

Multi-network Practice and Outcome Variation Examination (MPROVE) Study

Capitalizing on existing data and data collection systems in Minnesota to advance the national agenda for public health systems and services research



Minnesota Public Health Research to Action Network

January 2013

The Multi-network Practice and Outcome Variation Examination (MPROVE) Study is a national study with participation from seven public health practice-based research networks (PBRNs), with leadership from the PBRN National Coordinating Center. Minnesota is collaborating to develop and test a package of local public health service measures. Participating states will collect data for agreed-upon measures in standardized ways, and analyze the data to (1) understand levels of variation in public health services, and (2) explore the relationship between public health services and population health. The study is focused on environmental health, communicable disease, and chronic disease. Participating states include: Colorado, Florida, Minnesota, New Jersey, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Washington.

Minnesota's PBRN, the [Research to Action Network](#), is comprised of the State Community Health Services Advisory Committee (SCHSAC), Minnesota Local Public Health Association, University of Minnesota School of Public Health, and MDH. Minnesota contributed to measure development and selection through the Research to Action Network steering committee, the SCHSAC Performance Improvement Steering Committee, and staff work within MDH.

Measure Selection Process

Partners initially identified more than three hundred potential measures. Partners in each state used a Delphi process to rank these measures against eight criteria,¹ and applied guiding principles² to arrive at 30 measures.³ Partners then voted on the relevance and feasibility of the reduced set of measures.

Implications and Opportunities for Minnesota

Existing Data Systems

Data for many of the 30 measures are already collected at MDH and reflect activities performed at the state and local levels in communicable disease and environmental health. Office of Performance Improvement will assemble data from within MDH for measures already available through existing systems.

Developmental PPMRS Measures

The SCHSAC Performance Improvement Steering Committee approved including a subset of MPROVE measures in PPMRS for the 2013 reporting period. These measures are identified as optional and developmental, are not already reported through other channels, and are included in the [Promoting Healthy Communities and Healthy Behaviors area of public health responsibility](#). Guidance for reporting on the measures was included in the January 10, 2013 webinar, titled [New PPMRS Performance Measures – Session #2: What You Need to Know Now for Reporting in 2013](#).

Community Health Boards (CHBs) are strongly encouraged to report on the measures, in order to contribute to national research on public health systems and services and to test these measures for future use in Minnesota.

For More Information

Contact Beth Gyllstrom (beth.gyllstrom@state.mn.us) or Kim Gearin (kim.gearin@state.mn.us).

¹ May 15, 2012: [MPROVE Selection Criteria for Public Health Service Delivery Measures \(PDF: 111KB / 3 pages\)](#)

² October 1-2, 2012: [Principles for Selecting Measures of Public Health Service Delivery \(PDF: 138KB / 1 page\)](#)

³ November 2012: [MPROVE Core Measures \(PDF: 208KB / 11 pages\)](#)