

PDCoV Monitoring

- There was 0 breaks this week with 20 of 26 systems reporting.
- There were 0 additional retrospective break updates

SHMP Data Integrity and Security Practices

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The Swine Health Monitoring Project is committed to protecting the integrity and confidentiality of participant data. To further support their efforts in upholding these key principles, this past year SHMP formed a partnership with Quality Central, an independent quality assurance Internal Service Organization within the University of Minnesota's College of Veterinary Medicine.

Quality Central personnel help research scientists integrate research management practices that are recommended to ensure data integrity and reliability in scientific research programs. They provide the tools needed to develop plans and procedures that will promote research excellence and improve research reproducibility. This unique program was recently described in a Nature Publication feature that highlighted the experiences of several other University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine research scientists who have also been early adopters of the research quality assurance initiatives facilitated by Quality Central. http://www.nature.com/polopoly_fs/1.19223!/menu/main/topColumns/topLeftColumn/pdf/529456a.pdf

Quality Central and SHMP staff work together to ensure that SHMP procedures are documented, consistently performed by trained staff, and effectively address program requirements for data security, confidentiality and traceability. To meet these goals, standard operating procedures (SOPs) describing data management (data recording, reporting, releasing, retention, security and confidentiality) have been established. A complete project process review has been performed which has resulted in procedural improvements.

On-going monitoring of program performance is also a feature of the collaboration in order to confirm compliance with SOPs and to identify opportunities for continuous improvement. Quality Central developed an auditing program to provide on-going risk assessment and feedback opportunities for the SHMP investigators. Randomly selected researchers working with SHMP data have been audited by a Quality Central quality coordinator on a monthly basis for the past year. Audit reports that include findings (departures from requirements) and positive observations are provided to the project PI, Dr. Bob Morrison, and to the researcher audited. Follow-up procedures require that all findings are addressed before the audit record can be closed and archived.

In January 2016, SHMP management and Quality Central personnel conducted a meeting with researchers to summarize audit findings to date, collect feedback from the research team and discuss further improvements and current challenges. The SHMP audits have helped the team refine and improve their procedures to protect participant data. Managing data confidentiality is critical for this project and the SHMP researcher commitment to it has been readily apparent throughout the audit process.

The SHMP research team has been an early adopter of Quality Central Support in order to safeguard the quality and security of their research data which is a reflection of their commitment to SHMP participants. The SHMP project is unprecedented in the power it offers swine researchers to understand the epidemiology of swine pathogens, and Quality Central personnel are committed to helping the project meet its goals and research requirements.