

War on the Home Front: Monitoring Morbidity and Mortality

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Abstract:

Local health departments monitor trends in communicable diseases and indicators of health associated with higher morbidity and mortality rates. These data are tracked in an effort to design and implement effective interventions. Health care providers need to be aware of local variations in health status in order to provide appropriate care (e.g. testing, screening) and suggestions to patients to lead a healthier life. We will review the most recent data at city, county and state levels, with a focus on preventable infectious diseases where physicians play a strong role in influencing patients.