On February 22, I began a temporary assignment as CDC’s Director of the Center for Preparedness and Response. While I am away, Dr. Deron Burton, MD, JD, MPH (CAPT, USPHS) is the acting Director of NCHHSTP.

In this issue of Connections, I wanted to highlight the National Prevention Information Network (NPIN). Since it was congressionally mandated in 1988 as a source for information and materials related to HIV prevention, NPIN continues to expand and evolve, along with CDC. Today, NPIN is a communication and digital resource service unique to CDC. NPIN continues to help us reach and support our national prevention HIV, viral hepatitis, sexually transmitted diseases, and tuberculosis communities and partners.

NPIN’s support of digital media tools includes the PrEP locator and GetTested, a locator service for HIV, STD, and viral hepatitis testing.

To kick off 2021, recent NPIN updates of note include the following:

- NPIN Website is redesigned to be more responsive.
- NPIN Community contains updated features for users to connect with peers and share resources in private or open forums.

The HIV Blue Book

Last month, CDC released HIV Prevention in the United States: Mobilizing to End the Epidemic. This resource provides a snapshot of the state of the HIV epidemic in the United States and highlights CDC’s key efforts to reduce new HIV infections. Information on Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE), latest data trends, and challenges in the field are also included.

STI Prevalence, Incidence, and Cost estimates

CDC data estimates that on any given day in 2018, one in five people had a sexually transmitted infection (STI). The analyses, published in the journal Sexually Transmitted Diseases, update STI prevalence, incidence, and cost estimates for the first time in nearly a decade. It is estimated there were about 68 million STIs on any given day in 2018 (i.e., STI prevalence). Among the 26 million new infections (i.e., STI incidence), almost half occurred in youth aged 15-24. With many infections often going undetected and unreported to CDC, these estimates are critical to understanding the vast scope of the STI epidemic and who is most affected.

Upcoming Events

March 20: National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
March 24: World TB Day
April 10: National Youth HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
April 12-16: STD Awareness Week
April 18: National Transgender HIV Testing Day

On the Web

Does Your Patient Have Latent TB Infection? Test Your Knowledge

Download my recent interview for the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) on Ending HIV/AIDS in the United States