

NHANES Open Space

September 11-12, 2003

Session Title: New Mechanisms to support innovation (technology)

Session Headlines:

How about a better Physical Activity Monitor (PAM) device? NCI has a program announcement that went out last spring with NIDDK. There was an NCI workshop last week on Real Time Data Assessment—two uses surveillance and intervention evaluation. DOD is likely to be a partner because of their great interest in energy requirements.

NHLBI initiating bioengineering (Small Business Innovative Research) SBIRs and SBTTRs (Small Business Technology Transfer Research) in this area. Exact breadth of this—but some aspects of physical activity and energy balance.

Maybe an outcome of these efforts will be new PAM device for 2007.

Need better measures of energy balance than doubly labeled water. USDA is doing their DR validation with double labeled-water. Should NIH have technology development for surveillance that could be partnered with NHANES? What about cooperative agreements? NIH prefers not to tie too much up in contracts so this is the preferable route. Maybe cooperative agreements are our way to go for NHANES.

Look for innovation from research organizations in partnership. It can be private and other federal agencies.

This would require a lot of planning in advance to introduce new technology to NHANES.

Maybe better technology would be cheaper.

RFAs may have multiple NIH CIOs involved. Time line—now is the time to start if you want something in 2007.

Other ‘innovation’ mentioned yesterday where the NIH NHANES group might be of interest would be a NHANES specific quality of life module.

Longitudinal discussion also suggested this group approach.

In-house NCHS technology assessment. Examples—what pentop to use for interviews and using scanners for supplements, and cigarettes. We should enumerate what we do here to keep individuals approved.

NCHS needs strategic plan to solicit technology change. NCHS isn’t internally in consensus of our role in this area. An impediment is that we know what technology we need but can make no contribution to funding research in this area.

Other partners—NAS.

NIH impression is that we do stuff in crisis mode.

Grant mechanism/cooperative agreement DOES NOT GO THROUGH OMB!!!!!!!

If NCHS isn’t interested in stimulation of new technology that is a death knell for NHANES.

Is innovation really going to be part of NHANES considering we might fail?

NHANES has had episodes of innovation that have been successful—review those and see how we can repeat.

Next Steps/Action Items:

DHANES and NCHS need to decide where they stand on the issue of their role in encouraging technology development (including validation) for innovative data collection.

Inform NCHS management of Statistics Canada position that some significant portion of the Canada Health Examination Survey may be somewhat speculative.

If DHANES and NCHS interested in being an active participant in technology development they should convene a group for strategic planning as to what technology assessment needs should be addressed. (An outcome of the strategic planning should be to adopt an internal process for incorporating new technology.)