



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

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News Release

SBOH 05-08

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Board to hold hearing on cystic fibrosis

Wednesday, December 7, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Seattle Airport Hilton, 17620 Pacific Hwy. S, SeaTac

At its meeting Wednesday, December 7 in SeaTac, the State Board of Health will hold a public hearing on a rule that would require that all newborns be screened for cystic fibrosis. The Board may adopt the rule following the hearing. Cystic fibrosis is an inherited disorder that occurs when each parent passes on a faulty gene for the protein involved in moving salt and water across cell membranes.

In addition, the Department of Health will update the Board on implementation of the food code. A significantly revised food rule went into effect in September 2004. The Board will also hear a report on school vision screening and review a preliminary draft of its annual report.

Copies of the agenda and related materials are available by contacting the Board of Health at 360-236-4110 or by visiting the Board's Web site at www.sboh.wa.gov. The emergency and press contact number for the Board during the meeting is 360-701-2398.

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The State Board of Health serves the citizens of Washington by working to understand and prevent disease across the entire population. Established in 1889 by the State Constitution, the Board provides leadership by suggesting public health policies and actions, by regulating certain activities, and by providing a public forum. The Governor appoints ten members who fill three-year terms. Visit the Board's Web site at www.sboh.wa.gov.