



For Your Information – December 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

November 2006

Date	Name and Location
Nov. 29-Dec. 1	2006 Family Policy Council Partners Summit: The Partnership of Amazing Innovation -- Transformative Solutions for the Real World Hilton Vancouver Hotel Vancouver, Washington For information: www.fpc.wa.gov/FPCEvents.html

December 2006

Date	Name and Location
Dec. 4-5	Washington State Conference on Quality-Based Health Care Purchasing Bell Harbor Conference Center Seattle, Washington For information: http://www.pugetsoundhealthalliance.org/qualityconference/

- Dec. 4-6 **National Environmental Public Health Conference**
Atlanta, Georgia
For information: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/conference/index.htm>
- Dec. 5 **Fundamentals of Psychological Preparedness for Human Remains Exposure (HRE) Workshop: Preparing for the Worst**
Arlington, Virginia
For information: http://www.homelanddefensejournal.com/hdl/conf_hre06.htm
- 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>

January 2007

- | Date | Name and Location |
|-------------|--|
| Jan. 24 | Seeking Solutions: 2007 Environmental Health Lecture Series - Green Chemistry
Town Hall Seattle
Seattle, Washington
For information: http://www.iceh.org/CHE-WAlectures.html |

February 2007

- | Date | Name and Location |
|-------------|---|
| Feb. 1-2 | 2007 Employee Health Care Conference: Building a Culture of Health -- Making Change Work
Waldorf-Astoria Hotel
New York
For information: www.conference-board.org/healthcare.htm |
| Feb. 7 | Seeking Solutions: 2007 Environmental Health Lecture Series - Nanotech & Precaution
Town Hall Seattle
Seattle, Washington
For information: http://www.iceh.org/CHE-WAlectures.html |
| Feb. 8-10 | 6th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth Conference
Westin Bonaventure Hotel
Los Angeles, California
For information: http://www.newpartners.org/ |
| Feb. 12-13 | 2007 National Health Policy Conference |

Washington, DC
For information: <http://www.academyhealth.org/nhpc/>

March 2007

- | Date | Name and Location |
|-------------|---|
| Mar. 15-16 | 2007 Employee Health Care Conference: Building a Culture of Health -- Making Change Work
Hotel del Coronado
San Diego, California
For information: www.conference-board.org/healthcare.htm |
| Mar. 21 | Seeking Solutions: 2007 Environmental Health Lecture Series - Biofuels
Town Hall Seattle
Seattle, Washington
For information: http://www.iceh.org/CHE-WAlectures.html |
| Mar. 22-23 | 20th Annual Northwest Regional Rural Health Conference: Balancing the Tensions - Do No Harm
Red Lion Hotel at the Park
Spokane, Washington
For information: Kaarin Appel, 509-358-7509, kappel@wsu.edu |

April 2007

- | Date | Name and Location |
|-------------|--|
| Apr. 18 | Seeking Solutions: 2007 Environmental Health Lecture Series - Sustainable Systems
Town Hall Seattle
Seattle, Washington
For information: http://www.iceh.org/CHE-WAlectures.html |

May 2007

- | Date | Name and Location |
|-------------|---|
| May 15-16 | 2007 Northwest Immunization Conference
Portland, Oregon
For information: http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=105809 |

September 2007

Date	Name and Location
Sept. 18-21	National Association of Local Boards of Health The Hotel Captain Cook Anchorage, Alaska For information: www.nalboh.org

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Correspondence

Correspondence from the Board

To: Stephen Luber, MD, FAAP, Rockwood Clinic

From: Mike Shelton, Acting Chair, Washington State Board of Health, December 1, 2006

Response to November 15 letter requesting that the Board require proof of pneumococcal immunization for all children entering school and child care.

Correspondence to the Board

None.

Other Correspondence

None.

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Local Boards of Health: Agendas and Meeting Minutes

Benton-Franklin District Board of Health Agenda

November 30, 2006

Call to Order

Roll Call

Introduction of Visitors/Staff

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes

2006 Budget, Revision 1

2007 Budget

Building Updates

Franklin County Lease Agreement

Benton County Lease Agreement

Board of Health Meeting Schedule

Board of Health By-laws Amendment

4410 Update

Announcements
Approval of Vouchers
Date of Next Meeting
Adjournment

Benton-Franklin District Board of Health Agenda

October 26, 2006

Call to Order
Roll Call
Introduction of Visitors/Staff
Approval of Agenda
Approval of Minutes
4410 (Public Health Financing) Presentation
Medicaid Administrative Match Update
Purchasing Antivirals for emergencies
2006 Budget, Revision 1
Building Updates
Franklin County Lease Agreement
Board of Health Meeting Schedule
Announcements
Approval of Vouchers
Date of Next Meeting
Adjournment

Chelan-Douglas Health District Board of Health Minutes

November 20, 2006

General Business:
a. call meeting to order
Consent Agenda:
a. approval of October 16, 2006 minutes
b. approval of October payroll and benefits
c. approval of vouchers no. 20060785 through 20060906
d. approval of contracts
Program update: Pandemic Flu plan
Board discussion
New business: resolution 2006-010: 4410 support
Unfinished business - 2007 Budget
Reports:
a. Administrator
b. Support Services
c. Personal Health Services
d. Environmental Health Services
Executive Session: Labor and negotiations
Adjournment

Chelan-Douglas Health District Board of Health Minutes

October 16, 2006

General Business:
a. call meeting to order

Consent Agenda:

- a. approval of September 18, 2006 minutes
- b. approval of September payroll and benefits
- c. approval of vouchers no. 20060689 through 20060784
- d. approval of contracts

Program update: Environmental Health Outcome Measures Project

Board discussion: O & M Licensing Requirements, Resolution 2006-009

Public Comment

New business - None

Unfinished business - Resolution 2006-009 O & M Licensing Requirements - 2nd reading

Reports:

- a. Administrator
- b. Nursing Director

Adjournment

Chelan-Douglas Health District Board of Health Minutes

September 18, 2006

Consent Agenda:

- a. approval of August 21, 2006 minutes
- b. approval of August payroll and benefits
- c. approval of vouchers no. 20060603 through 20060688
- d. approval of contracts

Program update: Tobacco cessation program and Steps to a healthier Washington

Board discussion: Ecoli contamination in packaged spinach

Public comment

New business: resolution 2006-009 operation and maintenance licensing requirements

Unfinished business - none

Reports:

- a. Administrator
- b. Nursing Director
- c. Environmental Health Director
- d. Associate Administrator

Adjournment

Grant County Board of Health Agenda

November 8, 2006

Approval of October 11, 2006 minutes

Public forum for citizen's comments and applications

Environmental health report

- a. quarterly report
- b. well delegation contract

Personal health/administrator report

- a. revision of 2006 budget
- b. preliminary 2007 budget

Health officer's report

- a. chicken pox update
- b. pandemic flu planning
- c. West Nile virus
- d. cities/towns 2007 contribution

Approval of vouchers for October 31, 2006

Other business

Adjournment

Grant County Board of Health Minutes

October 11, 2006

Approval of September 13, 2006 minutes

Public forum for citizen's comments and applications

Environmental health report

a. quarterly report

b. September food inspections

c. ordinance 2006-6

Administrators/personal health report

a. quarterly report

Health officers report

a. chicken pox

b. I-901 - clean indoor act

c. pandemic flu

d. tuberculosis

Approval of Vouchers

Other business - public health partner awards

Grant County Board of Health Minutes

September 13, 2006

Approval of August 9, 2006 minutes

Public forum for citizen's comments and applications - None

Environmental health report

a. August Food Inspections

b. Food Ordinance Revision

Administrators/personal health report

a. Chickenpox

Health officers report

a. West Nile Virus

b. I-901 - clean indoor act

c. Chickenpox Outbreak

Approval of Vouchers

Other business - public health partner awards

Grays Harbor County Board of Health Minutes

July 20, 2006

Call to order

Approval of April 20, 2006 minutes

Health officer report

Public health and social services director report

Environmental health report

Amendment to food enforcement policy

Syringe exchange program

Statewide public health funding

Public comment

Adjournment

Jefferson County Board of Health Agenda

November 16, 2006

Approval of Agenda

Approval of September 21, 2006 minutes

Public comments

Old business and information items:

- a. Additional human and animal West Nile cases in Washington
- b. Jefferson County public health pandemic flu forum
- c. State association of Local Boards of Health follow-up
- d. Mobile mammogram and girls night out
- e. Updated 901 education letter

New business

- a. 4410 public health funding update
- b. On-site operation and maintenance - potential changes
- c. Discover Bay shellfish protection district
- d. Green business awards
- e. Nominations for substance abuse board

Activity update

- a. Public health heroes

Agenda planning

Next scheduled meeting: December 21, 2006

Jefferson County Board of Health Minutes

September 21, 2006

Approval of agenda

Approval of August 17, 2006 minutes

Public comments

Old business and information items

- a. First confirmed human West Nile case in Washington
- b. Beneficial use of biosolids in Jefferson County
- c. Migratory bird testing results
- d. Washington smoking rate drops
- e. Update-mandatory healthcare worker vaccination resolution to WSMA

New business

- a. Initiative 901: Jefferson County Responds
- b. 2007 performance measures
- c. State Association of Local Boards of Health proposal
- d. Report to City of Port Townsend
- e. Substance abuse advisory board nomination
- f. Activity Update -- Co-Occurring Disorder Integrated Treatment Training October 2, 2006

King County Board of Health Agenda

December 15, 2006

Call to Order

Announcement of Any Alternates Serving in Place of Regular Members

Approval of October 20 and 27, 2006 Minutes

General Public Comments

Chair's Report
Board members' Updates
Director's Report
Administrator's Report
Resolution on 4410
Reappointment of Health Professional Board members
Health Code Merger Process
Health Risks of Trans Fat and Potential Strategies for KCBOH
King County Budget Update
Adjournment

King County Board of Health Agenda

November 17, 2006

Meeting Cancelled

King County Board of Health Agenda

October 27, 2006

Call To Order

Announcement of Any Alternates Serving in Place of Regular Members

General Public Comments

Overview of King County Council budget process

2007 King County Executive Proposed budget for Public Health

King County Council staff analysis of Executive Proposed budget

Overview of City of Seattle's contributions to Public Health

Adjournment

Kittitas County Board of Health Agenda

November 16, 2006

Approval of October 19, 2006 minutes

Approval of October 25, 2006 minutes for public hearing re: Gibson Solid Waste Permit

Approval of November 2, 2006 minutes for continued public hearing re: Gibson

Introductions and Announcements:

a. BOHAC representative(s)

b. Introduction of new staff (OSS Environmental Health Specialist II)

c. Introduction of Vicki Kirkpatrick, WASLPHO, guest speaker

Contracts and Amendments - DSHS Medicaid Administrative Match Contract #0563-75729

Amendment #2

Department Updates/Issues - Staffing replacements progress report

Business:

a. Approval of KCPHD's final budget

b. Set fees (go into effect in January)

c. Department reporting update

d. Joint Select Committee on Public Health Financing's findings and next steps

Lewis County Board of Health Agenda

November 13, 2006

Call to order

Approval of October 9, 2006 minutes

Agenda additions and changes

Consent items - none
Public health issues
a. Lewis County substance abuse treatment and prevention overview
b. Drug court testimonies
c. Jail treatment
d. Health issues
Health officer/administrator update
Adjournment

Lewis County Board of Health Minutes

October 9, 2006

Call to order
Approval of September 11, 2006 minutes
Agenda additions and changes - none
Consent items - none
Public health issues
Health officer/administrator update
Adjournment

Lewis County Board of Health Minutes

September 11, 2006

Call to order
Approval of July 10, 2006 minutes
Changes in agenda - none
Consent items
a. Approval of resolutions 091106.1 and 091106.2
Public health issues
a. West Nile update
Health officer/administrator update
a. Use of chicken fertilizer
b. zoonotic diseases
c. biosolid waste
Adjournment

Snohomish Health District Board of Health Agenda

November 14, 2006

Call to order
Roll call
Chair's report -- update on search for new health officer
Health officer's report
a. updated on Joint Select Committee on Public Health Financing
b. Monthly report
Approval of October 10, 2006 minutes
Public comment period
Committee reports and standing reports
a. Administration committee
b. Program Policy committee
c. Standing reports and comments
-- Communicable disease report

- Community health division report
- Environmental health division report
- Vital statistics report
- Financial report
- Consent agenda -- Approval of resolution 06-17
- Action items -- Approval of resolution 06-18
- Discussion items -- Annual dinner meeting date and location
- Information items --
 - a. Sale of fleet vehicles as surplus
 - b. See attached calendar for scheduled meetings
- Executive session -- As needed
- Other business
- Adjournment

Snohomish Health District Board of Health Agenda

October 10, 2006

- Call to order and roll call
- Chair's report -- Update on search to replace retiring health officer
- Health officer's report
 - a. Distribution of flu season messages
 - b. Monthly report
- Approval of September 12, 2006 minutes
- Public comment period
- Committee reports and standing reports
 - a. Administration committee
 - b. Program policy committee
 - c. Standing reports and comments
 - Communicable disease report
 - Community health division report
 - Environmental health division report
 - Vital statistics report
 - Financial report
- Consent agenda
 - a. Approval of resolution 06-14 and 06-15
- Action Items
 - a. Approval of resolution 06-16
 - b. Approval of Wireless Communication Device Acquisition and Employee Use Policy
- Discussion items
 - a. Revised strategic plan discussion and possible action
 - b. Update on Joint Select Committee and Public Health Financing
- Information items -- see attached calendar for scheduled meetings
- Executive Session -- as needed
- Other business
- Adjournment

Snohomish Health District Board of Health Minutes

September 12, 2006

- Call to order and roll call
- Chair's report

- a. Update on search to replace retiring health officer
- b. Executive committee minutes
- Health officer's report
- a. Recognition of Tuberculosis team as the health district team of the quarter
- b. Healthy communities update
- c. Monthly report
- Approval of August 15 minutes
- Public comment period -- none
- Committee reports
- a. Administration committee
- b. Program policy committee
- Consent agenda
- a. Approval of resolution 06-13
- b. Approval of increase in adult vaccination administration fee and influenza fee
- Action items
- a. Approval of compensation study recommendation
- Discussion items - none
- Information items
- a. Scheduled meetings
- Executive session - personnel issue
- Other business
- Adjournment

Snohomish Health District Board of Health Minutes

August 15, 2006

Call to order

Chair's report

- a. Appointment of members of environmental health fee committee
- b. Search committee to replace retiring Health Officers
- c. NALBOH conference

Health officer's report

- a. Monthly report
- b. H5N1 Avian Influenza
- c. Pandemic Influenza
- d. West Nile Virus
- e. Harvest Shellfish

Approval of July 11 minutes

Public comment period -- none

Committee reports and standing reports

- a. Program policy committee
- b. Standing reports and comments - 1) communicable disease report 2) community health division report 3) environmental health division report 4) vital statistics report 5) financial report

Consent agenda

- a. Approval of resolution 06-12
- b. Approval of Tamiflu stockpile purchase for health district employees and families

Action items

- a. Approval of increase in .5 FTE Web Designer to 1.0 FTE
- b. Approval of remodeling plan for third floor of Rucker Building
- c. Approval of capital budget increase for generator

d. Approval of policy regarding hiring tobacco-free employees

Discussion items - none

Information items - scheduled meetings

Executive session - none

Other business - none

Adjournment

Spokane Board of Health Agenda

November 30, 2006

Call to order

Roll Call

Citizen Input

Chair Report

Administrator Report

Approval of October 26 and November 15, 2006 minutes

Approval of October Vouchers

Action items:

a. Election of 2007 Chair

b. 2007 Meeting Schedule

c. Resolutions: #06-06, #06-07, #06-08

Reports:

a. Aquifer Protection Council

b. Environmental Health Division Report

Board Member Concerns

Next Board of Health Meeting: January 25, 2007

Adjournment

Spokane Board of Health Agenda

November 27, 2006

Call to order

Roll Call

Action item - Hearing regarding notice to terminate health officer employment agreement (Board may go into Executive Session with respect to this item.)

Adjournment

Spokane Board of Health Agenda

November 15, 2006

Call to order

Roll Call

Action item - Review performance of public employee

Adjournment

Spokane Board of Health Agenda

October 26, 2006

Call to order

Roll Call

Citizen input

Chair report

Health officer report

Approval of September 28 minutes
Approval of vouchers September 1-30
Action items - resolution #06-05 adoption of the 2007 budget
Reports - hwy 904 corridor safety project
Board member concerns
Adjournment

Spokane Board of Health Agenda

October 4, 2006

Call to order
Roll Call
Executive session - employee performance review
Adjournment

Tacoma Pierce County Board of Health Agenda

November 1, 2006

Comments by the public
Consent Agenda
a. approval of September 6, 2006
b. resolution nos. 2006-3898 through 2006-3901
Regular agenda
a. resolutions nos. 2006-3902 through 2006-3904
Director of health comments
a. Health department space needs
Comments by Board of Health members
Executive session
Adjournment

Tacoma Pierce County Board of Health Agenda

October 18, 2006 - Proposed 2007 Fee Schedule

Tacoma Pierce County Board of Health Minutes

October 4, 2006

Comments by public
Consent Agenda
a. approval of September 6, 2006 minutes
b. resolution no. 2006-3894
c. resolution no. 2006-3895
Regular Agenda
a. resolution no. 2006-3896
b. resolution no. 2006-3897
Director of health comments
a. strengthening families programs evidenced-based strategies
b. legislative session
Comments by Board of Health members - none
Executive session - performance evaluation of the Director of Health
Adjournment

Tacoma Pierce County Board of Health Minutes

September 6, 2006

Comments by the public - none

Consent Agenda

a. Approval of August 2 minutes

b. Approval of resolutions 2006-3885 through 2006-3886

Regular Agenda

a. Approval of resolutions 2006-3887 through 2006-3893

Director of health report

a. Needle exchange update with public testimony

b. Puyallup street scramble

Comments by Board of Health members - none

Executive Session - personnel issues

Adjournment

Thurston County Board of Health Agenda

December 11, 2006

Call meeting to order

a. Approval of agenda

b. Approval of October 2 and November 6, 2006 Minutes

c. Correspondence: Family Planning Advisory Committee

Update on citizen issues

Opportunity for the public to address the board

Consent items

a. Family Planning Advisory Committee Board Member Appointment

b. Partners for Children, Youth, and Families Advisory Board Member Appointment

c. Set Public Hearing to Amend Article IV sections 10.3, 12.2.3.1 and 21.4.5 & related definitions

Director's report – none

Health officer's report – None

Adjourn to board briefing

Thurston County Board of Health Agenda

November 6, 2006

Call meeting to order

a. Approval of agenda.

b. Approval of October 2, 2006 minutes

c. Correspondence: Letter to the Joint Select Committee on Public Health Finance

Update on citizen issues

Opportunity for the public to address the board

Consent items:

a. STEPS 2006-2007 Gilmore Research Group Subcontract

b. Partners for Children, Youth, and Families Advisory Board Member Appointment

c. Room Rate Extension for Sherri McDonald

Article IV update on revisions regarding undersized lots

Director's report

Health officer's report

Adjournment

Thurston County Board of Health Minutes

September 11, 2006

Call meeting to order

Introduction of new staff

Approval of Agenda

Approval of August 7 Minutes

Correspondence: 1) NACCHO Letter of Appreciation; 2) Steve Davies and John Ward Commendation

Email

Update on citizen issues - None

Opportunity for the public to address the board - None

Consent items

a. Lewis County Interlocal Agreement for Health Officer Services Amendment No.1

Influenza vaccine for essential workers

Update on joint select committee on public health finance: 4410 committee

Director's report - None

Health officer's report - None

Adjournment

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Public Health Leadership Positions Available

Accountant

Kittitas County Health Department

Closes: December 29, 2006

For information: <http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/hr/jobs.asp?jobID=364>

Child Welfare Investigator

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Closes: When Filled

For more information: <http://www.umatilla.nsn.us/jobs.html>

Department Director, Children and Family Services

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Closes: December 1, 2006

For more information: <http://www.umatilla.nsn.us/jobs.html>

Health Services Consultant 2

Washington State Board of Health - Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities

Closes: When Filled

For information: http://www.doh.wa.gov/job_ann/DOH149-HSC%202-ST_Board_of_Health.doc

Health Services Director

Mason County Public Health Services

Closes: When Filled

For information: http://www.co.mason.wa.us/human_resources/jobs/06job39.pdf

Program Analyst

Kittitas County Health Department

Closes: When Filled

For information:

<http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/hr/jobs.asp?jobID=337>

Public Health Director

Kittitas County Health Department

Closes: When Filled

For information:

<http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/hr/jobs.asp?jobID=346>

Public Health Nurse II - Communicable Disease Prevention

Kittitas County Health Department

Closes: When Filled

For information:

<http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/hr/jobs.asp?jobID=347>

Public Health Nurse II - First Steps Program

Kittitas County Health Department

Closes: When Filled

For information:

<http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/hr/jobs.asp?jobID=348>

Senior Analyst - Operational Definition and Exploring Accreditation

National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)

Closes: When Filled

For information:

<http://www.naccho.org/careers/headquarters/HQ45.cfm>

[Index](#)**Publications - General Media****CDC Shifts Vaccine-Data Focus: Decision to Survey Teens Instead of Young Children Criticized**

Washington Post, November 1, 2006

Federal health officials have decided to forgo gathering detailed data on whether children in 22 big cities are receiving recommended immunizations and instead will survey teenagers, who are the target of several new vaccines. The decision is drawing protests from local health officials, who say the soon-to-be-lost information is essential to their efforts to make sure that infants and toddlers, many from poor families, are protected against childhood infections.

Flu vaccine for toddlers delayed for weeks

The News Tribune, October 17, 2006

CHICAGO – The maker of flu shots for children 3 and under said Monday that most of this year's U.S. supply will be delayed for at least three weeks because it is taking longer than expected to produce the vaccine. Sanofi Pasteur, the sole manufacturer of FluZone, the injected flu vaccine for children, said some health care providers will not receive their full allotment until late November or early December. But the vaccine will be delivered within the time frame recommended by the federal Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention, and well before the usual height of the flu season, which typically peaks between late December and March, the company said. Spokeswoman Patricia Tomsy said about one-third of the 50 million doses of FluZone have been distributed. The CDC said that as of Oct. 6, a total 32 million doses of flu vaccine for children and adults had been distributed and that 75 million doses are expected to be delivered by the end of October.

Food companies to focus on health in ads targeting kids

Seattle Times, November 15, 2006

MOUNT LAUREL, N.J. — Ten major food and drink makers, including McDonald's, Coca-Cola and Campbell Soup, announced Tuesday that their child-oriented advertising will do more to promote healthful foods and exercise. The companies, which account for two-thirds of child-targeted food and drink commercials on TV, agreed to reduce the use of outside characters — such as Shrek and the Little Mermaid — to pitch unhealthy foods. They also said they would not advertise in elementary schools and would ensure that their online "advergames" either promote good health or healthful products, among other measures. Half their ads will focus on foods that qualify as healthful or on nutrition and exercise issues.

Health notes Health notes

Spokesman Review, November 7, 2006

Medical providers across Washington and in Spokane have boosted their quality of care by nearly 10 percent in the past five years, a new study based on specific, industry-wide standards showed. Nearly three-quarters of 16 clinics serving 300,000 Premera Blue Cross insurance members met standards for preventative, acute and chronic care last year, agency officials said last week.

Junk-food ads effect on children scrutinized

Seattle Times, November 19, 2006

Watch out, Dora the Explorer, Yoda and all you wacky, prehistoric critters from "Ice Age": The feds could be on your tails. With childhood obesity soaring and an array of cereals, snacks and sodas plastered with images of kid-friendly characters, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is taking steps to examine how manufacturers market to children. A federal Institute of Medicine report said two years ago that the food industry spent \$10 billion to \$12 billion annually to reach children through the media, promotions, packaging and other means, often relying on popular cartoon characters. Last year, the institute concluded that the flood of junk-food ads was linked to growing waistlines.

New York Bans Most Trans Fats in Restaurants

New York Times, December 6, 2006

The New York City Board of Health voted yesterday to adopt the nation's first major municipal ban on the use of all but tiny amounts of artificial trans fats in restaurant cooking, a move that would radically transform the way food is prepared in thousands of restaurants, from McDonald's to fashionable bistros to Chinese take-outs.

Race Gap Persists in Health Screening: Study Challenges Accuracy of Self-Reporting

Washington Post, October 17, 2006

Racial and ethnic differences in getting such potentially lifesaving preventive testing as mammograms, Pap smears and colon cancer screenings appear to be larger than previously thought, according to a new study. While screening gaps between whites and minorities seem to be narrowing in surveys where people state when they last had specific procedures, the reality may be that such gaps are widening or remaining stagnant, suggests the study, which compared such self-reports by a large group of patients against the Medicare claims filed by their doctors.

Study Finds Flu Shots Are Safe for Kids

The Associated Press, October 25, 2006

CHICAGO -- The biggest study ever to look at the side effects of flu shots in children confirmed that the vaccine is safe for babies and toddlers. Researchers studied 45,000 U.S. children and found almost no side effects requiring medical treatment during the six weeks after the youngsters were vaccinated. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that more than 90 children under 5 die of the flu each season.

That Prenatal Visit May Be Months Too Late

New York Times, November 28, 2006

For years, women have had it drummed into them that prenatal care is the key to having a healthy baby, and that they should see a doctor as soon as they know they are pregnant. But by then, it may already be too late. Public health officials are now encouraging women to make sure they are in optimal health well in advance of a pregnancy to reduce the risk of preventable birth defects and complications. They have recast the message to emphasize not only prenatal care, as they did in the past, but also what they are calling "preconception care."

Vaccine for Girls Raises Thorny Issues: Parents Weigh Anti-Cancer Benefits Against Concerns About Cost and Lost Innocence

Washington Post, November 7, 2006

Amy Groff has heard all about the new vaccine that guards girls against a sexually transmitted virus that causes cervical cancer. But the Cincinnati mother has no interest in getting her 11-year-old inoculated. "We haven't even talked about the birds and the bees yet," Groff said. "She needs to be innocent a little bit longer." Ellen Hoffman, who lives outside Chicago, also has decided to hold off giving her 11-year-old daughter the shots. Her reason, though, is that the vaccine is so new.

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Publications - Inside This Issue

Advances

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, October 2006

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

- "Workers Who Care" Chartbook Offers a Portrait of the Frontline Workforce
- Smoke-Free Families: A Look at the State of the Science
- RWJF-Supported Study Suggests Tobacco Industry Prevention Ads Have No Effect on Youth Smoking
- Early, Consistent Education During and After a Visit to the ED Is Essential to Long-Term Pediatric Asthma Management, Study Indicates
- Pandemic Flu: Planning for the Worst
- Pioneer Launches "Pioneering Ideas" Blog

Advances

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, October 2006

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

- RWJF Study Shows Doctors and Hospitals Slow to Embrace Health Information Technology
- Realizing the Dream: Advancing Tobacco Control Can Reduce Cancer Mortality
- Flu Vaccines Provided to Older Adults on Election Day Through "Vote and Vax" Initiative
- Must Employers Evaluate Quality of Care When Selecting Employee Health Plans?
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Launches Games for Health Competition
- Designing the 21st Century Hospital: Environmental Leadership for Healthier Patients and Facilities
- Lead Partners Selected for Quality Initiative Supporting Frontline Health Care Workers
- Register Now for Personal Health Technologies Conference in Washington, D.C., December 7-8

Advances

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, September 2006

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

- IOM Report Urges More Resources to Reverse Childhood Obesity Epidemic
America's Obesity Epidemic Getting Worse
- RWJF and Tavis Smiley Presents Partner on Eliminating Childhood Obesity
- Gulf Coast Residents to Receive Special Community Health Leadership Awards
- Partners in Nursing's Future Establishes Local and Regional Partnerships to Develop Nursing Workforce Strategies
- New PBS Series Explores *Remaking American Medicine*
- Jaguars Foundation Receives 2006 Steve Patterson Sports Philanthropy Award
- Health Courts: An Alternative for Resolving Medical Liability Claims
- Media Advocacy Sustains and Advances Tobacco Policy Gains

E-Health

Association of State and Territory Health Officials

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

Elaborations

Department of Health, Vol. XI, Issue 10, November, 2006

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

- Proficiency Testing Report Review Tips
- Notifiable Conditions Tuberculosis Reporting Change
- Gram Stain Training Class: A Practical Approach

Elaborations

Department of Health, Vol. XI, Issue 9, October, 2006

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

- MTS Inspection Notification Changes
- DOT Packaging and Shipping Regulation Changes
- 13th Annual Clinical Laboratory Conference

Environmental Health News

Association of State and Territory Health Officials, October 2006

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

- ASTHO News ~ A new preparedness Promising Practices Web site, current employment opportunities at ASTHO, and links to publications and newsletters.
National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week
October 22-28 is National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week.
- State Funding Opportunities ~ Funding opportunities available for state health agencies.
- State News ~ Environmental health news from Florida and New York.
- Federal News ~ Environmental health news from CDC and EPA.
- Request For Nominations ~ EPA requests nominations to the National Drinking Water Advisory Council.
- Request For Comments ~ EPA request for comments on "Child-Specific Exposure Factors Handbook."
- New Resources ~ New EPA climate change Web site.
- Upcoming Events ~ National meetings and conferences for environmental health professionals.

Environmental Health News

Association of State and Territory Health Officials, September 2006

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

- Astho News ~ Current employment opportunities at ASTHO.
- State Funding Opportunities ~ Funding opportunities available for health and environment conferences and environmental health indicators.
- State News ~ Environmental health news from Arkansas and California.
- Call For Submissions ~ Call for submissions of innovative workforce practices and programs.
- New Resources ~ New resources related to environmental health tracking and drinking water systems.
- Upcoming Events ~ National meetings and conferences for environmental health professionals.

Environmental Health Perspectives

Journal of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Vol. 114, No. 12, December 2006

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

- Focus ~ Signs of the Times: Biomarkers in Perspective
- Biomarkers ~ Parabens as Biomarkers of Exposure
- Infectious Disease ~ Antibiotic-Resistant Residential Indoor Bioaerosols
- Endocrine System ~ Perchlorate and Thyroid Function, NHANES 2001-2002
- Neurodevelopment ~ Environmental Toxicant Exposures and ADHD
- Mini-Monograph ~ Assessing Vulnerability to Climate Change
- Book Review ~ *Autism, Brain, and Environment*

Environmental Health Perspectives

Journal of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Vol. 114, No. 11, November 2006

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

- Focus ~ Fertile Grounds for Inquiry: Environmental Effects on Human Reproduction
- Spheres of Influence ~ Setting a Baseline for Biomonitoring

- Endocrine System ~ DBP, DEHP, and Decreased Serum Free Testosterone
- Reproductive Health ~ Dioxins and Reproductive Parameters in Men
- Neurodevelopment ~ Genotoxicants Induce Neuronal Molecular Signatures
- Children's Health ~ Fetal Lead Exposure and Infant Mental Development
- Mini-Monograph ~ Biomonitoring Data and Risk Assessment

EpiLog

Public Health Seattle & King County, Vol. 46, No. 11, November 2006

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

- Tuberculosis in King County: Part 1
- Important Notice for King County Health Care Providers: Public Health Information and Alert Network
- Leptospirosis Update
Communicable Disease and Epidemiology contact information
- Reported Cases of Selected Diseases in Seattle and King County

EpiLog

Public Health Seattle & King County, Vol. 46, No. 10, October 2006

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

- Influenza Surveillance, Vaccine Recommendations, Treatment and Prophylaxis, Vaccine Supply, and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Alert: Interim Guidance on Planning for the Use of Surgical Masks and Respirators in Health Care Settings during an Influenza Pandemic
- West Nile Virus Found in King County Birds
- Communicable Disease and Epidemiology contact information
- Reported Cases of Selected Diseases in Seattle and King County

NewsBrief

National Association of Local Boards of Health, Third Quarter, 2006

www.nalboh.org

- Board of Directors and Staff
- Report from Washington
- Member Application
- Annual Conference
- Silent Auction Results
- NALBOH News
- Tobacco-Free USA
- Environmental Health and Emergency Preparedness
- Calendar of Events

Public Health Preparedness

Association of State and Territory Health Officials, November 2006

<http://www.astho.org/newsletter/newsletters/9/archives.php?u=Jmk9OQ%3D%3D>

- Meeting the Performance Measures: Case Studies from the States ~ Details of Iowa's efforts to complete an after-action report for the mumps epidemic which hit the state this past spring

- EMAC After-Action Report ~ NEMA completes an after-action report cataloguing the accomplishments and shortcomings in the EMAC system's use in the response to the 2005 hurricane season
- Pandemic Influenza Update ~ CDC Issues Interim Recommendations on the Use of Surgical Masks and Respirators; CDC Releases \$5.2 million for Non-pharmaceutical, Community Based Interventions for Pandemic Influenza
- Federal Update ~ Changes to FEMA and the Preparedness Directorate as outlined by the FY07 Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill
- ASTHO Publications and Resources ~ A new report highlights successes in the efforts of state health agencies to improve the nation's ability to prepare for and respond to public health emergencies; A preparedness success story from the Makah Tribe in Washington; A call for submissions to ASTHO's Promising Practices Web site
- State News ~ Arkansas Public Health Laboratory Dedicated; Michigan Releases a New Preparedness Web site; The "Get flu ready, New Jersey" campaign
- Upcoming Events ~ Upcoming preparedness trainings and meetings
- Public Health Preparedness Resources and Reports ~ New preparedness resources

Public Health Preparedness

Association of State and Territory Health Officials, October 2006

<http://www.astho.org/newsletter/newsletters/9/archives.php?u=Jmk9OQ%3D%3D>

- Meeting the Performance Measures: Case Studies from the States ~ Details of Iowa's efforts to complete an after-action report for the mumps epidemic which hit the state this past spring
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- Public Health Preparedness Resources and Reports ~ New preparedness resources

State Health Notes

Forum for State Health Policy Leadership, Vol. 27, Issue 480, November 27, 2006

- States look to health courts to reduce errors ~ Health courts may offer states a way to reduce medical errors and ensure that truly injured patients are compensated.
- Rhode Island's oral health access project ~ On Sept. 1, the Ocean State launched RIte Smiles, a dental care program designed to improve access for low-income children. Questions about the state of hit ~ Florida Rep. Holly Benson talks with State Health Notes about Health Information Technology in the Sunshine State.

- Graphically speaking ~ A look at the impact Medicare Part D has had on state Medicaid budgets.
- Highlights ~ UT Do Not Resuscitate Rules...Testing Homes for Meth...ID Working to Avoid Nursing Shortage

State Health Notes

Forum for State Health Policy Leadership, Vol. 27, Issue 479, November 13, 2006

- Changing the mental health landscape ~ States are focusing on one of the most difficult but necessary issues in mental health care: improving coordination between agencies and services.
- The big easy faces a hard decision ~ In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, Louisiana is contemplating overhauling its charity hospital system.
- New Hampshire goes for the gold in e-prescribing ~ In an effort to reduce medical errors and costs, New Hampshire plans to be the first state to have all its health-care providers prescribe electronically.
- Highlights ~ Disabilities Linked to Poor Health...Ads Encourage Smoking...Cancer in WA...Toyota Builds Clinic in TX
- Graphically speaking ~ Young, non-Hispanic black men have the highest mortality risk of all genders and races. A new report highlights health and health coverage among young adults.

Thrive!

Washington Health Foundation, Fall 2006

www.whf.org

- Shaun Alexander Shines
- Health Warriors: Battling for Health Living and Healthy Systems--Part III
- Welcome to the 2006 Governor's Community Health Bowl!

WSMA Reports

Washington State Medical Association, October 2006

- WSMA sues Regence BlueShield for defamation of physician members not included in Select Network
- Virginia Mason: Collaborative relationship with Regence
- Newsclips:
 - Fall workshops on administrative simplification
 - Grant to help decrease urban-rural depression treatment disparities
 - HRSA reorganization
 - MultiCare acquires Good Samaritan
 - WSMA freshens its look
 - Hundreds of SPEEA members denounced the Regence plan and defended their physicians
 - WSM-ERF quality initiative getting started
- Physicians Insurance:
 - What does the Kadlec Hospital verdict mean to you?
- Risk Management:
 - Alcohol-related injury, suicides, fatal medication error, missed lesion

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Publications - Highlighted Journal Articles

- **Disparities in the Utilization of High-Volume Hospitals for Complex Surgery**
JAMA, October 25, 2006, Vol. 296, No. 16
Efforts to improve the quality of surgical care in the United States have led many organizations to advocate the use of high-volume hospitals for certain procedures. For example, the Leapfrog Group, a consortium of more than 170 private and public organizations that insure nearly 35 million individuals, incorporated volume standards for 5 operations (abdominal aortic aneurysm [AAA] repair, coronary artery bypass grafting [CABG], esophagectomy, coronary angioplasty, and pancreatic resection) into their hospital referral criteria. These recommendations rely on the use of the number of procedures performed at a hospital, a structural characteristic, as a marker of quality.
- **The Ethics and Politics of Compulsory HPV Vaccination**
The New England Journal of Medicine, December 7, 2006
On September 12, 2006, 3 months after the Food and Drug Administration licensed a vaccine against human papillomavirus (HPV), Michigan lawmakers became the first in the United States to propose that vaccination be compulsory for girls entering sixth grade. Parents who objected would be able to opt out of the requirement under the same provisions that apply to other vaccinations. The bill passed the state senate by an overwhelming margin a week later and awaits consideration by the house. Other states are likely to follow Michigan's lead.
- **General Recommendations on Immunization**
MMWR, December 1, 2006, Vol. 55
This report is a revision of General Recommendations on Immunization and updates the 2002 statement by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) (CDC. General recommendations on immunization: recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and the American Academy of Family Physicians. *MMWR* 2002;51[No. RR-2]). This report is intended to serve as a general reference on vaccines and immunization. The principal changes include 1) expansion of the discussion of vaccination spacing and timing; 2) an increased emphasis on the importance of injection technique/age/body mass in determining appropriate needle length; 3) expansion of the discussion of storage and handling of vaccines, with a table defining the appropriate storage temperature range for inactivated and live vaccines; 4) expansion of the discussion of altered immunocompetence, including new recommendations about use of live-attenuated vaccines with therapeutic monoclonal antibodies; and 5) minor changes to the recommendations about vaccination during pregnancy and vaccination of internationally adopted children, in accordance with new ACIP vaccine-specific recommendations for use of inactivated influenza vaccine and hepatitis B vaccine. The most recent ACIP recommendations for each specific vaccine should be consulted for comprehensive discussion. This report, ACIP recommendations for each vaccine, and other information about vaccination can be accessed at CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (proposed) (formerly known as the National Immunization Program) website at <http://www.cdc.gov/nip>.
- **Genes, Race, and Population: Avoiding a Collision of Categories**
American Journal of Public Health, November 2006, Vol. 96

A wide array of federal mandates have a profound impact on the use of racial and ethnic categories in biomedical research, clinical practice, product development, and health policy. Current discussions over the appropriate use of racial and ethnic categories in biomedical contexts have largely focused on the practices of individual researchers. By contrast, our discussion focuses on relations between the daily practices of biomedical professionals and federal regulatory mandates. It draws upon the legal doctrine of equal protection to move beyond such debates and to propose guidelines to address the structural forces imposed by federal regulations that mandate how data about race and ethnicity are used in biomedical research. It offers a framework to manage the tension involved in using existing federally mandated categories of race and ethnicity alongside new scientific findings about human genetic variation.

- **HIV Screening in Health Care Settings -- Public Health and Civil Liberties in Conflict?**

JAMA, October 25, 2006, Vol. 296, No. 16

On September 22, 2006, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a sweeping revision of its guidelines for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) screening in health care settings that reversed a decade-old approach to AIDS policy. Previous guidelines recommended HIV testing only for persons at high risk or in health care settings with high HIV prevalence, which reflected a civil liberties approach that constrained testing with costly, cumbersome procedures for pretest counseling and written informed consent.

- **National Academies; Barriers and Widespread Bias Harm Women in Science, Engineering**

JAMA, October 25, 2006, Vol. 296, No. 16

The barriers to hiring and promotion that women face in the fields of science and engineering are depriving the United States of an important source of talent, according to a new report from the National Academies.

- **Newborn Screening: Complexities in Universal Genetic Testing**

American Journal of Public Health, November 2006, Vol. 96

Newborn screening (NBS)—in which each newborn infant is screened for up to 50 specific metabolic disorders for early detection and intervention—is the first program of populationwide genetic testing. As a public health intervention, NBS has greatly improved the lives of thousands of affected children. New technologies and new economic and social forces pose significant ethical and clinical challenges to NBS. Two primary challenges concern (1) accommodating clinical and ethical standards to rapid technological developments in NBS and (2) preparing public health systems to respond to the medical advances and social forces driving expansion of NBS programs.

We describe and analyze these challenges through consideration of 3 disorders: phenylketonuria, medium-chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase deficiency, and cystic fibrosis.

- **Public Willingness to Participate in and Public Opinions About Genetic Variation Research: A Review of the Literature**

American Journal of Public Health, November 2006, Vol. 96

Scientists are turning to genetic variation research in hopes of addressing persistent racial/ethnic disparities in health. Despite ongoing controversy, the advancement of genetic variation research is likely to produce new knowledge and technologies that will substantially change the ways in which we understand and value health. They also may affect the ways in

which individuals and groups organize socially, politically, and economically. Addressing concerns that may exist in different communities is vital to the scientific and ethical advancement of genetic variation research. We review empirical studies of public willingness to participate in and opinions about genetic research with particular attention to differences in consent and opinion by racial/ethnic group membership.

- **Relationship Between Quality of Care and Racial Disparities in Medicare Health Plans**
JAMA, October 25, 2006, Vol. 296, No. 16

Eliminating disparities in health care is a fundamental component of the agenda to improve quality. In a landmark 2001 report, the Institute of Medicine affirmed this principle by defining equity as 1 of 6 essential dimensions of quality of care. This report recommended that the nation strive for "care that does not vary in quality because of personal characteristics such as gender, ethnicity, geographic location, and socioeconomic status." The importance of equity is supported by numerous studies that have documented worse quality of care for black Americans relative to white Americans across a broad array of medical conditions.

- **Would Safety-Net Expansions Offset Reduced Access Resulting From Lost Insurance Coverage? Race/Ethnicity Differences**
Health Affairs, Vol. 25, No. 6, November 2006

This study simulated whether increased community health center (CHC) funding under the Bush administration narrowed racial/ethnic gaps in access to care among low-income people. Expanded CHC funding resulted in small increases in access to care, more so for minorities than for whites. Spanish-speaking Hispanics had the largest improvements in access in the simulation. However, minorities experienced bigger drops in insurance coverage. The net result was no improvements in the access measures for Spanish-speaking Hispanics and slight decreases in access for whites, English-speaking Hispanics, and African Americans. Access gaps either remained the same or worsened slightly for English-speaking Hispanics and African Americans relative to whites.

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General Interest

Within Reach - Essential Resources for Family Health

- Five pathways to Health
- Family Health Hotline: 800-322-2588
- Family Food Hotline: 888-4FOODWA
- HealthKidsNow! Hotline: 877-543-7669
- Family Planning/Take Charge Hotline: 800-770-4334
- www.ParentHelp123.org

Study Confirms Deficit in the Brainstem of SIDS Victims

National Institutes of Medicine, November 24, 1997

- Researchers have discovered that some infants who have died of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) show abnormalities in not just one -- but two -- receptors located in an area of the brainstem thought to be involved in the control of breathing, carbon dioxide sensitivity, and blood pressure responses. This discovery confirms earlier evidence of a

similar brain abnormality in another receptor and provides additional support for the theory that malfunctions in the brain region known as the arcuate nucleus may be a strong factor in SIDS. <http://www.nih.gov/news/pr/nov97/nichd-24.htm>

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