



For Your Information – July 2008

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

June 2008

Date	Name and Location
Jun. 12	Fundamentals of Environmental Justice workshop Seattle, Washington For information: Running Grass, Grass.Running@epamail.epa.gov
Jun. 12	Postpartum Mood Disorders: A Community Discussion of PPMDs Downtown Spokane Public Library Spokane, Washington For information: wpcan@wpcan.wa.gov
Jun. 20	Northwest Health Disparities Conference Washington State Convention and Trade Center Seattle, Washington
Jun. 22-25	National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) 72nd Annual Educational Conference & Exhibition Tucson, Arizona For information: www.neha.org

Jun. 26 **Fundamentals of Environmental Justice workshop**
Seattle, Washington
For information: Running Grass, Grass.Running@epamail.epa.gov

July 2008

Date	Name and Location
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July 10	Fundamentals of Environmental Justice workshop Seattle, Washington For information: Running Grass, Grass.Running@epamail.epa.gov
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July 22-24	NALBOH's 16th Annual Conference: Step Forward Together: 2008 Public Health Partners Conference Monona Terrace Community and Conference Center Madison, Wisconsin For information: http://www.nalboh.org/NALBOH_Conference.htm
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July 24	Fundamentals of Environmental Justice workshop Seattle, Washington For information: Running Grass, Grass.Running@epamail.epa.gov
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September 2008

Date	Name and Location
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Sep. 9-12	ASTHO-NACCHO 2008 Joint Conference Sacramento, California For information: http://www.naccho.org/conferences/NACCHOannual06/documents/NA_Conf_Guide_Back_Page.pdf
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Sep. 21-24	Sixth National Conference on Quality Health Care for Culturally Diverse Populations Minneapolis, Minnesota For information: http://www.diversityrxconference.com/
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Sep. 28 - Oct. 1	ESRI Health GIS Conference: Shaping Global Health Washington, DC For information: www.esri.com/healthgis
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October 2008

Date	Name and Location
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Oct. 25-29	Public Health without Borders - APHA 136th Annual Meeting and Exposition San Diego, California For information: http://www.apha.org/meetings/
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June 2009

Date	Name and Location
Jun. 21-24	National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) 73rd Annual Education Conference Atlanta, Georgia For information: www.neha.org

June 2010

Date	Name and Location
Jun. 5-9	National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) 74th Annual Education Conference Albuquerque, New Mexico For information: www.neha.org

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Public Health Leadership Positions Available

Assistant Secretary

Washington State Department of Health, Division of Community and Family Health
Closes: When Filled

Director

Washington State Department of Health, Public Health Systems Planning and Development
Closes: When Filled

Environmental Health Director

Island County Health Department
Closes: June 10, 2008

Health Officer

Spokane Regional Health District
Closes: When filled
For information: Contact Barbara Lorang, 509-324-1502, blorang@spokanecounty.org

Health Policy Associate

Children's Health Alliance
Closes: March 1, 2008
For information: <http://www.childrensalliance.org/joinus/jobopenings.cfm>.

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>

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Publications - General Media

FDA sides with NYC on calories

Philadelphia Inquirer, June 16, 2008

NEW YORK - The Food and Drug Administration believes the city has a right to force chain restaurants to post calorie counts on menu boards, a government lawyer told a federal appeals court last week, but the court did not immediately decide whether it agrees.

The city will begin issuing fines on July 18, but Judge Rosemary Pooler, of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, questioned the wisdom of doing so if she and two other judges rule against the city. Assistant U.S. Attorney David S. Jones said on Thursday that the FDA did not want to "shackle city and state authorities" from protecting consumers by preventing the enforcement of regulations such as the calorie rule. The court must decide whether the city acted constitutionally when it required restaurants that are part of chains with at least 15 outlets across the country to post calories on their menu boards.

Health and academic achievement: lost opportunities for too many

The Seattle Times, June 18, 2008

Health and education are two sides of the same coin: Each affects the other and they combine to affect, ultimately, the well-being of our residents and our communities. Inequities in health status and education for communities of color are real in our state, and they point to tremendous missed opportunities among our residents. In the aggregate, people with overall higher levels of academic attainment are healthier. This has to do with the obvious factors, such as earning power and employment-related health benefits, but also with having the space to make healthy life choices to avoid preventable injury and chronic disease.

How modern science and old-fashioned detective work cracked the salmonella case

USA Today, June 18, 2008

The contamination of tomatoes with a rare strain of salmonella has led to the largest outbreak of food-borne illnesses since E. coli in spinach killed five and sickened hundreds almost two years ago. At least 277 people of all ages in 28 states and the District of Columbia have been sickened; 43 have been hospitalized. A nationwide recall of round, plum and Roma tomatoes has dealt a sharp blow to the \$2.7 billion fresh-tomato market, costing the food industry tens of millions of dollars. Indeed, health officials say that because the first cluster of patients surfaced on the Navajo Nation in New Mexico, where they are served by a small, close-knit medical community, federal investigators were able to quickly identify the contaminated foods and take steps to contain the outbreak the past two weeks.

Official warning: Measles 'endemic' in Britain

The Independent, June 21, 2008

Measles has become endemic in Britain, 14 years after its spread was halted in the resident population, the country's public health watchdog says. The Health Protection Agency (HPA) warned that the number of unvaccinated children was now large enough to sustain the "continuous spread" of the potentially lethal virus in the community. It blamed a failure by parents over the past 10 years to give their children the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine. This has resulted in vaccine rates falling below the level necessary to prevent the disease becoming established in the general population. Figures published yesterday show cases of measles in London reached a new peak last month, exceeding last year's monthly record set in August 2007, and are continuing to rise. There were 95 cases confirmed in the capital and 35 in the rest of England and Wales bringing the total for the year to 461. A 17-year-old victim from West Yorkshire died from the disease in the first fatality since 2006. In another case a

doctor working in a hospital cancer ward contracted measles prompting the Department of Health to write to all hospitals telling them to ensure that all staff working with vulnerable patients have documented immunity to the disease.

Obesity Battle Continues: Advocates Push to Keep Kids Moving

Washington Post, June 24, 2008

Classes are out for children across the country, but the fight to boost fitness and curb fat among America's youth doesn't end with the school year, researchers and health advocates say. That's why they're encouraging parents to turn off the television and video games and find ways to get kids moving. Groups ranging from the American Heart Association to the National Association for Sport & Physical Education succeeded in efforts in Florida and Oklahoma this year to increase the time children spend in physical education classes. But the fourth consecutive defeat this spring of a similar measure in the Maryland legislature highlights the difficulties such campaigns face, even when concern about childhood obesity is high.

State Legislatures Consider Menu Nutrition Labeling Requirements

RWJF, June 11, 2008

Amid growing concern over the nation's obesity problem, a number of states are considering legislation that would require restaurants to post calorie information on menus, the Wall Street Journal reports. Such measures typically target restaurant chains with at least 10 locations nationally, requiring sit-down outlets to list information such as calories, fat content and sodium for each menu item and mandating the inclusion of calorie counts on fast-food menu boards. To date, the regulations have been concentrated at the city and county level, but both the California and New York state legislatures are now mulling calorie-posting mandates. The Journal notes that, if approved, the measures would mark the country's first statewide menu-labeling requirements and could spur other states to follow suit.

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Publications - Highlighted Journal Articles

Journals Reviewed

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

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

- Vol. 35, No. 1, July 2008

American Journal of Public Health

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

- Vol. 98, No. 7, July 1, 2008

Environmental Health Perspectives

<http://www.ehponline.org/docs/2008/116-6/toc.html>

- Vol. 116, No. 6, June 2008

Health Affairs

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

The Journal of the American Medical Association

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

- Vol. 300, No. 1, July 2, 2008
- Vol. 299, No. 24, June 25, 2008
- Vol. 299, No. 23, June 18, 2008
- Vol. 299, No. 22, June 11, 2008

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. 57, No. 25, June 27, 2008
- Vol. 57, No. 24, June 20, 2008
- Vol. 57, No. 23, June 13, 2008

The New England Journal of Medicine

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

- Vol. 358, No. 26, June 26, 2008
- Vol. 358, No. 25, June 19, 2008
- Vol. 358, No. 24, June 12, 2008

Preventing Chronic Disease

CDC

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

- Vol. 5, No. 3, July 2008

Highlighted Journal Articles

Association of Race/Ethnicity, Socioeconomic Status, Acculturation, and Environmental Factors with Risk of Overweight Among Adolescents in California, 2003

Preventing Chronic Disease, Vol. 5, No. 3, July 2008

Introduction: Little has been published about racial/ethnic differences in the prevalence of overweight among adolescents that accounts in detail for socioeconomic status, acculturation, and behavioral and environmental factors. Increased understanding of factors associated with overweight can provide a rational basis for developing interventions to address the obesity epidemic in the United States.

Conclusion: The high prevalence of AROW among California adolescents in most racial/ethnic groups indicates the need for culturally specific and appropriate interventions to prevent and treat overweight.

Hospital-Acquired Pertussis Among Newborns --- Texas, 2004

MMWR, Vol. 57, No. 22, June 6, 2008

On July 10, 2004, staff members at a children's hospital in Texas noted that six infants with pertussis diagnosed by clinical symptoms and confirmed by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing had all been born during June 4--16 at the same area general hospital. The infants had symptoms consistent with pertussis, including cough, congestion, cyanosis, emesis, or apnea. Infection-control personnel at the general hospital (general hospital A), children's hospital (children's hospital A), and the county health department investigated and determined that an outbreak of pertussis among 11 newborns at general hospital A had occurred after direct exposure to a health-care worker (HCW) with pertussis. This report describes the outbreak investigation and highlights the importance of following recommendations to administer tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid, and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine to HCWs to prevent transmission of pertussis to patients.

Investment in Safe Routes to School Projects: Public Health Benefits for the Larger Community

Preventing Chronic Disease, Vol. 5, No. 3, July 2008

Introduction: The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program is designed to encourage active and safe transportation for children to school. This report examines the potential broader impact of these programs on communities within 0.5 mile (0.8 km) of schools.

Conclusion: Results suggest that SRTS projects in urban areas can improve the walking and bicycling environment for adults as well as for children, the target users. Investment in SRTS can contribute to increased physical activity among children and adults.

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Publications - Inside this Issue

Advances

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, June 2008

- RWJF Announces \$300-Million Commitment to Dramatically Improve Quality of U.S. Health Care
- RWJF Commission to Build a Healthier America Holds First Public Hearing in North Carolina
- Green Houses Growing in Numbers Across the States
- EHR Adoption Slow, But Medicine May be at a Tipping Point
- Discovering How Video Games Can Motivate Healthy Behaviors: More Than \$2 Million Awarded to 12 Research Teams
- BALANCE Report Summarizes State Action on Obesity in 2007
- Young and Uninsured: Health Insurance Gaps for Young Adults

Elaborations

Department of Health, Vol. XIII, No. 5, July 2008

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

- Cultural Competency: Understanding Diversity in Healthcare
- Your Input Needed for 2009 Training Calendar

EpiLog

Public Health Seattle & King County

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

EpiTrends

Department of Health, Vol. 13, No. 6, June 2008

http://ww2.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/epitrends/08-epitrends/2008_trend.htm

Preventing Rabies

- Human Rabies Prevention
- Animal Rabies Prevention
- Availability of Pre-Exposure Vaccine
- Rabies Prevention in Washington State
- Resources
- Patient Assistance Programs

Healthy GIS

Health & Human Services Solutions Group of ESRI, Summer 2008

http://www.esri.com/industries/health/news_community/healthy_gis.html

- Spatial Analysis Gives Insight into Source of Legionnaires' Disease
- What's New in ArcGIS 9.3
- Children's Affairs Department Delivers Vital Data to Decision Makers Using ArcGIS Server
- Philadelphia-Area Residents Are Getting CONNECTed through GIS
- ESRI Health GIS Conference Examines Shaping Global Health with GIS
- ESRI on the Road

The Nation's Health

American Public Health Association, June/July 2008

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

Nation

- Cancer disparities widening for under-served Americans: Some Americans missing out on care
- Geriatric work force shortage risks health of aging boomers
- EPA lead paint rule should go further, advocates say
- GAO report: SCHIP directive violated federal review rules
- More working families facing loss of employer health care coverage
- Federal agency raises concern over commonly used plastics
- Little change in foodborne illness rates in recent years, CDC reports
- Amnesty International calls for end to death penalty in United States
- Nation in brief
- Rise in emergency room visits tied to people with higher incomes

State/Local

- Lack of health coverage has dire consequences, new report shows
- States in brief

Globe

- Global food shortages, rising prices threaten public health: Advocates call for food aid restructuring
- World Health Day marks global health effects of climate change
- First World Malaria Day highlights prevention, control
- Maternal, child health still grave global public health concerns
- Globe in Brief

General

- New campaign encouraging men to seek preventive care
- Computer reporting of infectious diseases is faster, more efficient
- New guide on osteoporosis treatment, prevention offered
- In memoriam

Healthy You

- Water safety: Be in the know around H2O

Health Findings

On the Job

- In academic world, 'publish or perish' still rings true
- Peace Corps program combines public health, global experience
- Performance standards a success in New Hampshire: New England state uses standards to fuel progress, training
- Certification offered for student health educators
- Climate change a challenge for U.S. public health workers, departments

APHA News

- National Public Health Week 2008 a success: Annual celebration links healthy climate, healthy people
- National Public Health Week celebrated nationwide: Health departments, schools, communities hold events
- Chester County, Pa., brings community residents to table
- Chiropractic colleges hold local health celebrations
- Dickinson County, Kan., thinks green
- Hawaii explores health effects of climate change
- Idaho public health conference includes Student Research Forum
- Imperial County, Calif., takes eco-friendly tack
- Milwaukee measles outbreak spotlights health readiness
- Magazine honors APHA's Benjamin as a top national health care leader
- Surgeons general at Annual Meeting closing session: San Diego meeting to highlight 'Public Health Without Borders'
- APHA Advocates
- APHA's Executive Board holds meeting

APHA Sections

- APHA's Sections meet in D.C.

Student Focus

- Washington, D.C., public health students work to free condoms
- Pilot program brings public health to high school students
- Many college students lack health insurance, report says
- Mental health anti-stigma campaign kicks off at colleges
- Students using mobile media to fight spread of HIV/AIDS
- Students call for action on health care

Journal Watch

President's Column

- Be a part of the solution: Support public health policy

Letters

Job Openings

Web Exclusive

- Pregnancy rate drops for U.S. women younger than 25
- Brief telephone intervention can reduce impaired driving risks
- Drug use trends affect risk of marijuana in deviance prone boys
- Study finds disparities in awareness of heart attack warning signs
- Obesity during pregnancy tied to greater use of health care services
- Petitioners ask FDA to ease reporting of prescription drug side effects
- Health care spending expected to reach \$4.3 trillion by 2017
- Excess fat around the waist may increase death risk for women
- New research to study video games' influence on healthy behaviors
- Mental stress reduces blood flow to the heart in patients with gene variation
- Doctors can do more to help patients quit smoking
- Summer activities up risk of childhood foot burns

Newsmakers

Resources

NewsBrief

National Association of Local Boards of Health

State Health Notes

Forum for State Health Policy Leadership, Volume 29, Issue 518, June 23, 2008

State News

- "Medical Debt Scores" - Should Providers Have Access?
- Umbilical Cord Blood: States Seek To Provide Stem Cells
- Health Chairs Meet In D.C.

Highlights

- Tax breaks for small business in AL...Pharmacies reserve right to say "no"...Specialized trauma care for children

Graphically Speaking

- Hispanic students have been engaging in some risky health-related behaviors, such as drinking alcohol on school property, being offered or selling illicit drugs and attempting suicide.

State Health Notes

Forum for State Health Policy Leadership, Volume 29, Issue 517, June 9, 2008

State News

- Rhode Island eyes cap on Medicaid funds in return for flexibility
- States reexamine their privacy laws as Google offers a platform for personal health records
- Another first in the anti-tobacco wars

Highlights

- Dental certificates for students in NY... White children, boys have higher rates of cancer...Postcards encourage smokers to quit...Upcoming Web conference on employee health plans

Graphically Speaking

- State-by-state estimates of persons found to be driving while under the influence.

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

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

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Rule Development

Proposed Rule Making (CR-103)

- **WAC 246-650-010, 020, 030: Newborn Screening**

CR-103 filed: *June 16, 2008*

CR-103 filed as: *WSR 08-13-072*

The purpose of the rule is to: update the definitions in WAC 246-650-010; revise WAC 246-650-020 and to add 15 new disorders to the panel of required screening tests for all newborns; and to provide a timeline for implementation of the screening for the 15 disorders in WAC 246-650-030.

Proposed Rule Making (CR-101)

- **WSR 04-03-010: Large On-site Sewage Systems**

CR-101 filed: *January 9, 2004*

CR-101 filed as: *WSR 04-03-010*

Withdrawal of CR-101 regarding revising rules for large on-site sewage systems. The original proposal was to consider jurisdictional relationships between local health jurisdictions, Department of Health, and Department of Ecology related to large on-site sewage systems. It was also to consider standards for on-site sewage tanks.

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