

Appendix B:

Health Unit Online Survey Questions

Introduction and Consent Information

You are being asked to participate voluntarily in a research project entitled Evaluation of the Rapid Risk Factor Surveillance System (RRFSS) Provincial Sample Pilot Project that is being investigated by the RRFSS partnership. The evaluation is supported by Locally-Driven Collaborative Project funding through Public Health Ontario.

The purpose of the evaluation is to evaluate the success of the Provincial Sample Pilot Project and guide future decisions about a provincial sample as part of RRFSS. Every Ontario health unit is being asked to provide feedback via this survey. Pilot testing shows that the survey will take approximately 10 minutes. You may leave the survey and complete it at another time by clicking the "Save and continue later" button at the bottom of each page. Please provide only one online response per health unit. It may be appropriate for the Medical Officer of Health, and/or an epidemiologist or data analyst, among others, to have input into the health unit response. A Word version of the survey questions was sent to you if you wish to gather preliminary input from more than one respondent. We encourage you to make use of the optional comments sections to add additional context to your answers.

Your participation in this project is entirely voluntary and there will be no negative consequences for you if you do not wish to participate, withdraw at any time, or do not answer certain questions. Data will be kept confidential and will not identify individuals or responding organizations. At the conclusion of this study, the data collected will be destroyed. The survey will be open until Friday July 20, 2012. The results of this evaluation will be available on the RRFSS website and will be shared at conferences and in publications. If you have any questions about the evaluation or the Provincial Sample Pilot Project, please contact Michael King, Chair of the RRFSS Steering Committee, at kingm@sdhu.com. If you have problems with the online survey, please contact Susan Snelling at Social Research Consulting, susan@socialresearchconsulting.ca.

I agree to participate

1) Please identify your role:

- Medical Officer of Health
- Epidemiologist
- Health/Data Analyst

Other, please specify... _____

2) Does your health unit currently participate in RRFSS?

- Yes
- No

2b) Has your health unit ever participated in RRFSS?

- Yes
- No

Comments: (optional)

2c) For how long did your health unit participate in RRFSS?

- 5+ years in total
- More than 2 years but less than 5 years in total
- 2 years or less

Comments: (optional)

3) Prior to receiving this survey and the supporting documents, were you aware of the RRFSS Provincial Sample Pilot Project (PPSP)?

- Very aware
- Somewhat aware
- Not very aware
- Not at all aware
- Not sure

Comments: (optional)

PROVINCIAL SURVEILLANCE

4) How important to your health unit is the establishment of a timely, responsive system to collect data on emerging public health issues at the provincial level?

- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not very important
- Not at all important
- Don't know

5) How important to your health unit is having a provincial comparator for local data?

- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not very important
- Not at all important
- Don't know

- 6) How important to your health unit is having more Ontario health units participating in RRFSS?
- Very important
 - Somewhat important
 - Not very important
 - Not at all important
 - Don't know
- 7) How important to your health unit is increased potential of RRFSS to generate revenue by giving partners other than health units, such as provincial health and research organizations, an opportunity to place questions on the provincial RRFSS survey for a cost?
- Very important
 - Somewhat important
 - Not very important
 - Not at all important
 - Don't know
- 8) How important to your health unit is increased flexibility for RRFSS-participating health units through a reduction in the number of core questions that all RRFSS surveys must ask (which would result in an increase in the local health unit-selected content, or a reduced cost for fewer questions)?
- Very important
 - Somewhat important
 - Not very important
 - Not at all important
 - Don't know
- Comments: (optional)

VALUE OF RRFSS AND THE PROVINCIAL SAMPLE

- 9) As RRFSS stands now, with only local estimates for participating health units, how would you rate the value of RRFSS?
- Very valuable
 - Somewhat valuable
 - Not very valuable
 - Not at all valuable

10) If the provincial sample were part of RRFSS in future, how would the value of RRFSS change?

- The provincial sample would increase the value of RRFSS a lot
- The provincial sample would increase the value of RRFSS somewhat
- The provincial sample would not change the value of RRFSS
- The provincial sample would decrease the value of RRFSS somewhat
- The provincial sample would decrease the value of RRFSS a lot

Comments: (optional)

11) If the provincial sample were part of RRFSS and all else remained unchanged, how would this affect the likelihood that your health unit would become a RRFSS participant?

- We would be more likely to participate in RRFSS in future
- We would be equally likely to participate in RRFSS in future
- We would be less likely to participate in RRFSS in future

Comments: (optional)

11) If the provincial sample were part of RRFSS and all else remained unchanged, how would this affect the likelihood that your health unit would continue to be a RRFSS participant?

- We would be more likely to continue to participate in RRFSS in future
- We would be equally likely to continue to participate in RRFSS in future
- We would be less likely to continue to participate in RRFSS in future

Comments: (optional)

12) One potential result of the provincial sample could be that RRFSS-participating health units would have fewer core questions that all RRFSS surveys must ask, which could lead to more local health unit-selected content.

How would an increase in local health unit-selected content affect your intention to participate in RRFSS?

- Our intention to participate would increase
- Our intention to participate would stay the same
- Our intention to participate would decrease

13) One potential result of the provincial sample could be that RRFSS-participating health units would have fewer core questions that all RRFSS surveys must ask, which could lead to a shorter local survey length and reduced cost.

How would a shorter local survey length at a reduced cost affect your intention to participate in RRFSS?

- Our intention to participate would increase
- Our intention to participate would stay the same
- Our intention to participate would decrease

- 14) One potential result of the provincial sample could be that health units would have timely access to provincial-level information on topics not covered by other data sources, such as emerging public health issues.

How would an increased availability of provincial-level information on public health issues, including emerging issues, affect your intention to participate in RRFSS?

- Our intention to participate would increase
- Our intention to participate would stay the same
- Our intention to participate would decrease

Comments: (optional)

- 12) One potential result of the provincial sample could be that RRFSS-participating health units would have fewer core questions that all RRFSS surveys must ask, which could lead to more local health unit-selected content.

How would an increase in local health unit-selected content affect your intention to continue to participate in RRFSS?

- Our intention to continue to participate would increase
- Our intention to continue to participate would stay the same
- Our intention to continue to participate would decrease

- 13) One potential result of the provincial sample could be that RRFSS-participating health units would have fewer core questions that all RRFSS surveys must ask, which could lead to a shorter local survey length and reduced cost.

How would a shorter local survey length at a reduced cost affect your intention to continue to participate in RRFSS?

- Our intention to continue to participate would increase
- Our intention to continue to participate would stay the same
- Our intention to continue to participate would decrease

- 14) One potential result of the provincial sample could be that health units would have timely access to provincial-level information on topics not covered by other data sources, such as emerging public health issues.

How would an increased availability of provincial-level information on public health issues, including emerging issues, affect your intention to continue to participate in RRFSS?

- Our intention to continue to participate would increase
- Our intention to continue to participate would stay the same
- Our intention to continue to participate would decrease

Comments: (optional)

15) In your opinion, how important is it that a provincial sample becomes part of RRFSS?

- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not very important
- Not at all important
- No opinion

16) Please explain your answer above. (required)

RRFSS PROVINCIAL SAMPLE

17a) Has your health unit used the provincial data recently released by RRFSS?

- Yes
- No

Comments: (optional)

17b) If yes, how have you used the provincial data? (required)

17b) If no, why haven't you used the provincial data? (required)

17c) If the provincial data continue to be part of RRFSS in coming years, would you anticipate using the provincial data?

- Yes
- No

Comments: (optional)

17d) If yes, how would you anticipate using the provincial data? (required)

17d) If you would not anticipate using the provincial data, why not? (required)

17) If the provincial estimates continue to be part of RRFSS in coming years, would you anticipate using the provincial estimates?

- Yes
- No

17b) If yes, how would you anticipate using the provincial estimates? (required)

17b) If you would not anticipate using the provincial estimates, why not? (required)

18) To what extent do you support or oppose the idea of continuing to collect a provincial sample as part of RRFSS?

- Strongly support
- Somewhat support
- Slightly support
- Neutral
- Slightly oppose
- Somewhat oppose
- Strongly oppose

19) Please explain your answer above. (required)

20) Please provide any other comments about this survey or about the RRFSS Provincial Sample Pilot Project. (optional)

