



**NC Division of Public Health
Epidemiology Section**

**Communicable Disease Branch
Medical Consultation Unit
Technical Assistance & Training Program**



Technical Assistance & Training Program Goals

Directly support local health department CD staff in identifying, preventing, and responding to communicable disease

Follow the lead of local health department staff in delivering community based services for communicable disease

OBJECTIVE 1

Oversee training to local health department communicable disease nurses in communicable disease surveillance and investigation specific to NC

Examples:

- Annual Communicable Disease Conference (beginning 2010)
- Communicable Disease Course (continuation 2004 to present)
- STD Nurse Clinician Training (continuation)
- STD Prevention Training Center Curriculum (continuation)
- Manuals (web-based) for Communicable Disease Branch – HIV/STD and CD
- New Employee Orientation
- Staff Development In-services

OBJECTIVE 2

Consultation with local health department communicable disease staff as part of the ON CALL system in the Medical Consultation Unit

- **Establish strong partnership with, and support the local CD control staff, in prevention and response to reports of communicable disease**
 - Each LHD will have an assigned CD Nurse Consultant

- **Assist with LHD Policy Development**
 - Clinical Services for STD/Syphilis/HIV/AIDS
 - 24/7 Communicable Disease Response
 - Epidemiology Teams
 - Communicable Disease Investigation
 - Communicable Disease Record Management
 - Communicable Disease Risk Communication
 - Communicable Disease Surveillance LHD Communicable Disease Reporting
 - Communicable Disease Training & Staff Development

- **Share Best Practices**
 - Create LHD Short Term Learning Collaboratives
 - Case Investigation
 - Outbreak Management
 - LHD Interactions with Community Providers

- **Assist LHDs with Obtaining Data Extracts from NC EDSS & NC DETECT**

Getting Started

- Web Resources will be updated July 2010
- Memorandum from CD Branch will go out prior to July 1, announcing change
- Regional CD Nurse Consultants will contact lead CD Nurse in each County and introduce themselves
- Regional CD Nurse Consultants cross train to expand services



Frequently Asked Questions

- **How do I get help?**
 - Workdays – call your consultant
 - After hours – call main number **919-733-3419**
- **How do I request training?**
 - Call your consultant or access the website
- **How can I get data from NC EDSS?**
 - Call your consultant for assistance



Frequently Asked Questions

Will I still be monitored for STD Clinical Services?

- Yes – but differently
- Agreement Addenda remain the same for 2010-2011 with a plan to *reduce* amount of time required for site assessment preparation and *reduce* the total number of items requiring monitoring



Frequently Asked Questions

Will CD Nurse Consultants be able to assist me on site?

- CD Nurse Consultants will visit each health department annually, but will strive to minimize interruption to essential services
- Yes, CD Nurse Consultants will be able to make visits to assist in new staff orientation, arrange for training, and work in collaboration with local staff to address local needs
- Yes, CD Branch staff will support local outbreak investigation either directly or by engaging other public health resources, as needed by the local health department.



Frequently Asked Questions

How will CD Nurse Consultants interact with Preparedness Activities?

- CD Nurse Consultants recognize the value of existing Epi Team training and intend to support, not supplant, that effort in local health departments. CD Nurse Consultants will collaborate with Epi Team trainers.
- CD Nurse Consultants plan to work in collaboration with Preparedness to provide consistent guidance about LHD Disease Investigation Steps including appropriate communication and response.