



For Your Information – August 2006

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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Events and Conferences

August 2006

Date	Name and Location
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Aug. 3-4	Emergency Preparedness Conference Seattle Marriott SeaTac, Washington For Information: www.nwcphp.org/emergency-preparedness-conference
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Aug. 21-25	Summer Institute for Public Health Practice University of Washington Seattle, Washington For Information: http://www.nwcphp.org/training/summer-institute/si06final_brochure.pdf
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September 2006

Date	Name and Location
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Sept. 12-15	ASTHO Annual Meeting Hyatt Regency Atlanta Hotel Atlanta, Georgia
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For Information: www.astho.org

Sept. 27-29 **2006 Food Safety Education Conference - Reaching at-risk audiences and today's other food safety challenges**
Adam's Mark Hotel
Denver, Colorado
For Information: www.fsis.usda.gov/denver2006

October 2006

Date **Name and Location**

- Oct. 16-18 **Joint Conference on Health
"Health Across the Generations: Demonstrating the Value of Public Health"**
Yakima Convention Center
Yakima, Washington
For information: <http://www.wspha.org>
- Oct. 17-20 **Quality Health Care for Culturally Diverse Populations: Building the Essential Link between Quality, Cultural Competence, and Disparities Reduction**
Renaissance Seattle Hotel
Seattle, Washington
For information: www.diversityrx.org/CCCONF/06/index.html
- Oct. 18-19 **Northwest Environmental Summit**
Greater Tacoma Convention & Trade Center
Tacoma, Washington
For information: www.envsummit.com/
- Oct. 26-27 **Blood Borne: A Silent Epidemic**
Hyatt Regency
Chicago, Illinois
For information: amy.shaeffer@commonhealthcenter.org

November 2006

Date **Name and Location**

- Nov. 4-8 **Public Health and Human Rights: American Public Health Association's 134th Annual Meeting and Exposition**
Boston Convention & Exhibition Center
Boston, Massachusetts
For information: <http://apha.org/meetings/>
- Nov. 9-10 **Improving Health Through Partnerships: 2006 Tribal Leader Health Summit**
Little Creek Casino Resort

Shelton, Washington
For information: <http://www.aihc-wa.org>

December 2006

Date	Name and Location
Dec. 12	Washington Health Legislative Conference Getting From Here to There: Alternative Strategies for a Healthy Future SeaTac Hilton SeaTac, Washington For information: http://depts.washington.edu/rchpol/events/legcon06index.htm

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Correspondence

Correspondence from the Board

None

Correspondence to the Board

To: Board Members and Staff
From: Dr. Ed Gray, July 13, 2006
Letter of appreciation for farewell at July meeting.

Other Correspondence

To: State agency leaders
From: The Honorable Christine O. Gregoire, July 13, 2006
Request for designation of agency representative for the Governor's Interagency Coordinating Council on Health Disparities

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Local Boards of Health: Agendas and Meeting Minutes

Chelan-Douglas Health District Board of Health Minutes

June 19, 2006

Call meeting to order

Consent Agenda

- Approval of the May 15, 2006 minutes
- Approval of May Payroll in the amount of \$212,527.55
- Approval of payment of vouchers no. 20060290 to 20060419

Contracts:

- Consolidated contract amendment #9
- Consolidated contract amendment #10
- Interpreter services contract
- Hepatitis B vaccination contract

Program Update: Overview of home visiting

Board Discussion—none

Public Comment

New Business: Resolution 2006-004 NIMS model for planning and responding to public health emergencies – 1st reading

Unfinished Business

· Resolution 2006-003 to Amend Chapter 4.32, CDHD Health Code – 2nd reading

Reports

· Administrator

Adjournment

Chelan-Douglas Health District Board of Health Agenda

July 17, 2006

Call to order

Consent agenda

· Approval of June 19, 2006 meeting minutes

· Approval of June payroll \$213,106.27

· Approval of vouchers nos. 20060420-20060491

Program update—mosquito update

Board discussion

Public comment

New business

Unfinished business—resolution no. 2006-005

Reports

· Administrator

· Support services

· Personal health services

· Environmental health services

Adjournment

Grant County Board of Health Minutes

June 14, 2006

Approval of May 10, 2006 minutes

Public forum for citizen's comments and applications—none

Environmental health report

Personal health/administrator report

· Draft policy—septic system installation and water sources

· Food borne illness

Administrator/Personal Health Report

· Columbia Basin Herald flyer

· Health officer resolution revision – resolution 2006-2 (action requested)

· Agency-wide report

· Budget report

Health officer's report

· Norovirus outbreak

· Varicella (chickenpox) outbreak

· Pandemic flu planning

· Strategic planning

Approval of vouchers for May 31, 2006

Other Business

- Public health partner awards

Adjournment

Grays Harbor County Board of Health

April 20, 2006

Call to order

Approval of January 19, 2006 minutes

Public health and social services director report

Environmental health report

Clean indoor air act policies & procedures

Tuberculosis control plan

New school rules

Moving Grays Harbor

Children with special health care needs

Public comment

Adjournment

Jefferson County Board Of Health Minutes

June 15, 2006

Approval of Agenda

Approval of May 18, 2006 minutes

Public Comments

Old Business

- Drinking Water Week Nominations

New Business

- Areas of Threatened Shellfish Closures – Jefferson County

- Cyanobacteria Bloom in Lake Anderson – Human and Animal Health Impacts

Update – Joint Select Committee on Public Health Financing

Activity Update/Agenda Planning

Adjournment

Jefferson County Board of Health Agenda

July 20, 2006

Approval of agenda

Approval of June 15, 2006 minutes

Public comments

Old business

- West Nile Virus newsletter, summer 2006

- Board correspondence

- Cyanobacteria update

- Solid waste enforcement update

New business

- EnviroStars award for Dentistry Northwest

- West reduction and recycled product procurement policy

- 2006-07 tobacco workplan highlights

- Proposed Board of Health bylaws changes
 - 2007 budget process update
 - New vaccines—costs, benefits, controversies
- Activity update
Agenda planning—on-site sewage code revision process
Adjournment

King County Board of Health Agenda

July 27, 2006

- Call to order
Roll call
Citizen input
Chair report
Approval of June 22, 2006 minutes
Approval of June vouchers
Action items
- Resolution #06-04
 - Bylaws amendment
- Reports
- 2nd quarter 2006 budget report
 - WIC program
 - Storm water remediation and public health
- Board member concerns
Adjournment

Lewis County Board of Health Minutes

July 10, 2006

- Call to order
Approval of June 12, 2006 minutes
Agenda additions and changes
Consent items
- Resolution 071006.1
 - Resolution 071006.2
- Public health issues
- 2005 annual WIC report
 - Breastfeeding program and event
 - On-site sewage program status report
- Health officer/administrator update
- Pandemic influenza planning
- Adjournment

Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health Minutes

July 26, 2006

- Call to order
Roll Call
Executive Session - Employee Evaluation
Adjournment

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Public Health Leadership Positions Available

Environmental Health Specialist II

Kittitas County Health Department

Closes: August 1, 2006

For information: <http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/hr/jobs.asp?jobID=327>

Public Health Director

Kittitas County Health Department

Closes: When filled

For information: <http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/hr/jobs.asp?jobID=329>

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Publications - General Media

Bird flu vaccine shows promise

Washington Post, July 27, 2006

The giant pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline reported yesterday that it has made an experimental vaccine for bird flu that appears to work at a dose far lower than even the familiar seasonal flu shots.

Bouts of illness bring warning on raw oysters

The News Tribune, July 15, 2006

As many as 20 Washington residents have fallen ill recently after eating raw oysters infected with harmful bacteria. None was hospitalized, but the outbreak has prompted the state Department of Health to urge consumers to cook shellfish. Samples show that shellfish from the South Sound, Hood Canal and Willapa Bay harbor germs of *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*. The bacteria can cause diarrhea, nausea, headaches and vomiting.

Chemical cleanups scheduled

Yakima Herald-Republic, July 20, 2006

Three public schools in Yakima county found to have unacceptable levels of lead and arsenic in their soil will be cleaned up this summer before the new school year. Slated for cleanup are Gilbert and Robertson elementaries in Yakima and Naches Intermediate School and the adjacent athletic fields in Naches.

Chickenpox immunization needed for school, day care

The Olympian, July 10, 2006

Children starting school or attending licensed day cares now need to be immunized against the contagious childhood disease chickenpox, characterized by itchy blisters all over the body, the state Department of Health is reminding parents.

Diabetes is on the rise but mostly preventable

The Olympian, July 16, 2006

If you don't know someone with diabetes, there's a good chance you soon will. A recent study found the occurrence of Type 2 diabetes has doubled over the last 30 years. Another estimated that a third of U.S. adults - more than 73 million - have diabetes or may be developing it.

Flu-pandemic plans call for volunteers to assist professionals

Seattle Times, August 3, 2006

If an avian flu were to actually land in King County, it would trigger such a crisis that public-health officials would need help. So Wednesday, officials with Public Health — Seattle & King County announced the launch of the Public Health Reserve Corps, which they hope will be an army of volunteers, including health professionals and regular members of the public, who can respond not just to a flu pandemic but to bioterrorism attacks and other public-health emergencies.

Get the right shots for school

The Olympian, July 16, 2006

Lost school time for kids, missed work for parents or worse can be avoided with a prick on the arm, the state Department of Health says. The state requires students to undergo a series of vaccinations throughout childhood, and this month brought in new immunization requirements.

Hispanics face multiple hurdles in quest for health care

The Olympian, July 14, 2006

We've all heard by now that Hispanics are the fastest-growing and largest ethnic group in Washington state, but the health and well-being of Latinos hasn't kept pace with the population growth and continues to be of great concern to all Hispanic communities.

Measles remains a threat despite 'eradication'

USA Today, August 2, 2006

Measles was officially eradicated in the USA in 2000, but a report published today points out that Americans are still vulnerable, especially if they're not vaccinated. Researchers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention investigated a measles outbreak last year in Indiana that began when an unvaccinated 17-year-old returned from a church mission trip to a Romanian orphanage, where she contracted the virus. A day after her return, she attended a church event and passed the infection to unvaccinated children who in turn passed it to other family members.

More parents resisting vaccines for kids

The Seattle Times, July 16, 2006

They're the "conscientious objectors" of the public-health world: parents who resist giving their children vaccines. Their numbers are increasing, public-health officials say, although nobody knows exactly how many there are. Some are parents like Pam Beck, a Vashon Island mom who says she once trusted doctors and public-health officials to know best. But years ago, when two of her children had what she calls extreme reactions to pertussis vaccine, that all changed.

Not enough meningitis vaccine to go around

USA Today, July 19, 2006

Demand for a new meningitis vaccine has created a shortage, and health officials say doctors should give priority to older teens and hold off on giving the shots to pre-teens. "One thing we know about this vaccine is that demand goes up in the summer in anticipation of back-to-college and back-to-school," says Jeanne Santoli of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The agency issued recommendations in late May calling on doctors to defer immunizing 11- and 12-year-olds but to continue vaccinating those entering high school or college.

Nurse camp generates healthy interest

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, July 18, 2006

Students chosen to attend nurse camp at Tacoma General Hospital lounged on chairs last week, eating pizza and talking about things high schoolers talk about: grades, prom, college, careers. But when they put on their new mint-green scrubs, everything changed.

One in three hospital patients is 65 or older

Medscape, July 26, 2006

Although only 12% of the US population was 65 years of age or older in 2003, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality says that this group accounted for one third of all patients admitted to the nation's community hospitals in that year -- over 13 million hospital stays.

Parents' fears over vaccinating kids sets ethics debate

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, July 15, 2006

Dr. Doug Diekema, a medical ethicist, doesn't just contemplate tricky questions from afar. He has struggled with some of the same dilemmas in his own family. When his daughter, Katie, was a baby, Diekema opted to hold off on having her receive the new chicken pox vaccine. It wasn't required yet for admission to public school and, in any case, she wasn't attending preschool or day care yet.

Premature births up 30 percent

Seattle Times, July 14, 2006

Specialists called Thursday for more early ultrasound exams during pregnancy and tighter guidelines for infertility treatment as key first steps in battling a growing problem: One in eight babies now is born prematurely.

Tetanus jab may curb multiple sclerosis risk

Reuters UK, August 1, 2006

NEW YORK (Reuters Health) - Vaccination against tetanus may offer protection against the development of multiple sclerosis (MS), according to a new study from Boston-based researchers. Dr. Miguel A. Hernan and colleagues from Harvard School of Public Health pooled data from nine studies published between 1966 and 2005 that looked at the association between tetanus vaccination and MS risk. Analyses centered on a total of 963 MS cases and 3126 controls.

Smoking bans may have no borders

USA Today, July 13, 2006

The World Health Organization plans to urge smoking bans worldwide based on a landmark California study that was the first to add breast cancer to a list of diseases caused by secondhand tobacco smoke. The WHO will announce today at the 13th World Conference on Tobacco or Health in Washington that the study by California's Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) will be the scientific basis for recommendations due in September.

State reserves its share of anti-viral drugs

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, August 3, 2006

Washington has asked the federal government to reserve the state's full allotment of federally subsidized anti-viral medicine, to be used in case of a flu pandemic, state officials said Wednesday.

The Bush administration has plans to buy enough medication to treat 44 million people nationwide, or about 15 percent of each state's population. States can buy more to bring their stockpiles up to 25 percent of their populations under a federal program.

Vaccine guidelines growing more complex

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, July 30, 2006

The growing list of childhood vaccinations reads like an alphabet soup: Hib, HepA, HepB, IPV, PCV, MCV4, DTaP, Tdap, varicella and influenza. Parents dragging their kids to the doctor's office for those required school shots can expect to hear about more vaccines and, if they're uninsured, new expenses.

Who are you calling fat?

Washington Post, July 18, 2006

Some doctors call it "the other f-word" -- a problem they see on a daily basis but many are reluctant to address: kids who are too fat. The issue is not new, but experts say it has acquired greater urgency as obesity has ballooned in the past 25 years, accompanied by sharp increases in diabetes, hypertension and high cholesterol, conditions that used to be largely the province of those middle-aged or older. In 1980, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 7 percent of children and 5 percent of teenagers were overweight; today the figures hover around 19 percent and 17 percent, respectively.

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Publications - Inside This Issue

Advances Newsletter

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, June 2006

- New Analysis Underscores Legality of Collecting Patient Race and Ethnicity Data to Improve Health Care Quality
- African-American Youth Exposed to More Alcohol Advertising Than Other Young People
- Report Evaluates Knowledge of How to Retain Older Nurses in Bedside Practice
- Report Finds Federal Funding for Disease Prevention and Bioterrorism Preparedness for States Varies by up to \$41 per Person
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Awards 14 Research Grants to Prevent Childhood Obesity
- Green House Founder Profiled By *U.S. News & World Report* as a Top National Leader
- Youth Development and Nontraditional Health Program Innovators Dominate This Year's Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Awards
- New Initiative Will Fund School-Based Mental Health Services for Children and Youth
- RWJF Raises Rate for Indirect Costs for New Grants on July 1

<http://www.rwjf.org/publications/newsletterlist.jsp>

E-Health

Association of State and Territory Health Officials, May 2006

- ASTHO Activities and Publications - Public Health, Law Enforcement, and Privacy Issues Report; Informatics Workforce Issue Report; Tracking Patients and Vaccines in Large Scale Events Issue Brief; at ASTHO Sr Deputies Meeting-Informatics Session ; P&PHP and PHIE-EHR Conference Call featuring the Mid-America Alliance; ASTHO attends NHIN Forum and state RHIO meeting
- Informatics in the News - MN eHealth supports HIT in rural, underserved areas; OR governor seeks federal funding for health IT; HITSP recommends 90 initial standards; First round of ambulatory EHR products certified by CCHIT; HIPAA privacy concerns in the expansion of electronic health information; Web-based HIPAA Privacy Decision Tool for Emergency Planning; CDC reports growth of EMR use; IOM report recommends universal e-prescribing by 2010; Cost of House Health IT Bill estimated
- Grants/Funding Opportunities - Laboratory Performance Standards RFP Released; Common Ground

Supports Public Health Information System Requirements Gathering; Academic Health Department Grants; PHR Grant

- Announcements - ASTHO Annual Mtg in Atlanta in Sept.; Nat'l Conference on Health Information Capture in Las Vegas in Sept.; Rural HIT Meeting in Kansas City, MO in Sept.; NAPHIT Annual Mtg in Atlanta in Sept.; PHIN Conference in Atlanta in Sept.; PHR Conference in DC in Dec.

- About ASTHO

<http://www.astho.org/newsletter/newsletters/2/archives.php?u=Jmk9Mg%3D%3D>

Elaborations

Department of Health, Vol. XI, Issue 7, July 2006

- MTS License Renewal Changes
- 13th Annual Clinical Laboratory Conference
- Basic Microscopy Training Course
- MTS License Renewal/Calendar of Events

http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/fsl/lqa_newsletters.htm

Environmental Health News

Association of State and Territory Health Officials, June 2006

- Astho News - Newsletter evaluation and current employment opportunities at ASTHO.
- State Funding Opportunities - Funding opportunities available for state health agencies for work related to reducing exposure to indoor pollutants, land use planning, and addressing pollution on the Gulf of Mexico.
- State News - Environmental health news from South Carolina.
- Federal News - Federal news from EPA.
- Request For Comments - Request for comments on EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions.
- New Resources - Environmental health resources for residential mold remediation and food safety.
- Upcoming Events - National meetings and conferences for environmental health professionals.
- About This Newsletter

<http://www.astho.org/newsletter/newsletters/3/archives.php?u=Jmk9Mw%3D%3D>

Environmental Health Perspectives

Journal of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Vol. 114, No. 6, June 2006

- Innovations - A Clear Solution for Dirty Water
- Focus - Tracing the Origins of Autism: A Spectrum of New Studies
- Cancer - TRI Chemicals and Childhood Brain Cancer
- Neurodegenerative Disease - Mycotoxin-Induced Olfactory Epithelium Atrophy
- Risk Characterization - Occupational Exposure to *Pfiesteria*
- Signal Transduction - Nanomolar Thimerosal Dysregulates Cell Signaling
- Cardiovascular Disease - Air Pollution and the Elderly

<http://www.ehponline.org/>

EpiLog

Public Health Seattle & King County, June 2006

- Animal bites and rabies post-exposure prophylaxis
- Disseminated gonorrhoea in King County
- Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome alert

<http://www.metrokc.gov/health/epilog/index.htm>

Foundation News

Washington State Board of Health ~ FYI Newsletter ~ August 2006

<http://www.sboh.wa.gov/FYI/FYI.htm>

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Washington Dental Service Foundation, Summer 2006

- SmileMobile celebrates new van/partnership
- Bringing better oral health to seniors
- Extending our research
- Scholarship recipient returns to reservation

Public Health Preparedness

Association of State and Territory Health Officials, June 2006

- Case Studies in Performance Measurement - Arizona's Health Alert Network
 - IOM Emergency Medical Services Reports - New reports on the future of emergency care in the United States
 - Pandemic Influenza Update - Latest updates on emergency supplemental funding for state and local planning activities
 - Federal Updates - Latest updates on federal preparedness activities
 - 2007 Local, State and Federal Public Health Preparedness Summit - Call for Proposals
 - State News - Preparedness activities in Hawaii and Connecticut
 - Public Health Resources and Reports - New Preparedness Resources
 - Upcoming Events - Upcoming Preparedness Trainings and Meetings
- <http://www.astho.org/newsletter/newsletters/9/archives.php?u=Jmk9OQ%3D%3D>

State Health Notes

Forum for State Health Policy Leadership, Vol. 27, No. 473, August 7, 2006

- In-Depth: States are launching innovative programs to identify and treat infants and toddlers who are at risk for mental health problems. The payoffs may be enormous.
- State News: Lawmakers are considering whether to legislate medical practice in retail-based health clinics. Idaho's Medicaid reforms will enroll beneficiaries in one of three benefit packages.
- Highlights: Federal funds for long-term care...OR, WA form drug cooperative...Rx errors...WA survey...Alcohol in rural areas
- Graphically Speaking: 2006 Annie E. Casey KIDS COUNT Data

Forum for State Health Policy Leadership, Vol. 27, No. 472, July 24, 2006

- Point-Counterpoint—Connector is key to new MA law.
- State News—Big savings in PA drug plan...IL to protect consumers from aggressive hospitals
- Highlights—Wal-Mart law struck down...PA expands child coverage...LA bans smoking in cars...Flu medications and the states...Hospitals and bio-terrorism
- Graphically Speaking—Analysis shows HSA's not likely to reduce cost-sharing.
- Health Sessions at the Annual Meeting. Come to Annual Meeting in Nashville, August 15-18, to hear about solutions to states' pressing health policy dilemmas.
- Pay or Play Health Care Bill in MD Voided. A Maryland court has voided the state's so-called Wal-Mart legislation, which would have forced employers who don't spend a certain amount on employee health care to contribute to a fund.
- Massachusetts Overview: Universal Health Care—On April 12, 2006, Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney signed the much-touted legislative package, Health Care Access and Affordability.
- The State of Children's Health Insurance. Who's Covered and Who's Not? This paper provides an overview of national children's health coverage, and what options states can use to cover uninsured kids.
- 2006 Prescription Drug State Legislation. In 2006, state legislatures continue a strong health policy focus on prescription drugs.

- Family Caregiver Support State Facts at a Glance. Services offered through state programs and state legislative initiatives to shape family caregiver programs are detailed for each state and the District of Columbia.
- FAQs: Building Blocks—This set of briefing papers on important health policy topics is part of an orientation package for state legislators on the fundamentals of state health policy.

WSMA Reports

Washington State Medical Association, July 2006

- To improve quality, thousands of physicians to receive patient-specific reports
- Newsclips
- Washington State quality improvement initiative over next few months
- Physicians Insurance: The semiautomatic external defibrillator for private practice
- Insurance Q & A: Coding: Then and now
- Risk Management: Phony silicosis claims, PBDEs, hospitals' problems and successes
- Goodbooks List
- Physician-politician meetings worth your while
- Classifieds
- CME Calendar
- Newsmakers

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Publications - Highlighted Journal Articles

- **Adult weight change and risk of postmenopausal breast cancer**
JAMA, Vol. 296, No. 2, July 12, 2006
Context: Endogenous hormones are a primary cause of breast cancer. Adiposity affects circulating hormones, particularly in postmenopausal women, and may be a modifiable risk factor for breast cancer.
Objective: To assess the associations of adult weight change since age 18 years and since menopause with the risk of breast cancer among postmenopausal women.
- **Daily activity energy expenditure and mortality among older adults**
JAMA, Vol. 296, No. 2, July 12, 2006
Context: Exercise is associated with mortality benefits but simply expending energy through any activity in an individual's free-living environment may confer survival advantages.
Objective: To determine whether free-living activity energy expenditure is associated with all-cause mortality among older adults.
- **Language barriers to health care in the United States**
NEJM, Vol. 355:229-231, July 20, 2006
A 12-year-old Latino boy arrived at a Boston emergency department with dizziness and a headache. The patient, whom I'll call Raul, had limited proficiency in English; his mother spoke no English, and the attending physician spoke little Spanish. No medical interpreter was available, so Raul acted as his own interpreter. His mother described his symptoms: "La semana pasada a el le dio mucho mareo y no tenía fiebre ni nada, y la familia por parte de papá todos padecen de diabetes." (Last week, he had a lot of dizziness, and he didn't have fever or anything, and his dad's family all suffer from diabetes.)

- **What accounts for differences in the use of hospital emergency departments across U.S. communities**

Health Affairs, July 18, 2006

Increases in the use of hospital emergency departments (EDs) might contribute to crowding at some EDs, higher health care costs, and lower-quality primary care. This study examines the extent to which differences in populations and health system factors account for variations in ED use across U.S. communities. Contrary to popular perceptions, communities with high ED use have fewer numbers of uninsured, Hispanic, and noncitizen residents. Outpatient capacity constraints also contribute to high ED use. However, high ED use in some communities also likely reflects generic preferences for EDs as a source of care for nonurgent problems. [Health Affairs 25 (2006): w324–w336; 10.1377/hlthaff.25 .w324]

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