

Presentation Title	Place in Schedule
Uncovering Training Needs for Total Worker Health Professionals: Results of a National Continuing Education Survey	Concurrent Session 3.1 <i>Day 2 – Wednesday</i> <i>May 9th, 2018</i> <i>4:00 – 5:15pm</i>
Description of Presentation	Presenter Name(s) And Credentials
<p>Statement of Problem</p> <p>Among allied health and safety professions, Total Worker Health® (TWH) is still in its infancy. Therefore, professionals who perform work related to both occupational safety and health promotion may need additional training. This study aims to understand the national landscape for those seeking continuing education (CE) opportunities related to TWH.</p> <p>Methods</p> <p>The Center for Health, Work & Environment at the Colorado School of Public Health is one of six Centers of Excellence in TWH and also houses the Mountain and Plains Education and Research Center (MAP ERC), one of 18 NIOSH funded ERCs. In 2015, the Center spearheaded the first all ERC national CE needs assessment and in August 2017, the ERC CE directors agreed to distribute a second national survey. The survey was initially distributed to all 18 ERCs, channel partners, TWH Centers, and TWH affiliates for redistribution to listservs on September 1st 2017. Data collection is on-going and the survey will close on December 31, 2017.</p> <p>Description of the Needs Assessment</p> <p>The needs assessment contains 27 questions to assess demographics of the respondent, such as profession, resources devoted to CE, and preference for different learning modalities. Respondents indicated their level of interest in 66 specific course topics that fell into 5 broad categories. In an effort to gain more information pertinent to TWH, questions related to the interdisciplinarity of work, the integration of safety and health, and TWH topics of interest were added to the original survey. Slight changes were made to align survey questions with the 2011 Westat Survey, “National Assessment of the Occupational Safety and Health Workforce.”</p> <p>Participants</p>	Joshua Scott, MS <i>Center for Health, Work & Environment, Colorado School of Public Health</i>
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To date, over 700 people have responded to the needs assessment, representing 46 states and a wide range of professions, most frequently occupational health nursing, safety, and industrial hygiene. The majority of respondents (68.6%) were age 50 or older. Over half (58.4%) were from organizations employing more than 500 people.

Results

Nearly two-thirds (64.2%) of respondents perform tasks outside of their primary profession and indicated that their work is interdisciplinary in nature. Only 5.6% of respondents indicate a primary profession that includes TWH or related disciplines. However, when looking at the secondary job tasks, 30.0% of responses were in areas related to TWH, worksite wellness, human resources, etc.

40.5% of respondents indicated an interest in basic TWH CE offerings, with an additional 38.9% indicating an interest in advanced TWH CE offerings. There are high levels of interest in other CE offerings related to topics such as workplace health promotion, occupational stress, and healthy work design and well-being.

Implications

While not many respondents indicated their primary profession as TWH, there is a lot of secondary work in the field and a great amount of interest in topics related to TWH. These results can be used to inform the design and dissemination of education opportunities to professionals from a variety of occupational health and safety fields.