:

1) Recommend that the participants know in advance that they may have to secure data from other departments/units. Our experience has been that having to secure additional data increases the complexity and decreases the participation rate. This audience may be less inclined to take the time to gather additional data. The root issue is finding the right person to complete the survey.

2) Recommend a short time line.

3) Recommend multiple approaches to reporting results including an executive summary that provides the information one would want to know right up front.

4) Regarding core modules, wondering why Bloodborne Pathogens program was not included?

5) Recommend the emerging hazards or issues we identified under worker survey be asked about on the management survey— blood and body fluids, latex exposure, and infectious diseases.