Benjamin D. Schram, MPH

WORK HISTORY

NOVEMBER 2020 – PRESENT

ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS MANAGER, NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- Responsible for oversight, maintenance, and implementation of the North Dakota Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NDEDSS), including data quality, report development, workflow design, and project coordination. Ensuring electronic connections between reporting laboratories and clinics and NDEDSS are maintained, and data quality is ensured. Completing change requests for programs utilizing NDEDSS. Providing resolution to issues or escalate to vendor, if necessary.
- Design and carry out complex informatics projects, including data management activities (e.g., electronic file transmission and conversion, import/export preparation, data transfers, quality assurance), database maintenance (user access controls, updates/testing, reference tables, troubleshooting) and analyses/reports.
- Champion Data Modernization Initiative efforts for Disease Control and Forensic Pathology Section, and assist in leading Data Modernization Initiative for Public Health Division until hiring of a Data Modernization Director
- Supervise epidemiologists, data quality staff, and surveillance staff. Provide epidemiological guidance for all ELC supervised diseases and conditions. Provide analytical support to all program areas within Disease Control. Manage year-end case closeout for all diseases and conditions nationally reportable to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- Continued support for the COVID-19 pandemic. Manage the transition of contact tracing from a dedicated Dynamics 365 system to NDEDSS. Develop data extracts from the data lake for utilization by other programs' analytics staff. Validate, edit, and create views within the data lake for use in PowerBI visualizations. Create and manage a public dataset. Edit and maintain public and internal dashboards.

FEBRUARY 2020 – NOVEMBER 2020

WEST NILE VIRUS SURVEILLANCE COORDINATOR AND COVID-19 UNIVERSITY SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT, NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- Validated WNV reporting data and monitoring of cases.
- Created and analyzed enrollment surveys for COVID-19 testing events at the start of the pandemic.
- Developed systems for reporting laboratory results for COVID testing events. Built a platform for individuals missing lab results to obtain them. Facilitated a relationship with the Microbiology Laboratory to enable Case Managers to deliver lab results to their cases. Developed procedures and managed a team of Internal and External operators for calling results for testing events.
- Assisted in development of Contact Tracing Application using Microsoft Dynamics. Participated in design and planning for system improvements and troubleshooting critical system problems. Developed views to enable data analysis from the Contact Tracing and Test Registration Platforms. Conducted trainings for Dynamics system features.
- Developed automated reports for daily updates. Conducted analyses for Disease Control, Health Analytics, and Unified Command for time-sensitive products. Assisted in developing definitions for public reporting of COVID-19 data. Designed SMART Restart analysis of County Risk Levels. Provided weekly reports to the Governor's Office regarding DOH assessment of county risk levels, and recommendations for county risk maps. Assisted in redesign of the North Dakota Smart Restart Guidelines for all industries. Led efforts to correct data reporting in national media.
- As University SME, served as member of North Dakota University System COVID-19 Task Force. Provided Epidemiological recommendations and data analyses.

JANUARY 2019 – MAY 2019

EPIDEMIOLOGY RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - CONTRACTOR, PFIZER

- As part of a team, conducted systematic review on 24 obstetric outcomes in women who received influenza seasonal or pandemic vaccination during pregnancy.

SEPTEMBER 2018 – MAY 2019

ADJUNCT GRADUATE INSTRUCTOR AND COURSE ASSISTANT, NYU COLLEGE OF GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

- Adjunct Graduate Instructor: Graduate GPH-GU 2106 Epidemiology Recitation
- Course Assistant: Graduate GPH-GU 2225 Psychometric Measurement and Data Analysis Public Health
- Course Assistant: Undergraduate UGPH-GU 30 Epidemiology for Global Health

SEPTEMBER 2018 – MAY 2019

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, NYU SEARCH (SOCIAL EPIDEMIOLOGY AND RESEARCH IN COMMUNITY HEALTH) PROGRAM

- Co-authored chapter on stroke epidemiology; Wilson, R. (2018). Stroke Rehabilitation (1st ed.) Elsevier. https://doi.org/10.1016/C2017-0-00252-5
- Conducted literature review on individual risk factors of stroke, on stroke statistics, and on stroke prevention to synthesize into the text; sourced and obtained permissions for tables and figures.
- Developed Codebook to accompany SWIFT (Stroke Warning Information and Faster Treatment) dataset
- Abstract and poster presenter at International Stroke Conference titled "Stroke Knowledge Over Time Among Multi-ethnic Stroke Survivors in New York City" https://doi.org/10.1161/str.50.suppl_1.WP215
- Research Coordinator for Pilot of FURRThER (Families Understanding Risk Reduction Through Educational Reinforcement) educational clinical trial at NYU Langone Medical Center.

EDUCATION

2019 GRADUATE

MASTER'S IN PUBLIC HEALTH - EPIDEMIOLOGY CONCENTRATION, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

- Thesis: Adverse Sleep and Blood Pressure Reduction Following Stroke
- Graduate Representative on Student Governing Council
- Epidemiology Excellence Award recipient

2016 GRADUATE

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE – MAJORS IN NEUROSCIENCE AND PSYCHOLOGY; MINOR IN PUBLIC HEALTH, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA COLLEGE OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

- Dean's List 2012, 2014, 2016
- Acara Innovation Fellow

PAPERS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

- Member North Dakota State University Public Health Advisory Board – 2023 - current
- Council of State and Territorial (CSTE) Leading Epidemiologists, Advancing Data (LEAD) participant – 2023
- Council of State and Territorial (CSTE) Data Science and Team Training (DSTT) participant – 2022
- Telegraph Award (Excellence in Technology) at North Dakota Department of Health - 2022
- Co-author of *Widespread SARS-CoV-2 Transmission Among Attendees at a Large Motorcycle Rally and their Contacts, 30 US Jurisdictions, August–September, 2020* https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciab321 - 2020
- Co-author of *MMWR: Facility-Wide Testing for SARS-CoV-2 in Nursing Homes - Seven U.S. Jurisdictions, March–June 2020* https://dx.doi.org/10.15585%2Fmmwr.mm6932e5 - 2020
- Epidemiology panelist for session on Healing, Growing and Managing our Cities Under Uncertainty at Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation's Mayors Conference on Entrepreneurship - 2020
- Abstract and poster presenter at International Stroke Conference titled "*Stroke Knowledge Over Time Among Multi-ethnic Stroke Survivors in New York City*" https://doi.org/10.1161/str.50.suppl_1.WP215 - 2019
- Epidemiology Excellence Award recipient - NYU 2019
- Co-authored chapter on stroke epidemiology; Wilson, R. (2018). *Stroke Rehabilitation* (1st ed.) Elsevier. https://doi.org/10.1016/C2017-0-00252-5 - 2018
- Acara Innovation Fellow - 2016