1| **Sample Student**

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<td>2</td>
<td>MPH</td>
<td>Dr. Millicent Eidson</td>
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Sample Student, MPH; Millicent Eidson, MA, DVM; Kathleen Clancy, MPH; Howard Freed, MD; Guthrie Birkhead, MD, MPH

**Abstract**

Introduction: Climate change has potential for impacting human health through extreme heat and weather events and environmental changes that favor vector-, water- and food-borne diseases. Relevant public health capacity must be assessed for preparedness planning.

Methods: A needs assessment survey was developed for New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) program directors in February, 2011. Comparisons of results were made using Epi Info and Fisher’s exact two-tailed tests.

Results: 41 programs participated: 3 infectious disease, 2 chronic disease, 16 environmental health, 5 laboratory, and 15 other. For surveillance capacity, significantly more non-environmental health programs (76%) had health outcomes reportable to NYSDOH than environmental health programs (27%) (p≤0.02). Non-environmental health programs were significantly more likely to report (25%) all their information needs related to climate change being met than environmental health programs (0%) (p≤0.05). Personnel needs were reported by significantly more programs previously receiving climate change questions (57%) than programs not receiving questions (12%) (p≤0.03). Programs previously discussing climate change reported significantly more technology (43%) needs than programs not discussing it (6%) (p≤0.03). Programs reporting a likelihood of integrating climate change activities into their existing programs reported significantly more personnel (56%), technology (67%), and training (75%) needs than programs reporting less likelihood of climate change integration (9%, 4%, and 17%, respectively) (p≤0.02).

Conclusions: The initial assessment identified gaps in experience, knowledge and needs among NYSDOH programs. Future climate change and health activities include focused key informant interviews for development of communication and education strategies.

Student Role: Data collection, analyses, summary

2| **Johnny Doe**

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