

## NHDSP PROGRAM | Michigan

# New Trauma Care System Funding Will Improve Heart Attack and Stroke Response



### Problem

Michigan did not have funding to implement a statewide trauma system, despite passing legislation to develop one.

### Project

Michigan used CDC funding to support assessments, interventions, and collaborations to advance systems of care approaches for emergency stroke and cardiac patients, including updates to emergency protocols and better training for first responders.

### Outcomes

Michigan passed legislation funding a new trauma system in December 2010. The system will provide resources for coordinated, improved response in cardiac and stroke emergencies.

### Resources

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
NHDSP Program: Michigan  
[www.cdc.gov/dhbsp/programs/nhdsp\\_program/mi.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/dhbsp/programs/nhdsp_program/mi.htm)

#### For more information please contact Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

1600 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30333  
**Telephone:** 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)/  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348  
**E-mail:** [cdcinfo@cdc.gov](mailto:cdcinfo@cdc.gov)

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

“MDCH’s efforts helped state health officials collect evidence to support the need for a regional, funded trauma care system that will be the foundation for stroke and cardiac systems of care.”

**Statement of Problem:** Until recently, Michigan was one of only three states without a funded trauma system. Despite passing trauma system legislation and rules in 2004 and 2007, the state had not allocated funding to hire and train staff, set up a trauma registry to collect patient data, or implement programs.

**Project Description:** In 2007, CDC’s Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention provided funding to Michigan to help improve emergency care for people who suffer heart attacks or stroke. Heart disease and stroke prevention staff in the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) used this funding to:

- Assess how the state’s existing emergency medical services (EMS) systems respond to cardiac and stroke emergencies. Assessments were conducted in 2008 and 2010 to establish a baseline and identify where improvements were needed. MDCH used the findings to identify priority activities and track progress.
- Attend regional trauma network meetings and discuss ways to improve care for heart attack and stroke victims.
- Work with state EMS officials to update the state’s heart attack and stroke protocols to match national guidelines.
- Create a train-the-trainer program supporting 79 instructors who trained 350 EMS personnel for stroke emergency response.
- Sponsor a statewide conference that focused on a regional model for emergency care.
- Distribute 6,000 cards to EMS providers that provide clinical information and prompts about how to respond to heart attacks and strokes.

**Outcomes:** MDCH’s efforts helped state health officials collect evidence to support the need for a regional, funded trauma care system that will be the foundation for stroke and cardiac systems of care. CDC funding also helped MDCH staff members build a strong relationship with state EMS leaders and other partners. In December 2010, Michigan enacted a law to fund a statewide trauma system. This funding will provide the resources needed to implement a regional system that includes planning for heart attack and stroke emergencies. Every state resident, visitor, health care professional, and EMS provider who uses or works in the new trauma care system will benefit.