Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Health Statistics

State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey (SLAITS)
Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN)

Are CSHCN receiving regular ongoing comprehensive care within a medical home?

Are services for CSHCN and their families organized in ways that families can use them easily?

Are families of CSHCN participating in decision making about their children's care?

Are families of CSHCN satisfied with the services they receive?

Do families of CSHCN have adequate insurance to pay for the services they need?

How does insurance coverage for CSHCN compare with coverage for all children?

Why do uninsured, low-income children lack coverage, and are families aware of Medicaid and SCHIP?

What is SLAITS?

SLAITS is a new population-based survey mechanism developed by CDC/NCHS to measure and monitor changes in health, health care, and well-being at state and local levels. This mechanism addresses state-specific needs for data using customized questionnaires and flexible sample selection. The SLAITS sampling frame is shared with the National Immunization Survey (NIS).

CSHCN Survey Objectives

- State-level prevalence estimates for CSHCN
- State-level needs assessment
- Healthy People 2010 baseline measurements
- State-level insurance estimates for all children

Survey Design

- Random-digit-dial telephone survey
- Computer-assisted telephone interviewing
- Screen all children under 18 years of age in the household for chronic conditions
- Detailed interview for one randomly selected child with special health care needs
- Brief health insurance interview for one randomly selected child without special needs
- Detailed interview about reasons for and impact of uninsurance for low-income children without health care coverage
- Statistical adjustments to account for households without telephones

Identifying Children with Special Health Care Needs: The Living With Illness Measure

- Need or use medicine prescribed by a doctor
- Need or use more medical care, mental health, or educations services that is usual for most children
- Limited or prevented in ability to do things
- Need or get special therapy
- Need or get treatment for an emotional, developmental, or behavioral problem

Questionnaire Content

- Health and functional status
- Health insurance and adequacy
- Access and utilization
- Care coordination
- Satisfaction with care
- Impact on families

Target Sample Sizes Per State

- Over 5,000 children in more than 2,750 households screened for special needs
- 750 detailed interviews for CSHCN
- 2,400 – 4,000 brief health insurance interviews

Schedule

- Oct 2000 – Nov 2001: Conduct interviews
- December 2001: 6-month national data
- July 2002: State-level data

For more information, see http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/slaits.htm, or write us at SLAITS@cdc.gov.

The CSHCN Survey is sponsored by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, and by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.