



For Your Information – September 2005

At the State Board of Health (SBOH), we believe information is essential. For several years we have been making SBOH and health-related information available through the distribution of our Board meeting agendas with an attached segment simply called, "FYI". To make this information more accessible we have created this Web page. This page will be updated on a regular basis and should be considered the go-to source for current information on correspondence to and from the Board, a selection of health publications, and health-related conferences.

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Announcements and Press Releases

- **Office of Governor Christine Gregoire**
Release date: September 12, 2005
Gov. Christine Gregoire announces appointments to boards and commissions
Gov. Christine Gregoire today announced appointments to boards and commissions. State Board of Health: Karen VanDusen of Clinton has been appointed to a term effective August 12, 2005, ending July 1, 2008. VanDusen is the director of Environmental Safety and Health at the University of Washington. The board is the primary entity for state health policy development; and is required to produce a biennial report delineating the state's health priorities.
- **Department of Health**
Release date: September 27, 2005
Asthma steadily increasing among children in Washington
The rate of asthma among children is increasing in Washington and more children in school need monitoring and treatment for their asthma during the day. But this year more students with asthma will have easier access to their medication, thanks to a new state law.

- **Office of Governor Christine Gregoire**

Release date: September 27, 2005

Gov. Gregoire to speak on racial health care disparities at Diversity Health Summit

Gov. Christine Gregoire will speak at the upcoming Diversity Health Summit focusing on health care disparities, cited in a report by the Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs as a major health issue facing communities of color and tribes.

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Events and Conferences

September 2005

Date	Name and Location
Sept. 8-9	Washington Summit on Alcohol & Other Drug Issues Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center Tacoma, Washington
Sept. 10	Washington State Nurses Association course: "Developing Nurses as Environmental Health Advocates" For information: Contact Karen Bowman Crown Hill Activity Center Seattle, Washington
Sept. 13	Western Washington Rural Hospital Videoconference Diabetes Update: Closing the Gap Between Evidence and Practice For information: 206-441-7137 Rural hospitals in Western Washington
Sept. 13-15	2005 Syndromic Surveillance Conference: Advancing Modern Disease Surveillance Renaissance Hotel Seattle, Washington
Sept. 19-20	Community-Minded Enterprises: How to Build Powerful Collaborations for the Common Good For information: www.community-minded.org Seattle, Washington
Sept. 22-23	King County Dispute Resolution Center: Conflict Resolution Skills for the Work Place Workshop For information: 1-888-803-4696 x106 or saallen@kcdrc.org Seattle, Washington
Sept. 28-29	Build a Better Tomorrow...Practice Safety and Health! 54th Governor's Industrial Safety and Health Conference For information: www.WaGovConf.org Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center Tacoma, Washington

- Sept. 30 Diversity Health Summit
For information: Contact Rachel Thompson at 360-794-2195
SeaTac Doubletree Inn
SeaTac, Washington
- Sept. 30-Oct. 2 Washington State Medical Association's 2005 Annual Meeting
For information: wsma@wsma.org
Sheraton Hotel
Tacoma, Washington
- October 2005
- | Date | Name and Location |
|----------------|--|
| October 8 & 15 | King County Dispute Resolution Center: Conflict Resolution Skills for the Work Place Workshop
For information: 1-888-803-4696 x106 or saallen@kcdrc.org
Seattle, Washington |
| October 10-12 | 12th Annual Joint Conference on Health Partnering for a Healthier Tomorrow
For information: www.wspaha.org
Yakima Convention Center
Yakima, Washington |
| October 14 | Washington State Department of Health
2005 Zoonotic Disease Workshop
For information: www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/ZOO.htm
Tumwater, Washington |
| October 19 | Washington State Department of Health
2005 Zoonotic Disease Workshop
For information: www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/ZOO.htm
Richland, Washington |
| October 23-26 | 2005 ESRI Health GIS Conference: Advancing Health and Human Services with Spatial Information
For information: www.esri.com/hug
The Palmer House Hilton
Chicago, Illinois |
| October 26 | Washington State Department of Health
2005 Zoonotic Disease Workshop
For information: www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/ZOO.htm
Mount Vernon, Washington |
| October 28 | 17th John R. Hogness Symposium on Health Care Poverty, Culture and Social Injustice: Determinants of Health Disparities
For information: 206-543-3620
University of Washington
Hogness Auditorium |

Warren G. Magnuson Health Sciences Center

November 2005

Date	Name and Location
Nov. 4-8	The American Public Health Association's 134th Annual Meeting and Exposition The New Boston Convention and Exposition Center Boston, Massachusetts
Nov. 5-9	American Public Health Association's 133rd Annual Meeting & Exposition For information: http://apha.org/meetings/ Ernest N. Morial Convention Center New Orleans, Louisiana

December 2005

Date	Name and Location
December 6	20th Annual Washington Health Legislative Conference: "Health or Health Care? Reframing the Discussion" For information: http://depts.washington.edu/rchpol/events/legcon05index.htm SeaTac Hilton Conference Center SeaTac, Washington

February 2006

Date	Name and Location
Feb. 22-24	National Health Policy Conference For information: www.academyhealth.org/nhpc Renaissance Washington, DC Hotel Washington, DC

March 2006

Date	Name and Location
March 22-24	19th Annual NW Regional Rural Health Conference: Dare to Prepare For information: Contact Charlotte Hardt at 509-358-7643 Red Lion Hotel at the Park Spokane, Washington

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Correspondence

Correspondence to the Board

- **Ms. Karen VanDusen, Washington State Board of Health Member**
Source: Office of the Governor
Oath of office from Governor Christine Gregoire to Ms. VanDusen regarding her appointment to the State Board of Health.

- **Washington State Board of Health Members**
Source: Ms. Christina S. O'Dell-Holloway, Department of Veterans Affairs
Response to the Board from the Department of Veterans Affairs regarding a written request for information.
- **Washington State Board of Health Members**
Source: Colonial American Casualty & Surety
Notice of cancellation of bond.
- **Washington State Board of Health Members**
Source: The Honorable Shay Schual-Berke, MD, Washington State House of Representatives
Letter from Representative Schual-Berke inviting the Board to attend committee meetings and submit written materials at any time.
- **Washington State Board of Health Members**
Source: Ms. Christine M. Hedges
Follow up letter regarding Ms. Hedges' concerns about the safety of guests of Blue Sky Outfitters in Marblemount, Washington.

Correspondence from the Board

- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**
Memo to The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the National Network of Public Health Institutes encouraging support of the continued effort to improve the Board's approach to performance management.
- **Dr. Kim Marie Thorburn, Chair, Washington State Board of Health**
Response letter from Dr. Thorburn to Mr. Damian Golden regarding his e-mail request to the Department of Health to consider clarifying/modifying the Washington State Transient Accommodations code (WAC 246-360) to regulate Tent Encampment Homeless Shelters.

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General Interest

GACHA Full Council Meeting

September 13, 2005

http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/HIV_AIDS/GACHA/Default.htm

- Review of Agenda/Packet Materials
- Minutes
- Chair Report
- Vice Chair Report
- DOH Report
- Debrief: August Luncheon Presentation
- AIDSNET Report
- AIDS Walks
- Medical Marijuana
- Vancouver Report: Final
- Medicare Modernization Act of 2003
- November Meeting
- December Joint Meeting with AIDSNETS

Local Boards of Health: Agendas and Meeting Minutes

- **Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health**
September 7, 2005
 - Substance Abuse Treatment Services Program Staff Recognition
 - Comments by the Public
 - Consent Agenda
 - Regular Agenda
 - Director of Health Comments
 - Comments by Board of Health Members
 - Executive Session

- **Grant County Board of Health**
September 7, 2005
<http://www.granthealth.org/grantcountyboardofhealth.htm>
 - Approval of August 10, 2005 Minutes
 - Public Forum for Citizen's Comments and Applications
 - Environmental Health Report
 - Personal Health/Administrator Report
 - Health Officer's Report
 - Approval of Vouchers for August 31, 2005
 - Other Business

- **Jefferson County Board of Health**
September 15, 2005
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Minutes of July 21, 2005
 - Public Comment
 - Old Business and Informational Items
 - New Business
 - Activity Update
 - Agenda Planning

- **King County Board of Health**
September 16, 2005
<http://www.metrokc.gov/HEALTH/news/05090901.htm>
 - Announcement of Any Alternates Serving in Place of Regular Members
 - Approval of Minutes of July 15, 2005 Meeting
 - General Public Comments
 - Chair's Report
 - Board Member's Updates
 - Director's Report
 - Administrator's Report
 - Public Health Operational Master Plan (PH OMP) Consultant Selection Update

- Presentation of Core Indicators
- Panel Presentation on the Increase in the Medically Uninsured
- Presentation of Recommendations to the Obesity Panel

- **Spokane Board of Health**

September 22, 2005

- Citizen Input
- Chair Report
- Health Officer Report
- Approval of Minutes
- Approval of Vouchers
- Action Items
- Board Member Concerns

- **Benton-Franklin District Board of Health**

September 29, 2005

<http://www.bfhd.wa.gov/admin/boh.php>

- Introduction of Visitors
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes
- Spokane Health District Conflict of Interest Discussion
- Budget Committee Report--2005 Budget, Revision No. 1
- Mileage Reimbursement Rate Increase
- Resolution 05-04--Surplus Equipment
- Katrina Relief--Personnel and Services
- Building Committee Report
- Flu Update
- West Nile Update
- Announcements
- Executive Session--Collective Bargaining
- Approval of Vouchers

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Public Health Leadership Positions

- **Public Health Program Manager**
Clallam County Department of Health and Human Services
For information: 360-417-2241 or personnel@co.clallam.wa.us
- **Director**
Clallam County Department of Health and Human Services
For information: 360-417-2241 or personnel@co.clallam.wa.us

- **Environmental Health Specialist 1**
Walla Walla County
For information: 509-524-2600 or jwinter@co.walla-walla.wa.us

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Publications - General Media

TopHealth

Special Issue

Articles of interest: "The Mind-Body Connection," "The Placebo Prescription," "Food and Mood," "Stress Factors," and "Are You Depressed?"

Washington State Public Health Association Newsletter

Summer 2005

Articles of interest: "The American Indian Health Commission for Washington State: Promoting Tribal-State Collaboration in Public Health," "President's Corner," "State Board of Health Update," "Health Status of American Indians/Alaska Natives in Washington," "Ruth Roemer, Pioneer Activist in Public Health, Tobacco, Abortion Issues Dies," "Clean Indoor Air Coming to a Location Near You," "New Prescription Drug Coverage for People with Medicare Starts Next Year," and "Urban Sprawl and Public Health: Designing, Planning, and Building for Health Communities."

Foundation News

Summer 2005

Articles of interest: "Citizens' Watch for Oral Health gets solid results," "Clallam County group gets health award," "Trustee luncheon celebrates milestone," "Extending our reach," and "Two dental students win scholarship awards."

Alliance

Summer 2005

Articles of interest: "New Dental Hygiene Program at Seattle Central Community College," "Willapa Counseling Center Receives Statewide Quality Award," "Washington State Diabetes Plan," "Western Washington Rural Hospital Videoconference Diabetes Update," "Project HOPE Mini Camp Summer 2005," "Medicare's New Prescription Drug Coverage," "An Expression of Faith: New Heights Clinic," "Director of Pacific County Public Health & Human Services Receives Prestigious Award," and "Volunteer Dentists & Dental Hygienists Needed."

thrive!

Fall 2005

Articles of interest: "Are You Ready for the 2005 Governor's Community Health Bowl?!" "Local Health Expert Dr. Helen Gayle on Education & Health," "Healthy Washington Schools," "Starting Out Healthy, and Staying There," "PARADOCS: Two doctors test your health 'Jeopardy,'" "The New, Improved Food Guide," and "Rx Help for Washington--100,000 Strong and Growing."

Community Quality Efforts Expand as Seattle Health Plan Products Evolve

Source: HSN Alert, September 2005

In March 2005, a team of researchers visited Seattle to study that community's health system, how it is changing, and the effects of those changes on consumers. The Center for Studying Health System Change (HSC), as part of the Community Tracking Study, interviewed more than 100 leaders in the health care market. Seattle is one of 12 communities tracked by HSC every

two years through site visits. Individual community reports are published for each round of site visits. The first four site visits to Seattle, in 1996, 1998, 2000, and 2003, provide trend information against which changes are tracked. The Seattle market encompasses Island, King, and Snohomish counties.

EPI-LOG

September 2005, Vol. 45, No. 9

Articles of interest: "Update on Imported Measles in King County" and "Tetanus Case Summary, September 2005."

Elaborations

September 2005, Volume X Issue 8

Articles of interest: "Bioterrorism Agent Notification Procedures" and "12th Annual Clinical Laboratory Conference."

Public Health Reports

September/October 2005

Articles of interest: "The First Decade of the Massachusetts Tobacco Control Program," "Assuring Public Health Professionals Are Prepared for the Future: The UAB Public Health Integrated Core Curriculum," "The Road Map to Preparedness: A Competency-Based Approach to Training for the Public Health Workforce," "Pediatric Asthma Surveillance Using Medicaid Claims," "Overweight in Southeastern Pennsylvania Children: 2002 Household Health Survey Data," "A Review of Instruments Assessing Public Health Preparedness," and "Enrollment of Racial/Ethnic Minorities in NIAID-Funded Networks of HIV Vaccine Trials in the United States, 1988 to 2002."

Two immunization clinics offered after school starts

Source: The Olympian, September 1, 2005

The Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Department plans to offer two catch-up immunization-only clinics after school starts.

Business forum set over pandemic flu

Source: The Seattle Post-Intelligencer, September 1, 2005

King County will host a forum for business leaders Oct. 3 to discuss preparations for a pandemic flu, King County Executive Ron Sims announced Wednesday.

Eating ourselves to death

Source: The Seattle Post-Intelligencer, September 4, 2005

Day by day, we are doing it to ourselves. Americans are creating an oversized future for themselves: one marked by expanding waistlines, health challenges, and the potential for a younger generation that becomes the first to see a shorter lifespan.

Ballot in Seattle to contain statement on health

Source: The Seattle Times, September 7, 2005

The Seattle City Council yesterday voted to put an advisory ballot before voters in November, asking them to endorse the principle that everyone in the US should have "the right to health care of equal high quality."

HSC Alert

September 8, 2005

Articles of interest: "Hundreds of Thousands of Medically Vulnerable Children Uninsured: Most Are Likely Eligible for Public Coverage but Not Enrolled," and "Transcript Available of News Briefing on Initial Findings from HSC's Fifth Round of Site Visits to 12 Communities."

90 percent of schools offer junk food, survey says

Source: The News Tribune, September 8, 2005

Candy, soda, pizza, and other snacks compete with nutritious meals in nine out of 10 schools, a government survey found. Already plentiful in high schools, junk food has become more available in middle schools over the past five years, according to the Government Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress.

Study: sprawl, waistlines not linked

Source: The Register-Guard, September 12, 2005

Don't blame urban sprawl for America's sprawling waistline. That's the message from two Oregon State University researchers, who say the nation's "obesity epidemic" probably has little to do with whether people can walk from their house to a store.

Mosquito numbers explode due to hurricane flooding

Source: Rocky Mountain News, September 13, 2005

Clouds of mosquitoes are rising from the stagnant waters left by Hurricane Katrina, plaguing recovery workers and posing a disease threat, said a Fort Collins entomologist who is helping to coordinate the public-health response.

The CDC Public Health Law News

September 14, 2005

Articles of interest: "Doing about-face, state panel backs school-food rules; Vending, activity edicts on menu," "School soda, junk food bans approved," "DEP won't act to ban mercury fillings," "Nursing home owners charged," "Pa. schools mandate body-mass calculations," "Raw milk bill debated," "EPA to bar data from pesticide studies involving children and pregnant women," "States reopen their disaster playbooks," and "Ragweed sufferers go after Montreal: \$2 billion lawsuit."

California Whooping Cough Cases Surge

Source: Associated Press, September 20, 2005

Nearly three times as many whooping cough cases have been reported in California this year compared to 2004, according to the state Department of Health Services. The state tallied 1276 cases and four infant deaths through August. For the same period in 2004, it logged 450 cases and two deaths.

Microsoft tackles weighty issues: 800 workers, 26,000 lbs. lost

Source: Seattle Post-Intelligencer, September 20, 2005

Tony Seeley knew he was in trouble the day his doctor told him he had the body of a healthy 62-year-old man. "Which is nice if you're 63," Seeley said. "But I was 39."

West Nile Virus Newsletter

September 22, 2005

Articles of interest: "West Nile virus activity in the Northwest," "Dead bird and another mosquito pool test positive for WNV in Yakima County," "South Dakota getting hit hard this year," "Mosquito spraying in New Orleans," and "National, northwest, and state surveillance."

Summit a checkup for diversity

Source: The Seattle Times, September 30, 2005

African Americans, American Indians, and Native Alaskans in Washington are significantly more likely to die from chronic diseases than white residents. In King County, their infants are more than twice as likely to die as white babies.

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Publications - Highlighted Journal Articles

- **MMWR Weekly**
Volume 54, No. 34, September 2, 2005
Articles of interest: "The Role of Public Health in Mental Health Promotion," "Mental Health in the United States: Prevalence of Diagnosis and Medication Treatment for Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder," "Children and Teens Told by Doctors That They Were Overweight," "Update: Influenza Vaccine Supply and Recommendations for Prioritization During the 2005-06 Influenza Season," "Update: West Nile Virus Activity," and "QuickStats: Percentage of Children Aged 4-17 Years with Emotional or Behavioral Difficulties Who Used Mental Health Services, by Type of Service."
- **MMWR Weekly**
Volume 54, No. 35, September 9, 2005
Articles of interest: "National Cholesterol Education Month," "Trends in Cholesterol Screening and Awareness of High Blood Cholesterol," "Unintentional Deaths from Drug Poisoning by Urbanization of Area," "Progress Toward Poliomyelitis Eradication," "Hurricane Katrina Response and Guidance for Health-Care Providers, Relief Workers, and Shelter Operators," "Update: West Nile Virus Activity," and "QuickStats: Percentage of US and Canadian Women Aged 50-69 Years Who Were Screened in Accordance with National Screening Guidelines for Papanicolaou (Pap) Tests and Mammograms, by Country and Health Insurance Status, 2002-2003."
- **MMWR Weekly**
Volume 54, No. 37, September 23, 2005
Articles of interest: "Competitive Foods and Beverages Available for Purchase in Secondary Schools," "Influenza Vaccination Coverage Among Persons Aged 50-64 Years Enrolled in Commercial Managed Health-Care Plans," "HIV Transmission in the Adult Film Industry," "Perceptions of Neighborhood Characteristics and Leisure-Time Physical Inactivity," "Vibrio Illnesses After Hurricane Katrina," "Update: West Nile Virus Activity," and "Percentage of Adults Who Reported an Average of ≤ 6 Hours of Sleep per 24-Hour Period, by Sex and Age Group."
- **The Journal of the American Medical Association**
September 28, 2005; Vol. 294, No. 12
<http://jama.ama-assn.org/content/vol294/issue12/index.dtl?etoc>
- **MMWR Weekly**
Volume 54, No. 38, September 30, 2005
Articles of interest: "International Walk to School Week," "Barriers to Children Walking to or from School," "Outbreak of Pruritic Rashes Associated with Mites," "Use of Dietary Supplements Containing Folic Acid Among Women of Childbearing Age," "Laboratory Surveillance for Wild and Vaccine-Derived Polioviruses," "Infectious Disease and Dermatologic Conditions in Evacuees and Rescue Workers After Hurricane Katrina," "Update: West Nile Virus Activity," and "QuickStats: Leading Causes of Neonatal and Postneonatal Deaths."

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Publications - Reports

- **Washington State/Seattle-King County HIV/AIDS Epidemiology Report**
This sixty-sixth edition of the HIV/AIDS Epidemiology Report, in general, includes data through the end of June 2005. The report is produced jointly by Public Health - Seattle & King County and the Washington State Infectious Disease and Reproductive Health Assessment Unit. It is funded in part by a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention cooperative agreement for HIV/AIDS surveillance.
- **Environmental and Occupational Causes of Cancer: A Review of Recent Scientific Literature**
This paper summarizes recent scientific evidence of environmental and occupational links to nearly 30 types of cancer. It includes a critique of the 25 year-old analysis by Doll and Peto and subsequent analyses that attribute an extremely small fraction of cancer deaths to involuntary environmental and occupational exposures.
- **Promoting Medical Homes for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs and Their Families: A Needs Assessment of Washington State Medical Home Physicians**
Purpose: To identify: (1) how to support experienced medical home physicians who are currently active on Medical Home Leadership Network (MHLN) teams in Washington State and (2) how to expand the number of physicians providing medical homes in Washington State.

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Rule Development

Rule Making Order (CR-103)

- **To amend WAC 246-272A-0130 Bacteriological Reduction**
CR-103 date adopted: September 6, 2005
To amend WAC 246-272A-0130 Bacteriological Reduction to create a more accurate and less costly protocol for the testing of onsite sewage system proprietary treatment products. During the recent onsite rule revision process a protocol for demonstrating bacteriological reduction was adopted. However, this protocol has since been identified as being impractical for some testing facilities to complete. A suitable protocol is critical so that product manufacturers have clear direction as to the requirements for product registration.

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