

Nevada State Health Division  
Public Health Preparedness

Sierra Community Healthcare Foundation  
(ELC 05-07)  
Progress Report 2007- 2  
January 1, 2007 – September 30, 2007

**ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE**

**EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS TO PREVENT ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE AND PROMOTE APPROPRIATE ANTIBIOTIC USE:**

**Conduct a public health education campaign that targets both consumers and providers to promote appropriate antimicrobial use:**

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- Educate consumers about the problems of antibiotic resistance and what can be done to positively impact the associated problem by participation in four public health fairs and attending public presentations conducted by Nevadans for Antibiotic Awareness (NAA).

**Activity Progress:** This reporting period NAA reached over 3,600 Nevadans through participation in 4 health fairs and the delivery of 12 presentations. These venues enabled NAA to distribute 450 self-care guides and 600 bookmarks. Groups reached include low-income residents of southern Nevada, Native American communities in northern Nevada, the Laborer's Union, parents of home-schooled children, teachers, and adult acute hospital patients.

Outreach continued to 150 pandemic flu first-responders at a health fair in August.

NAA participated in Desert Springs Hospital Annual Diabetic Health Fair, reaching 5,000 consumers and distributing 500 self-care guides. Four hundred self-care guides were distributed to members of the Laborer's Union Local 105 Health and Welfare Fund with 60% Spanish-speaking members. Southern Nevada Health District distributed 700 self-care guides at back to school immunization clinics.

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- Distribute self-care guides in northern and southern Nevada.

**Activity Progress:** Although there were budgetary delays of ELC Subgrant funding, NAA was still able to distribute approximately 500 self-care guides. Decision was made to add information about CAMRSA in English and Spanish for next printing.

Nine thousand self-care guides have been printed with an additional page—in English and Spanish—devoted to CAMRSA. Four thousand guides have been distributed to outpatient primary care clinics, a homeless shelter for multiple ethnic groups, bioterrorism preparedness health care workers and a Hispanic community church.

See section above for description of activity to distribute of 1,600 self-care guides. Orders for 2,000 self-care guides have been received and are being processed.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribute NAA's educational materials (bookmarks, brochures) to teachers, librarians, senior citizens, students and parents.</li> </ul> <p><b>Activity Progress:</b> Over 600 bookmarks were distributed to English and Spanish-speaking adults, seniors and children in northern and southern Nevada.</p> <p>An additional 300 bookmarks and brochures have been distributed to adults and children throughout Nevada.</p> <p>This reporting period, 1,000 bookmarks were distributed to adults and employees in acute care hospitals.</p>  |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey citizens of Nevada about their beliefs and health practices relating to the use of antibiotics, hand hygiene and immunizations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Activity Progress:</b> A survey has been developed and will be presented to 100 adults within the next six months.</p> <p>A target audience has been identified and plans are being finalized to conduct a survey at an outpatient facility by October.</p> <p>This activity has been delayed. A vendor has been selected to conduct focus groups in late November. The focus groups should help NAA develop and refine its education efforts and to measure the impact of its previous education efforts.</p>  |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain and add links to NAA's website to ensure that it contains the most up-to-date information.</li> </ul> <p><b>Activity Progress:</b> NAA's progress reports have been added to the website. A thorough review of NAA's website is underway to ensure information is current.</p> <p>The website review is complete and new material will be placed on the website by October.</p> <p>Fully approved and updated material is scheduled to be posted on NAA's website by October 31.</p>   |
| <p><b>Conduct a public health campaign to promote hand hygiene and other hygienic practices, as well as other behaviors that prevent the transmission of infectious organisms.</b></p>   |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate school-aged children in Nevada utilizing the materials in the hand hygiene toolkit; demonstrate how infections, including CAMRSA, are spread; participants will demonstrate pre-class and post-class knowledge of hand hygiene.</li> </ul> <p><b>Activity Progress:</b> 60 school-age children received hand hygiene education which included interactive demonstrations on proper hand washing techniques, the use of audio visual materials and distribution of handouts. A Southern Nevada Health District microbiologist provided the instruction.</p> <p>Instruction has been provided to 60 additional school-age public school children. Parents of over 800 home school children were given educational materials and encouraged to "bookmark" CDC and NAA websites for additional reference materials. Two hundred CAMRSA brochures were distributed to members of the Nevada Chapter of the National Youth Tai Quon Do organization.</p> <p>Instruction has been provided to 60 additional school-age public school children this reporting period. Educational links targeted at children and parents on the topics of hand hygiene and CAMRSA identification and prevention will be available on NAA's updated website.</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Present information and demonstrate hand hygiene and cough-and-sneeze hygiene to adults; present information about how diseases, including CAMRSA, are spread, and how to prevent the spread of diseases with proper hand hygiene; participants will demonstrate pre-class and post-class knowledge of hand hygiene and cough-and-sneeze hygiene.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Activity Progress:</b> 200 adults have received this instruction in groups of 10 to 20 this reporting period.</p> <p>An additional 100 adults received instruction in face-to-face meetings in July and August.</p> <p>Sixty adults received face-to-face instruction and educational materials at six demonstration sessions this reporting period.</p>   |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilize the hand hygiene toolkit to implement and improve hand hygiene practices in long-term care facilities to prevent nosocomial infections and the spread of community associated methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (CAMRSA) among providers, ancillary staff, licensed independent contractors, patients and visitors.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Activity Progress:</b> Efforts are underway to identify long-term care facilities interested in participating in this activity. Turnover of long-term care facility staff has contributed to delaying the implementation of this activity in 2007.</p> <p>No update this reporting period.</p> <p>Presentations are scheduled in three sessions at one long-term care facility with 500 employees in October.</p>                              |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train at least one graduate healthcare student to be able to certify long-term care employees in proper hand hygiene techniques.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Activity Progress:</b> A public health graduate student has joined NAA to assume the train-the-trainer activities at long-term care facilities.</p> <p>Training of the graduate student on the components of the long-term care toolkit is complete.</p> <p>Graduate student is scheduled to make presentations at one long-term care facility in October, and to contact three other long-term care facilities to schedule presentations.</p> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilize assessment tool to collect and analyze nosocomial and community acquired CAMRSA infections in long-term care settings.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Activity Progress:</b> Data has been received from one long-term care setting. Future hand hygiene activities in long-term care facilities will include pre- and post-education assessments.</p> <p>No update this reporting period.</p> <p>Data has been received from two long-term care facilities for rates prior to education program.</p>  |

**Facilitate the implementation of educational and behavioral interventions that will assist clinicians with prevention of antibiotic resistance in health care settings.**

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- Utilize fax-blast or e-mail to educate and direct providers and infectious disease specialists to the NAA website and other websites to retrieve materials pertaining to continuing medical education (CME), local data, and healthcare provider packets that include updates on treatment guidelines, strategies for patient education on the prudent use of antibiotics and prescribing statistics in the State of Nevada.

**Activity Progress:** A list of acceptable CME courses is being reviewed by members of the Provider Awareness Committee for distribution via fax-blast to the medical community and inclusion on NAA's website later this year.

The CME courses have been selected and will be added to NAA's website by October.

Production of the annual provider packet mailing – to 2,000 primary care providers throughout Nevada – is underway. Simultaneous to the mailing will be a fax blast to these same providers announcing the revisions to NAA's website and CME course offerings.

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- Conduct a professional provider education program to educate ancillary professional groups about antibiotic resistance issues and strategies that prevent infection.

**Activity Progress:** A presentation was made in May to 30 infection control practitioners from the southern Nevada Chapter of APIC.

The community-wide antibiogram was unveiled and distributed to 50 physicians and infection control nurses at a CME course in July. These professionals learned how the antibiogram can assist them in their prescribing practices. This was NAA's first collaboration with the University of Nevada School of Medicine.

The antibiogram data is included in the provider packet mailing and the website update.

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- Facilitate meetings of a task force to provide an analysis of the microbiology surveillance data and determine clinical implications of data collection.

**Activity Progress:** A task force of clinical pharmacists representing seven hospitals in southern Nevada has met twice this reporting period. Topics of discussion include the antibiogram, NAA Surveillance Committee activities, and administration of amikacin by the respiratory route and trends in vancomycin resistance of MRSA.

No update this reporting period.

Clinical pharmacists have met with Quest Laboratory to facilitate antimicrobial sensitivity testing and reporting which refine antibiotic prescribing practices in acute hospitals in southern Nevada.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (OPTIONAL):**

**Progress Report:** A CME course for physicians about ethical dilemmas in antibiotic administration is under consideration for 2008.

In collaboration with AHEC, the development of the CME course is underway with an infectious disease physician and clinical pharmacist specializing in treating infections collaborating on the content.

Collaboration continues for this CMS program with presentation anticipated for early 2008, coordinating with the statewide CME requirement for ethics education.