

Overview: CSTE and Position Statements

NASTAD's Prevention and Surveillance VLC

November 1, 2023

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 CSTE

POSITION STATEMENTS

- Founded in 1951, first convening of State and Territorial Epidemiologists at request of CDC
 - Purpose: to “consider nationwide problems of morbidity reporting”
 - Outcome: first *Nationally Notifiable Conditions List*
- 1950s-1990s: Council met annually to decide which diseases and conditions should be nationally notifiable
- 1992: CSTE National Office opened
 - Function expanded to include standardization of case definitions, reportable conditions

- Today:
 - Professional association for applied public health epidemiologists (3300+ members)
 - Policy setting by Council (59 member jurisdictions)
 - Capacity building organization (CBO) to support STLT health departments
 - Note: Original function continues through annual position statement process
 - 740+ position statements since 1980s
 - Position Statement Archive: <https://www.cste.org/page/PositionStatements>

Position Statements

To document and analyze policy and/or standardized surveillance issues affecting public health, that are of interest to CSTE members, and that could result in state/local law, rule, or regulation change(s)

Policy:

- Intended for issues that would require a vote by the Council.

Standardized Surveillance for Diseases or Conditions:

- Intended to standardize **case definitions** for diseases or conditions of importance that state and local health departments can adopt for daily surveillance activities.
 - Includes case ascertainment and case classification criteria
- Can be solely for standardization or can also include a recommendation to add to the Nationally Notifiable Conditions (NNC) list.

Development

Consensus Building

Approval

- Annual, member-driven process
- Developed in CSTE subcommittee(s) or workgroup(s)
- Accepted into process by CSTE Program & Policy Committee
- Consensus building amongst all members and Council
- Process concludes with final approval at Annual Conference
 - Active (STLT) Members first vote to approve
 - Council final vote to approve and make CSTE policy
- Adoption may result in changes to STLT law, rule, or regulation



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