



For Your Information – September 2007

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 2007

Date	Name and Location
Aug. 5-9	National Conference of State Legislators 2007 Annual Meeting Boston, Massachusetts For information: http://www.ncsl.org/annualmeeting/
Aug. 9-10	NPAIHB Emergency Preparedness Conference Red Lion Hotel on the River Jantzen Beach Portland, Oregon For information: http://www.nwcphp.org/npaihb-emergency-preparedness-conference-2007
Aug. 13-16	2007 CDC Cancer Conference on Meeting Future Challenges Atlanta Hyatt Regency Atlanta, Georgia For information: www.cdccancerconference.net

- Aug. 13-17 **UW Summer Institute for Public Health Practice: Keeping People Healthy: Renew your skills. Rethink your world.**
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
For information: http://www.nwcphp.org/training/summer-institute/index_html
- Aug. 19-22 **The 2007 Quality Colloquium**
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts
For information: <http://www.qualitycolloquium.com/>
- Aug. 28-29 **Partnerships for Healthy Youth**
Marriott Seattle-Tacoma Airport
SeaTac, Washington
For information: <http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=133967>

September 2007

- | Date | Name and Location |
|-------------|---|
| Sept. 18-21 | Prevent, Promote, and Protect: Building Board of Health Capacity ~ National Association of Local Boards of Health 15th Annual Conference
The Hotel Captain Cook
Anchorage, Alaska
For information: www.nalboh.org |
| Sept. 19 | Food for Thought Training of Trainers Workshop
Catholic Community Services
Seattle, Washington
For information: King County STEPS to Health 206-205-0525 |
| Sept. 22 | Third Regional Conference - National Federation of Filipino American Associations
White River Amphitheater
Auburn, Washington
For information: www.naffaar7.org |

October 2007

- | Date | Name and Location |
|-------------|--|
| Oct. 2-3 | The Stem Cell Summit: Revolutionary Science and the Hope for Cures
Hynes Convention Center
Boston, Massachusetts
For information: www.thestemcellsummit.com |
| Oct. 2-5 | ASTHO 2007 Annual Meeting |

St. Louis, Missouri
For information: <http://www.astho.org/>

- Oct. 3 **Healthiest State Policy Forum**
Washington State Convention & Trade Center
Seattle, Washington
For information: heatherp@whf.org
- Oct. 4 **Health Care Cost and Access Challenges Persist**
Grand Hyatt
Washington, DC
For information: <http://www.hschange.org/index.cgi?conf=show&what=22>
- Oct. 5-7 **Washington State Medical Association Annual Meeting "Call to Professionalism"**
Tacoma Sheraton Hotel
Tacoma, Washington
For information: <http://www.wsma.org/memresources/calendar.html>
- Oct. 6 **5th Annual Conference on Children's Health and the Environment**
Hyatt Reston
Virginia
For information: <http://www.gwu.edu/~macche/restonconference07/>
- Oct. 8-10 **Washington State Joint Conference on Health**
Yakima Convention Center
Yakima, Washington
For information: <http://www.wspha.org/JCH1.html>
- Oct. 14-16 **NASHP's 20th Annual State Health Policy Conference**
Marriott Denver City Center
Denver, Colorado
For information: http://www.nashp.org/_conferences.cfm?LID=CON
- Oct. 24-27 **2007 National Conference on Tobacco or Health**
Minneapolis, Minnesota
For information: <http://www.tobaccocontrolconference.org/2007/conference/index.cfm>

November 2007

- | Date | Name and Location |
|-------------|--|
| Nov. 1 | 2007 Health Policy Summit & Silver Anniversary Gala Honoring John K. Iglehart
The Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center
Washington D.C.
For information: http://www.healthaffairs.org/summit.php |

Nov. 3-7 **Politics Policy & Public Health: APHA 2007 Annual Meeting**
Washington D.C.
For information: <http://www.apha.org/meetings/>

Nov. 12 **Working with the Media in High Stress
and High Concern Situations:
A Journalist and Risk Communicator's Perspective**
Sheraton National Hotel
Arlington, Virginia
For information: Contact Katie Smith at (703) 807-2758

Nov. 13-14 **2007 Preparing for Pandemic Influenza Conference**
Sheraton National Hotel
Arlington, Virginia
For information: Contact Katie Smith at (703) 807-2758

December 2007

Date	Name and Location
Dec. 11	Washington Health Legislative Conference The Changing Face(s) of Health Care: New People, New Ideas SeaTac Hilton Conference Center SeaTac, Washington For information: www.depts.washington.edu/rchpol

March 2008

Date	Name and Location
Mar. 20-21	21st Northwest Regional Rural Health Conference Spokane, Washington For information: http://www.ahec@wsu.edu

April 2008

Date	Name and Location
Apr. 4	Institute of Medicine's Future of Public Health 20 Years Later ~ NALBOH's 9th Annual Lecture in Public Health For information: http://www.nalboh.org/lecture/lecture.htm

September 2008

Date	Name and Location
Sep. 9-12	ASTHO-NACCHO 2008 Joint Conference

Sacramento, CA

For information: http://www.naccho.org/conferences/NACCHOannual06/documents/NA_Conf_Guide_Back_Page.pdf

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Correspondence

Correspondence from the Board

To: The Honorable Bob Beerbower, The Honorable Al Carter, The Honorable Mike Wilson, Grays Harbor County Board of Health

From: Treuman Katz, Chair, Washington State Board of Health

Letter expressing appreciation for taking time during their July 19 Board of Health meeting to speak to Craig McLaughlin and Treuman Katz regarding local public health activities and concerns.

Correspondence from the Board

None.

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General Interest

Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Guidebook

The Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water is pleased to let you know the WUE guidebook is now available! Getting Started: Water Use Efficiency Guidebook explains how the new water use efficiency rule affects water systems, and how it will change the way they do business. It offers how-to advice, worksheets, and an annual reporting form.

Download and print from DOH's Web site at:

www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/municipal_water/water_use_efficiency_rule.htm

Call: 800-525-0127 (TTY 800-833-6388)

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Public Health Leadership Positions Available

Director

Public Health & Social Services Department

Closes: August 17, 2007

For information:

<http://www.co.grays-harbor.wa.us/dbs/jobs/JobDetail.asp?IDNO=180>

Environmental Health Specialist I/II

Chelan-Douglas Health District

Closes: When Filled

For information:

<http://www.cdhd.wa.gov/docs/Full%20EHS%20Recruitment.pdf>

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>

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Publications - General Media

Massachusetts Health Disparities Commission Releases Report Outlining Steps to Close Care Gaps

RWJF, Aug 10, 2007

Massachusetts officials on Wednesday released a legislatively-mandated study that calls for the creation of a statewide agency to track and remedy health care disparities, the Boston Globe reports. Conducted by the state Commission to End Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities, the study not only highlights health care gaps but also explores the medical, social and economic drivers of those disparities, concluding that any effort to curb disparities must tackle four broad issues. Specifically, the commission calls on stakeholders to address social discrimination, limitations in health care access, gaps in care quality and delivery, and inadequacies in health care workforce diversity and development.

Patterns: Weight May Influence School Attendance

The New York Times, August 21, 2007

The more overweight a child, the more likely he or she is to be absent from school, a new report suggests. Researchers studied 1,069 fourth- to sixth-grade students in nine schools in Philadelphia. They recorded height, weight, sex, race and days absent for each. The study appears in the August issue of *Obesity*. The scientists classified each child in one of four weight categories by body mass index: underweight, normal, overweight and obese. On average, underweight children were absent 7.5 days, normal weight children 10.1 days, overweight children 10.9 days and the obese 12.2 days. Even after adjusting for race, ethnicity, age, sex and school attended, being overweight remained a significant predictor of absences.

Picture boards speak in health crisis

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, September 2, 2007

TRENTON, N.J. -- With more ill and injured people needing emergency care but do not speak English, hospitals, clinics and rescue squads are turning to picture boards to bridge the communication gap with easily understood images. The large, double-sided panels let patients point to icons showing their problem - such as pain, a burn, breathing trouble or a fall - as well as the part of the body that is affected. They also can point to their native language in a list so an appropriate interpreter can be located.

Preteens need immunizations before school

USA Today, August 26, 2007

It's rush hour for pediatricians and family doctors who are busy getting their young patients up to date on vaccines before school starts. This year, it's not just 5- and 6-year-olds getting preschool shots but also adolescents, says Anne Schuchat, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Immunization Program. "Vaccines don't end at the beginning of elementary school," she says. States set school entry requirements, and most follow CDC recommendations. The CDC reported this month that immunization rates are high, reaching 95% coverage in three-quarters of states for all vaccines recommended for children in kindergarten.

Puyallup will fry fair food sans trans fat

Seattle Times, August 10, 2007

The next time you pull apart a sugary elephant ear, inhale a raspberry-filled scone or scarf down a Krusty Pup at the Puyallup Fair, it will be cooked with oil that's free of man-made trans fats. The Western Washington fair has joined King County, New York City, major restaurant chains, Safeco Field and the Indiana State Fair in limiting the artery-clogging stuff, which has been linked to heart disease and called a "poison" by King County's top health official.

Raw oysters sicken 6 people

The Olympian, August 11, 2007

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Friday advised people not to eat raw oysters harvested in Washington state, citing bacterial illnesses that have sickened at least six people in that state and California. The state Department of Health closed the area associated with the vibriosis illness, the southern tip of the Hood Canal, and has asked commercial harvesters and dealers who obtained oysters from that area to recall them. Raw oysters from the area were distributed to Washington, Oregon, California, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, New York, British Columbia, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore. Additional reports of illnesses are being investigated by the states, according to an FDA release.

Some children shut out from vaccines

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, August 7, 2007

CHICAGO -- For children whose health insurance doesn't cover newly recommended shots, it's better to have no insurance at all, a new study suggests. Free vaccines are available to children who are uninsured or qualify for public insurance. But many states can't afford to help children with inadequate private insurance that doesn't cover new, expensive shots and even some older shots, the study found. That puts more than a million children at risk, researchers said. Illinois, for example, doesn't provide vaccines against chickenpox, pneumonia, hepatitis A, human papillomavirus and rotavirus to children with insufficient private insurance. Parents would have to pay \$400 out of pocket for those vaccines.

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Publications - Inside This Issue

Advances

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

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

Elaborations

Department of Health, Vol. XII, Issue 7, September 2007

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

- 14th Annual Clinical Laboratory Conference
- Tips for Quality Waived Test Performance

Elaborations

Department of Health, Vol. XII, Issue 6, August 2007

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

- Medicaid Laboratory Test Billing Meeting
- A Real Diarrheal Dilemma?
- Basic Blood Cell Morphology Training Class
- A Venipuncture Techniques Training Class
- Tips for Quality Waived Test Performance

Elaborations

Department of Health, Vol. XII, Issue 4, July 2007

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

- The ISBT 128s are coming
- Tips for quality waived test performance
- Calendar of events

Environmental Health News

Association of State and Territory Health Officials

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

EpiLog

Public Health Seattle & King County

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

The Nation's Health

American Public Health Association, August 2007

<http://www.apha.org/publications/tnh/>

APHA News

- APHA Governing Council to vote for new Executive Board members
- Easley, Troutman nominated to fill role as APHA's next president-elect
- Position of Association treasurer sought by candidates Cohen, Conti
- Giloth, Orris nominated to fill role as speaker of Governing Council
- Members: APHA needs you to contact your legislators this month
- APHA Advocates
- APHA members: Show your Association pride
- Create a song for APHA's Get Ready campaign, win iPod
- Executive Board approves two forums, new SPIG: Dues increase up for Governing Council vote in November
- Plan ahead for APHA Annual Meeting with online program
- Update your APHA member record online anytime
- APHA Affiliate presidents-elect meet

General

- HPV vaccine protective against more than cervical cancer
- Children exposed to alcohol ads more likely to drink
- Course offers guidance for responding to avian influenza
- New journal focuses on public health preparedness
- In memoriam

Globe

- Drug-resistant TB becoming more commonplace globally: High-profile U.S. case increases attention
- Bonus: Healthier environments could save lives, prevent disease: WHO releases country-by-country profiles
- World health leaders focus on pandemic preparedness
- Global human rights advocates document violence in Zimbabwe
- Global health associations chart strategic vision: 41st annual WFPHA meeting held in Geneva in May

Health Findings

Healthy You

- Going green for a healthier life means a cleaner world

Job Openings

Journal Watch

Letters

Nation

- Food supply safety scrutinized following recalls, contamination: Health advocates call for new standards
- Decline in public health physicians may harm health, report says: Workers sought
- HHS helping Americans prepare for possibility of pandemic flu
- EPA seeking nominations for new healthy aging community awards
- New measures needed to stamp out U.S. smoking rates, IoM report says
- Nation in brief

Newsmakers

On the Job

- Leadership institutes help public health workers advance careers: Thousands of scholars take part nationwide

President's Column

- Reforms needed to improve child health, development

Resources

State/Local

- Major improvements possible if states make health a priority
- States in brief

Student Focus

- Campus liaisons bringing APHA to college students nationwide
- Student Assembly members gather for planning, brainstorming session
- Model policy to help schools face students' mental health crises
- Public health communication focus of new student journal

Web Exclusive ~ Online only

- More than half the world soon to be living in cities
- A single exercise session may benefit people with type 2 diabetes
- Alcohol survey reveals "lost decade" between ages of disorder onset and treatment
- Disparities widening in hospital care for nation's elderly blacks
- Hexavalent chromium in drinking water linked to cancer in lab animals
- Infectious diseases experts issue blueprint to avert thousands of preventable deaths
- Medical school training can affect health care disparities
- Obesity increases risk of injury on the job
- Oral health improving for most Americans, but tooth decay among preschool children increasing
- Outdoor alcohol ads boost kids' urge to drink
- PAHO calls for elimination of trans fats from food supplies throughout the Americas
- Simple disease prevention guidelines frequently ignored at petting zoos
- WHO calls for prevention of cancer through healthy work places

NewsBrief

National Association of Local Boards of Health

<http://www.nalboh.org/publications/newsbrief/newsbrief.htm>

Public Health Preparedness

Association of State and Territory Health Officials, July 2007

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

Federal Partners Update

- One-Year Review of Pandemic Flu Implementation Plan is Released
- HHS Announces \$896.7 Million in Funding to States for Public Health Preparedness

State News

- California Creates New Public Health Agency
- New Mexico Hosts Exercise with CDC

Resources and Reports

- Incident Command System for Executives
- Vaccination Legislator Policy Brief
- Public Health Disaster Research: Surveying the Field, Defining its Future
- Billions for Biodefense Series
- Personal Disaster Preparedness Guide
- Emergency Preparedness Atlas: U.S. Nursing Home and Hospital Facilities
- CDC Provides State-Based Statistics

- CRS Reports: Extensively Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis (XDR-TB): Quarantine and Isolation & Fusion Centers: Issues and Options for Congress

Upcoming Meetings

- Continental Divide Disaster Behavioral Health Conference, August 6-7, 2007 | Colorado Springs, CO
- American Bar Association Annual Meeting, August 9-15, 2007 | San Francisco, CA
- Webcast: The Pharmacist's Role in Disasters, August 15, 2007 | 1:00-2:30 pm ET
- Public Health Information Network (PHIN) Conference, August 27-29, 2007 | Atlanta, GA
- Public Health Preparedness Symposium, September 11, 2007 | 8:30 am – 4:00 pm ET | Ann Arbor, MI
- DPHP Third Annual Meeting, September 18-20, 2007 | New Orleans, LA
- ASTHO Annual Meeting, October 2-5, 2007 | St. Louis, MO

Public Health Preparedness

Association of State and Territory Health Officials, June 2007

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

Federal Updates

- Public Health Advisory Board Established to Advise HHS Secretary on Chemical, Biological or Radiological Agents
- HHS Buys Next Generation Smallpox Vaccine

State News

- Louisiana Distributes Pandemic Preparedness Handbooks

Resources and Reports

- GAO Report: Emergency Management: Status of School Districts' Planning and Preparedness
- GAO Report: Avian Influenza: USDA Has Taken Important Steps to Prepare for Outbreaks, but Better Planning Could Improve Response
- Citizen Corps May/June 2007 Newsletter
- Study Ranks US Cities for Business Continuity Preparedness
- Gulf Coast Hurricanes Lessons Learned Report
- AMA Launches Preparedness Journal
- IOM Releases Report on the Ethical and Legal Considerations of Mitigating a Pandemic
- LLIS.gov Launches New Resource Page

Upcoming Events

- Disaster Management Conference, July 7-8, 2007 | Toronto, Canada
- MIT Summer Professional Courses, Cambridge, Massachusetts
 - Promoting Innovation: The Dynamics of Technology and Organizations, July 9-12, 2007
 - Combating Bioterrorism / Pandemics: Implementing Policies for Biosecurity, July 23-25, 2007
- Illinois Legal Summit, July 16-17, 2007 | Oak Brook, Illinois
- CRED Summer Course 2007: Assessing Public Health in Emergency Situations, July 16-27, 2007 | Brussels, Belgium
- Second National Congress on Health System Readiness, July 18 – 20, 2007 | Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington, DC
- Course: Radiological Dispersion Device (RDD) Response, June 26-29 and July 31-August 3, 2007 | Oak Ridge, Tennessee

- University of Washington Summer Institute for Public Health Practice, August 13-17, 2007 | Seattle, Washington

State Health Notes

Forum for State Health Policy Leadership, Vol. 28, Issue 498, September 4, 2007

State News

- To ban or not to ban? That's the question about trans fat ~ Restaurants around the country are reacting to an ever-increasing body of research documenting the health risks of trans fat by adopting alternative methods of cooking. Some lawmakers want to do more.
- Point-counterpoint: Prescription drug "data mining" ~ Maine and Vermont have followed New Hampshire by enacting laws that would restrict the sale and use of prescription drug records. Now they must defend those laws in court.
- States take steps to improve the oral health of children ~ States are using a variety of tools to give children better access to dental care. The methods range from community- and school-based sealant programs, to allowing hygienists to practice without a dentist's direct supervision.

Highlights

- Urban, rural Medicaid...Substance abuse in MT...Physician insurance co-op...Nurses in MO

Graphically Speaking

- Number of uninsured children reaches a new high ~ The number of uninsured children nationwide rose to 8.7 million in 2006, according to the latest U.S. Census Bureau data. Racial and ethnic disparities persist.

State Health Notes

Forum for State Health Policy Leadership, Vol. 28, Issue 497, August 6, 2007

State News

- Steering clear of infections: Pennsylvania takes a giant step ~ Pennsylvania has charted another new course in its efforts to prevent health care-acquired infections. Among other measures, the state will now require facilities to develop infection prevention plans. Those who reduce their infection rates may receive financial rewards.
- The "Sheridan Project": Reducing recidivism through treatment after jail ~ A dedicated drug treatment prison, Illinois' Sheridan Correctional Center begins preparing inmates for community re-entry on the day they start serving their sentences.
- Protecting seniors' health by shielding them from fraud ~ Concerned that financial abuse can harm the pocketbook and the health of elderly Americans, a growing number of states are passing protective laws.

Highlights

- NH protects divorcees...Wi Pharmacists...MA Stem Cells...1-800 Number for Veterans

Graphically Speaking

- Tobacco tax increases While some argue in favor of increasing tobacco taxes to fund health care and reduce smoking, others say the tax hikes are regressive and affect the poor more than the rich.

Thrive!

Washington Health Foundation

<http://www.whf.org/News/ThriveMagazine.aspx>

WSMA Reports

Washington State Medical Association

Zoonotic Disease Newsletter

Washington State Department of Health

Volume 1, Issue 8, August 2007

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/Zoo/zdnewsletter.html>

- West Nile virus found in Yakima County area horses
- West Nile emergency prompts aerial spraying in Oregon
- Over \$10 million dedicated to fight West Nile virus emergency in California
- Reptiles and amphibians: Handle with care
- Gene mutation turned West Nile virus into killer disease for crows
- Rodent's ticks can cause relapsing fever
- West Nile virus activity in the northwest
- Zoonoses news and research headlines

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Publications - Highlighted Journal Articles

Journals Reviewed

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

<http://www.ajpm-online.net/>

- Vol. 33, Issue 2, August 2007

American Journal of Public Health

<http://www.ajph.org/current.shtml>

- Vol. 97, Issue 9, September 1, 2007

Environmental Health Perspectives

Journal of the National Institute of Environmental Health, Vol. 115, No. 9, September 2007

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

- Focus ~ Waste Couture: Environmental Impact of the Clothing Industry
- Spheres of Influence ~ Certified Coffee: Does the Premium Pay Off?
- Bone and Cartilage ~ Pb Induces Chondrogenesis
- Toxicology ~ Carcinogenicity of Aspartame
- Neurodevelopment ~ Ameliorating Chlorpyrifos Neurotoxicity
- Reproductive Health ~ Hormonally Induced Reproductive Tumors

Health Affairs

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

The Journal of the American Medical Association

<http://jama.ama-assn.org/>

- Vol. 298, No. 9, September 5, 2007
- Vol. 298, No. 8, August 22/29, 2007
- Vol. 298, No. 7, August 15, 2007
- Vol. 298, No. 6, August 8, 2007

The Journal of Environmental Health

National Environmental Health Association

<http://www.neha.org/JEH/>

- Vol. 70, No. 2, September 2007

The Journal of Health Politics, Policy & Law

<http://jhppl.dukejournals.org/archive/>

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwr_wk.html

- Vol. 56, No. 34, August 31, 2007
- Vol. 56, No. 33, August 24, 2007
- Vol. 56, No. 32, August 17, 2007
- Vol. 56, No. 31, August 10, 2007

The New England Journal of Medicine

<http://content.nejm.org/current.shtml>

- Vol. 357, No. 9, August 30, 2007
- Vol. 357, No. 8, August 23, 2007
- Vol. 357, No. 7, August 16, 2007
- Vol. 357, No. 6, August 9, 2007

Preventing Chronic Disease

CDC

<http://www.cdc.gov/pcd/>

Highlighted Journal Articles

- **A Complex Web of Risks for Metabolic Syndrome: Race/Ethnicity, Economics, and Gender**

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

Volume 33, Issue 2, August 2007

Background ~ Metabolic syndrome is a recognizable clinical cluster of risks known to be associated in combination and independently with an increased risk for cardiovascular disease (CVD). Identifying and treating metabolic syndrome is one promising strategy to reduce CVD. The intersection of race/ethnicity, gender, and economic status complicates our understanding of who is at risk for metabolic syndrome, but understanding this social patterning is important for the development of targeted interventions. This study examines the relationship between metabolic syndrome (and the underlying contributing risk factors) and race/ethnicity, economic

status, and gender.

Results ~ Economic effects were seen for women, but not men. Women in the lowest economic group were more likely to be at risk in four of the five risk categories when compared with women in the highest economic group. Differences in the contributing risk profiles for metabolic syndrome were seen by race/ethnicity.

Conclusions ~ Strategies to reduce CVD must be built on a clear understanding of the differences in contributing risk factors for metabolic syndrome across subgroups. The findings from this study provide further information to guide the targeting of these strategies.

- **Gaps in Vaccine Financing for Underinsured Children in the United States**

JAMA, Vol. 298, No. 6, August 6, 2007

Context ~ The number of new vaccines recommended for children and adolescents has nearly doubled during the past 5 years, and the cost of fully vaccinating a child has increased dramatically in the past decade. Anecdotal reports from state policy makers and clinicians suggest that new gaps have arisen in financial coverage of vaccines for children who are underinsured (ie, have private insurance that does not cover all recommended vaccines). In 2000, approximately 14% of children were underinsured for vaccines in the United States.

Conclusions ~ The current vaccine financing system has resulted in gaps for underinsured children in the United States, many of whom are now unable to receive publicly purchased vaccines in either the private or public sectors. Additional strategies are needed to ensure financial coverage for all vaccines, particularly new vaccines, among this vulnerable population.

- **Legal Power and Legal Rights - Isolation and Quarantine in the Case of Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis**

New England Journal of Medicine, Vol. 357, Issue 5, August 2, 2007

The recent case of Atlanta attorney Andrew Speaker has focused attention on the role of compulsory isolation and quarantine in tuberculosis control. In May, after being diagnosed with a drug-resistant form of tuberculosis, Speaker flew to Europe for his wedding and honeymoon. While he was there, laboratory tests at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicated that Speaker's infection was extensively drug-resistant (XDR). Although accounts of what followed vary, it is known that the CDC contacted Speaker and asked him to stay in Italy while they tried to determine what to do. Fearing isolation in an Italian hospital, Speaker flew to Prague and then Montreal, bypassing his inclusion on the federal no-fly list, which doesn't apply to flights outside the United States. In Montreal, Speaker rented a car; then he drove into the United States, thanks to the help of a border agent who disregarded a detention order. Speaker then went to a New York hospital, where he was met with a CDC order restricting his movement and requiring him to cooperate with health officials — reportedly the first such federal order issued in more than 40 years.

- **National, State, and Local Area Vaccination Coverage Among Children Aged 19--35 Months --- United States, 2006**

MMWR, Vol. 56, No. 34, August 31, 2007

The National Immunization Survey (NIS) provides vaccination coverage estimates among children aged 19--35 months for each of the 50 states and selected urban and county areas.* This report describes the findings of the 2006 NIS, which indicated increases in national coverage with pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) and varicella vaccine (VAR) and a stable coverage

level for the 4:3:1:3:3:1 vaccine series (i.e., >4 doses of diphtheria, tetanus toxoid, and any acellular pertussis vaccine [DTaP]†; >3 doses of poliovirus vaccine; >1 dose of measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine [MMR]; >3 doses of Haemophilus influenzae type b [Hib] vaccine; >3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine [HepB]; and >1 dose of VAR). However, national coverage estimates remained below the Healthy People 2010 target of 90% coverage for PCV, DTaP, and VAR and below the 80% target for the 4:3:1:3:3:1 vaccine series (1). No significant racial/ethnic disparities in 4:3:1:3:3:1 series coverage were observed after controlling for family income. State and local immunization programs should continue to identify and target children who are not fully vaccinated, especially because of low socioeconomic status and other barriers.

- **National Vaccination Coverage Among Adolescents Aged 13--17 Years --- United States, 2006**

MMWR, Vol. 56, No. 34, August 31, 2007

Before 2005, vaccines were administered during adolescence to "catch up"* children with vaccinations not received at a younger age, with the exception of the tetanus and diphtheria (Td) booster (1). However, since 2005, three new vaccines specifically for older children have been licensed and recommended in the United States: meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) for those aged 11--12 years and 15 years†; tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid, and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine for those aged 11--12 years (or at ages 13--18 years if not received at ages 11--12 years); and human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine for girls aged 11--12 years (or at ages 13--18 years if not received at 11--12 years). Since 1996, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and professional organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), and the American Medical Association (AMA), have recommended a health-care visit at ages 11--12 years for receipt of recommended vaccinations (2). In addition, a Healthy People 2010 objective (14-27) is to achieve >90% vaccination coverage among adolescents aged 13--15 years (3) for certain vaccines. § In 2006, for the first time, the National Immunization Survey (NIS) collected provider-reported vaccination information for adolescents aged 13--17 years (NIS-Teen). This report describes the results of that survey, which indicated that the Healthy People 2010 target has not been met for any of the vaccines analyzed. HPV vaccination coverage is not included in this report because NIS-Teen was conducted before HPV vaccination recommendations were published in March 2007. Routine health-care visits for adolescents should be encouraged, with emphasis on a visit at ages 11--12 years, and providers should continue to assess the need for vaccinations at every opportunity. NIS-Teen will be conducted annually to monitor coverage with recommended vaccines during ages 11--17 years and to identify groups with lower coverage.

- **Notice to Readers: Revised Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to Vaccinate All Persons Aged 11--18 Years with Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine**

MMWR, Vol. 56, No. 31, August 10, 2007

In June 2007, ACIP revised its recommendation to include routine vaccination of all persons aged 11--18 years with 1 dose of MCV4 at the earliest opportunity. Persons aged 11--12 years should be routinely vaccinated at the 11--12 years health-care visit as recommended by ACIP (2). ACIP continues to recommend routine vaccination for persons aged 19--55 years who are at increased risk for meningococcal disease: college freshmen living in dormitories, microbiologists routinely exposed to isolates of *Neisseria meningitidis*, military recruits, travelers to or residents of countries in which *N. meningitidis* meningitis is hyperendemic or epidemic, persons with

terminal complement component deficiencies, and persons with anatomic or functional asplenia.

- **Vaccination Coverage Among Children in Kindergarten --- United States, 2006--07 School Year**

MMWR, Vol. 56, No. 32, August 17, 2007

Healthy People 2010 objectives include increasing vaccination coverage among children in kindergarten and first grade (objective 14-23). For these children, the target is >95% vaccination coverage for the following: hepatitis B vaccine; diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis vaccine, diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine, or diphtheria and tetanus toxoids vaccine (DTP/DTaP/DT); poliovirus vaccine; measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine; and varicella vaccine (1). To assess progress toward national goals and determine vaccination coverage among children in kindergarten, data were analyzed from reports submitted to CDC by 49 states and the District of Columbia (DC) for the 2006--07 school year (2).* This report summarizes findings from that analysis, which indicated that approximately 75% of states have reached the 2010 objective of at least 95% coverage for all of the vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for children in kindergarten. These results underscore the effectiveness of school-entry requirements in increasing vaccination coverage but highlight a need for more standardized vaccination reporting among states.

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Publications - Reports

Joint Policy Action Steps: Toward Tobacco Use Prevention and Control

NACCHO/NALBOH/ASTHO, July 2007

Report includes: Introduction, The Problem, Master Settlement Agreement, Healthy People 2010, Surveillance and Evaluation, Infrastructure Building, Addressing Tobacco-Related Health Disparities, Comprehensive Programming, Furthermore..., References, Sponsoring Organizations.

Final Report

Commission to End Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities, August 2007

The study not only highlights health care gaps but also explores the medical, social and economic drivers of those disparities, concluding that any effort to curb disparities must tackle four broad issues. Specifically, the commission calls on stakeholders to address social discrimination, limitations in health care access, gaps in care quality and delivery, and inadequacies in health care workforce diversity and development.

From Policy to Action: Addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities at the Ground Level

Center for Health Care Strategies, August 24, 2007

Health care disparities can impose a tremendous burden on individuals and communities, and account for considerable costs to our society as a whole. Since the 2002 release of the Institute of Medicine report, *Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care*, a significant amount of analytic work has enhanced our understanding of the scope and causes of disparities in health and health care.

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