

Sharing Chronic Disease Data with Local Providers: Kitsap County's Experience

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Abstract: The leading causes of death in Kitsap County involve chronic diseases, yet our systems for tracking them lags far behind those for communicable diseases. With funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Common Ground grant, the Kitsap County Health District, in collaboration with the University of Washington, is partnering with local clinical providers to define the issues surrounding the transfer and analysis of local patient-level data to better engage the community of care-givers in assessing chronic disease trends, identifying health disparities, and planning coordinated interventions with their Public Health partners.

Specifically, we are interviewing key personnel from ambulatory care sites to understand their requirements, barriers and brainstorm about potential benefits to securely and efficiently transferring de-identified clinical and demographic data to us from their electronic health records. The findings from our project will be shared with other Common Ground partners to ensure that current national Health Exchange efforts are grounded in the practical realities of local health departments.

Our presentation will summarize our experience discussing the exchange of electronic health data with our community partners. In addition, we will discuss our efforts to research and understand the most promising indicators and methodologies for identifying and assessing chronic disease and health disparities.