



## For Your Information – March 2005

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

#### March 2005

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name and Location</b>
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March 3-5	Association of SIDS and Infant Mortality Programs 17th Annual Conference Westin Grand Hotel Washington, DC
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March 16	Environmental Health Lecture Series at the Seattle Art Museum For information: <a href="http://www.iceh.org">www.iceh.org</a> or 360-331-7904 Seattle Art Museum Seattle, Washington
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March 24- 25	18th Annual NW Regional Rural Health Conference Red Lion Hotel at the Park Spokane, Washington
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#### April 2005

**Date            Name and Location**

April 4-5    The World Congress Leadership Summit on Disease Management and Chronic Care for Employers and Public Purchasers  
Marriott Crystal Gateway  
Arlington, Virginia

April 14-16 National Conference of State Legislatures Spring Forum  
Washington, DC

April 28-30 WSSCLS/NWSSAMT Spring Meeting  
Spokane, Washington

**May 2005**

**Date            Name and Location**

May 1-4    4th UCLA Conference on Public Health and Disasters  
For information: 310-794-0864 or [acore@ucla.edu](mailto:acore@ucla.edu)  
Woodland Hills, California

May 4-6    Washington State Environmental Health Association: 60th Annual Educational Conference  
For information: [www.wseha.org](http://www.wseha.org)  
Red Lion Hotel at the Park  
Spokane, Washington

May 5-6    Heroes of Health Care Awards 6th Annual Reception & Awards Banquet  
Westin Hotel  
Seattle, Washington

May 5-6    4th Annual Health Literacy Conference  
For information: [www.iha4health.org](http://www.iha4health.org)  
Hyatt Regency  
Irvine, California

May 6    Healthy Communities 11th Annual Colloquium  
Westin Hotel  
Seattle, Washington

May 7    4th Annual Community-Based Solutions for Environmental & Economic Justice Conference  
For information: 206-720-0285 or [justice@ccej.org](mailto:justice@ccej.org)  
University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington

## June 2005

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name and Location</b>
June 1	Voices for Children Awards Luncheon 2005 Coming Together for Kids For information: 206-362-5973 or juli@whistlingrabbits.com Qwest Field Seattle, Washington
June 6-8	Telehealth Leadership Conference: An Intensive Look at Key Issues in Telemedicine Wyndham Washington DC Washington, DC
June 8-9	How to Design Learn Essential Graphic Design and Layout Skills That'll Make Every Project You Produce More Visually Powerful and Effective! Best Western University Seattle, Washington
June 10	Pet Waste Workshop For information: holdcj@health.co.kitsap.wa.us or guatemala@u.washington.edu Givens Community Center Port Orchard, Washington
June 13-15	The Public's Health and the Law in the 21st Century For information: www.aslme.org/conferences Sheraton Midtown Atlanta Atlanta, Georgia
June 21-24	The Disease Management Colloquium For information: www.dmconferences.com or 1-800-546-3750 Jefferson Medical College Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
June 26-29	National Environmental Health Association 69th Annual Educational Conference & Exhibition For information: www.neha.org Providence, Rhode Island

## July 2005

- | <b>Date</b> | <b>Name and Location</b>   |
|-------------|--|
| July 11-22  | 2005 Executive Management Program: Foundations for Strategic Leadership<br>www.cascadecourses.org<br>The University of Washington Seattle Campus<br>Seattle, Washington                                |
| July 25-26  | How to Design: Learn Essential Graphic Design and Layout Skills That'll Make Every Project You Produce More Visually Powerful and Effective!<br>Howard Johnson<br>Tacoma, Washington                   |
| July 25-27  | Comprehensive Health Education Foundation's 10th Annual National Prevention Symposium<br>For more information: www.chef.org or 1-800-323-2433<br>Marriott Marina del Rey<br>Marina del Rey, California |
| July 27-28  | How to Design: Learn Essential Graphic Design and Layout Skills That'll Make Every Project You Produce More Visually Powerful and Effective!<br>Red Lion Hotel<br>Olympia, Washington                  |

## August 2005

- | <b>Date</b> | <b>Name and Location</b>   |
|-------------|--|
| August 5-8  | Creating Healthy Lifestyles for the 21st Century<br>Conference on Food, Soil, and Environmental Chemical Connections to Health Using the Wisdom of the True Health Pioneers, Past and Present<br>Ocean Shores Convention Center<br>Ocean Shores, Washington                                      |
| August 6-9  | The 5th Annual Life's End Institute Retreat<br>Missoula, Montana   |
| August 7-9  | NASHP's 18th Annual State Health Policy Conference<br>www.nashp.org<br>Nashville, Tennessee  |
| August 8-12 | The Art of Leading through Others<br>For information: <a href="http://www.cascadecourses.org">http://www.cascadecourses.org</a> or 206-616-1748<br>Cascade Center for Public Service and Leadership, Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs<br>University of Washington<br>Seattle, Washington |

- August 10-13 National Association of Local Boards of Health  
13th Annual Conference  
Hilton Suites Downtown  
Nashville, Tennessee
- August 11 National Health Center Week  
For information: 253-597-4550  
Community Health Care's Lakewood Clinic  
Lakewood, Washington
- August 15-19 2005 International Congress on Medical Law and The 1st World Conference on Public Health Law & Ethics  
COEX InterContinental Hotel  
Seoul, Korea
- August 24-26 20th Annual Merrill Scott Symposium on Alcoholism  
For information: www.sundwon.org  
Yakima Convention Center  
Yakima, Washington

## September 2005

- | <b>Date</b>         | <b>Name and Location</b>  |
|---------------------|---|
| Sept. 8-9           | Washington Summit on Alcohol & Other Drug Issues<br>Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center<br>Tacoma, Washington  |
| Sept. 13-15         | 2005 Syndromic Surveillance Conference: Advancing Modern Disease Surveillance<br>Renaissance Hotel<br>Seattle, Washington   |
| Sept. 28-29         | Build a Better Tomorrow...Practice Safety and Health! 54th Governor's Industrial Safety and Health Conference<br>For information: www.WaGovConf.org<br>Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center<br>Tacoma, Washington |
| Sept. 30            | Diversity Health Summit<br>SeaTac Doubletree Inn<br>SeaTac, Washington  |
| Sept. 30-<br>Oct. 2 | Washington State Medical Association's 2005 Annual Meeting<br>For information: wsma@wsma.org<br>Sheraton Hotel<br>Tacoma, Washington  |

## October 2005

Date	Name and Location
Oct. 10-12	12th Annual Joint Conference on Health Partnering for a Healthier Tomorrow For information: <a href="http://www.wspha.org">www.wspha.org</a> Yakima Convention Center Yakima, Washington

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## Correspondence

### Correspondence to the Board

- **Ms. Tara Wolff, Health Policy Advisor, Washington State Board of Health**  
*Source: Shar Strahan, Seattle University Nursing Student*  
E-mail requesting information regarding King County Public Schools health promotion programs.
- **Washington State Board of Health Members**  
*Source: Lynne Johnson*  
Post card to the Board regarding the importance of food handlers being aware of food allergies and ways they can help decrease cross contamination.
- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
*Source: Chris Brown, Director of Community Development/Building Official, City of Elma*  
Letter regarding Chapter 246-360 WAC (transient accommodations) which was amended by the Board in August 2004 and will become effective April 1, 2005. Mr. Brown believes Chapter 246-360 WAC was misapplied and that it is unfair to apply rules not in effect at the time a project is permitted and designed. Mr. Brown is asking the Board to review the matter of vesting rights of the Elma Microtel Inn and Suites under the rules in effect at the time the project was permitted by the City of Elma and that they review the appropriateness of extracting one provision from a code that is not part of the state Building Code which is referenced only in a section of the state code completely unrelated to transient accommodations.
- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
*Source: The Honorable Bill Finbeiner, Washington State Senate*  
Letter regarding adoption by the State Board of Health of an administrative rule requiring that all food handlers be educated about life-threatening food allergies.
- **Washington State Board of Health Members**  
*Source: Sallie Thieme Sanford*  
Letter to the Board regarding food allergies and required training to obtain a food handler's license. Ms. Sanford's son, aged 4 years, has life-threatening allergies to peanuts, sesame seeds, and eggs. She feels that if restaurant workers had even a little training about food allergies, it would make their lives and the lives of other families much easier.

- **Washington State Board of Health**

*Source: Governor Christine Gregoire*

Executive Order 05-03 Plain Talk hereby ordering that all agencies adopt the principles and practices of Plain Talk currently used in the Departments of Revenue, Labor and Industries, and Ecology. Using Plain Talk principles, the announcements, publications, and other documents agencies send to the public will contain clear and concise instructions and information.

## **Correspondence from the Board**

- **Ms. Tara Wolff, Health Policy Advisor, Washington State Board of Health**

E-mail responding to Shar Strahan, Seattle University nursing student. Ms. Strahan e-mailed Ms. Wolff requesting information regarding King County Public Schools health promotion programs. Ms. Strahan was directed to contact someone in King County government as the State Board of Health does not have jurisdiction in that area.

- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health and John Peppert, HIV Prevention, Department of Health**

Letter to interested parties regarding the Board's filing of notice in the March 2, 2005 edition of the Washington State Register of the intent to adopt rule changes addressing HIV counseling and testing, partner notification services, and HIV prevention services with HIV-infected persons at its April 13, 2005 meeting.

- **Dr. Thomas Locke, Chair, Washington State Board of Health**

Letter to clarify the Board's position on Substitute Senate Bill 5305 to The Honorable Marilyn Rasmussen, bill sponsor. In a letter dated January 21, the Board opposed the original legislation because of concerns over some possible unintended consequences. Those concerns have been addressed in the substitute version of the bill. The Board, therefore, does not oppose Substitute Senate Bill 5305.

- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**

Response letter to Mr. Chris Brown, Director of Community Development, City of Elma. Mr. Brown wrote the Department of Health (DOH) Transient Accommodations Program regarding the application of Chapter 246-360 WAC to the Elma Microtel Inn and Suites. Mr. McLaughlin said the priority is to make sure there are no unnecessary delays in hotel construction while still protecting the public's health and safety. DOH plans to issue an exemption as soon as the developer completes the application process.

- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**

Response letter to The Honorable Bill Finkbeiner, Washington State Senate. Senator Finkbeiner wrote a letter regarding adoption by the State Board of Health of an administrative rule requiring that all food handlers be educated about life-threatening food allergies. Mr. McLaughlin has consulted with key members of the Board and with the Department of Health and there is a consensus that the Board should initiate rule making as suggested. He will recommend this course of action at the next Board meeting on April 13, 2005.

- **Dr. Thomas Locke, Chair, Washington State Board of Health**

Letter of support of the concept of House Bill 1771 to The Honorable Rosemary McAuliffe, Senate Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education Committee Chair. House Bill 1771 requires school districts to implement a school breakfast program in each school where more than 40

percent of students eligible to participate in the school lunch program qualify for free or reduced-price meal reimbursement by the 2005-06 school year. House Bill 1771 was heard before committee on Friday, March 25, 2005.

- **Dr. Thomas Locke, Chair, Washington State Board of Health**

Letter of support of Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1458 to The Honorable Erik Poulsen, Senate Water, Energy & Environment Committee Chair. Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1458 concerns onsite septic systems and would give the Board limited authority to address in rule, environmental contaminants related to low-dissolved oxygen in marine waters. Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1458 was heard before committee on Tuesday, March 29, 2005.

- **Dr. Thomas Locke, Chair, Washington State Board of Health**

Letter of support of the concept of Second Substitute House Bill 1516 to The Honorable Karen Keiser, Senate Health & Long-Term Care Committee Chair. Second Substitute House Bill 1516 would require an evaluation of the Kids Get Care program's effectiveness and cost savings. Second Substitute House Bill 1516 was heard before committee on Wednesday, March 30, 2005.

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## General Interest

- ***Essentials of Public Health Management***

*by L. Fleming Fallon, Jr. and Eric J. Zgodzinski*

In the wake of 9/11, effective management of public health departments is more important than ever as these organizations and agencies will be in the front line of any terrorist attack. Written by practitioners for other practitioners and students who want to pursue public health careers, *Essentials of Public Health Management* provides a practical, non-theoretical approach useful for the hands-on management of these complex organizations and their daily operations. With accessible writing and many real life applications, this concise new volume serves departments at all levels--federal, state, city, and county. \$59.95 paperback, 524 pages

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- **Youth Cigarette Smoking Rates Fact Sheet, Washington State Department of Health**

*March 30, 2005*

For more information go to [http://www.unfilteredtv.com/press\\_room/](http://www.unfilteredtv.com/press_room/).

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## Local Boards of Health: Agendas and Meeting Minutes

- **Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health**  
March 2, 2005
  - Comments by the Public
  - Consent Agenda
  - Director of Health Comments
  - Comments by Board of Health Members
  - Executive Session
- **Snohomish Health District Board of Health**  
March 8, 2005
  - Chair's Report
  - Health Officer's Report
  - Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 8, 2005
  - Public Comment Period
  - Committee Reports and Standing Reports
  - Consent Agenda
  - Action Items
  - Information Items
  - Executive Session
  - Other Business
- **Grant County Health District**  
March 9, 2005
  - Approval of February 9, 2005 minutes
  - Public Forum for Citizen's comments and applications
  - Environmental Health Report
  - Personal Health Report
  - Health Officer's Report
  - Approval of Vouchers for February 28, 2005
  - Other Business
- **Jefferson County Board of Health**  
March 17, 2005
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Minutes of Meetings February 17, 2005
  - Public Comments
  - Old Business and Informational Items
  - New Business
  - Activity Update

-Agenda Planning

- **King County Board of Health**

March 18, 2005

- Announcement of Any Alternates Serving in Place of Regular Members
- Approval of Minutes of February 18, 2005 Meeting (Action Item)
- General Public Comments
- Chair's Report
- Board Member's Updates
- Director's Report
- Appreciation: Margi Powers
- Briefing: Immunization Program
- Briefing: Governor's Budget
- Discussion: Seattle City Council/King County Council Walking Challenge

- **Island County Board of Health**

March 21, 2005

- New Business
- Contracts
- Report from the Health Department
- Public Input or Comments

- **Benton-Franklin District Board of Health**

March 24, 2005

- Introduction of Visitors
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes
- Resolution 05-02--Interim Health Officer Coverage
- Walk the Talk Update
- Richland Building Update
- Public Health Standards
- 2005 Health District Goals
- Announcements
- Approval of Vouchers
- Date of Next Meeting
- Executive Session--Collective Bargaining

- **Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health**

March 24, 2005

- Citizen Input
- Chair Report
- Health Officer Report
- Approval of Minutes
- Approval of Vouchers
- Action Items

- Reports
- Board Member Concerns

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## Public Health Leadership Positions Available

- **Nurse Practitioner**  
Klickitat County Public Health Department

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## Publications - General Media

- **Elaborations, News and Issues for Washington's Clinical Laboratories**  
*March 2005, Volume X Issue 3*  
Articles of interest: "Notifiable Conditions Rule Revision" and "MTS Revised Rule Effective 3-19-05."
- **Stem Cell Research**  
*Source: LEGISBRIEF, March 2005, Vol. 13, No. 15*  
Stem cell research has quickly become the focus of heated debate in state legislatures; more than 80 bills were considered in 2004. As the primary supporter of publicly funded scientific research, the federal government plays a vital role in stem cell research regulation, but there is a growing realization that state legislatures have a critical stake in this technology's future.
- **Alliance, The Western Washington Area Health Education Center**  
*Winter 2005*  
Articles of interest: "The AHEC--Community Health Centers--National Health Service Corps Link," "Connecting Rural Western Washington," "Rural Physician Incomes on Par With Urban Physicians," "A Special Clinic for Special Children," "Governor Gregoire Appoints Mary Selecky as Secretary of Health," "Alternate Ways to Get Your Continuing Education," "Senator Rosa Franklin Named New President Pro Tem for Washington Senate," "International Public Relations Firm Provides Pro Bono Services to VRP Program," and "18th Annual NW Regional Rural Health Conference to be Held in Spokane."
- **Washington State Public Health Association**  
*Winter 2005*  
Articles of interest: "Health Care Coverage Tops Citizens' Concerns," "Northwest Medical Informatics Symposium," "Summer Institute for Public Health Practice," "Getting the Lead Out of Our Children," "Working to Improve Community Health Assessment Practice in Washington," "Healthy Schools Launches New Web Site," "Mountains Beyond Mountains," and "Improving Health the Only Way We Can."
- **CHDD Outlook, News from the Center on Human Development and Disability at the University of Washington Health Sciences Center**  
*Spring 2005, Vol. 16, #1*  
Articles of interest: "Making sense of fMRI: CHDD core service helps researchers refine

analysis for more accurate results," "DD Council and CHDD," "Fragile X research advances," "Promoting health in adults with developmental disabilities," and "New research affiliates."

- **What's at stake for kids in 2005?**

*Source: The Catalyst, March 2005*

Invest wisely. Invest in kids. This is our message to state and federal elected officials as they make decisions in the coming months that will determine our public investment in the safety and health of children and families in Washington.

- **Broken Health Care System Needs Fixing**

*Source: Washington Business Magazine, March/April 2005*

Affordable health care does not have to come at the cost of mortgaging Washington's competitiveness. In this issue *Washington Business Magazine*, we explore the rising costs of health care and its effects on employers.

- **Law and the Public's Health, Molloy V Meier and the Expanding Standard of Medical Care: Implications for Public Health Policy and Practice**

*Source: Public Health Reports, March-April 2005, Volume 120*

This installment of *Law and the Public's Health* examines a recent medical liability decision, *Molloy v Meier, et al.* and its implications for public health policy and practice with respect to policy reforms in the field of newborn genetic testing and reporting.

- **The CDC Public Health Law News**

*March 2, 2005*

Articles of interest: "County sees red on green pools," "Kentucky House passes anti-bullying bill," "Lawmakers eye extending state panel on flu troubles," "Lead law has its first charge," "CDC explores pregnancy-homicide link," "Food groups get a taste of fear: Anti-obesity law," "Health agency splits program amid vaccination dispute," "Suit seeks tighter federal salt regulations," and "Health warnings on all food to be compulsory."

- **Tooth squad concession better than nothing**

*Source: The News Tribune, March 7, 2005*

The newest child dental health plan from Pierce County health officials is an olive branch that satisfies fluoridation foes while getting kids some of the help they need. The Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health, having lost one bid to fluoridate nearly all drinking water in the county, proposes to get at the problem a different way--through schools.

- **Home prices, pollution key in septic debate**

*Source: The Olympian, March 10, 2005*

Proposed changes in state rules governing on-site septic systems were criticized on all fronts Wednesday at a state Board of Health public hearing. The rules will drive up the cost of some new homes by thousands of dollars and place undue burdens on homeowners to prove that their systems work, many of those testifying said.

- **Reporting sought for hospital infections**

*Source: The Olympian, March 12, 2005*

Some hospital patients die of infections picked up during treatment, and Washington may join a growing number of states requiring hospitals to report those infections. "It's a big problem; it has been a problem for many years," said Denise Cardo, director of the Centers for Disease Control's

division of health care quality in Atlanta.

- **Gregoire provides welcome leadership on tort initiatives**

*Source: Yakima Herald Republic, March 13, 2005*

Finally, we've got some leadership on medical malpractice tort reform, something the public hasn't seen much of since doctors and lawyers placed competing initiatives before the Legislature. Gov. Christine Gregoire, in Yakima on Thursday for drought-related activities, said she is pushing for a legislative alternative to both and thinks progress is being made.

- **Tide of child obesity rising in rural U.S.**

*Source: Tri-City Herald, March 14, 2005*

Here in his small hometown in the mountains of Western Pennsylvania and in other rural communities like it, many health officials say the tide of obesity is rising faster than anywhere else. And new research appears to back them up, dispelling a long-held belief that in farm communities and other rural towns, heavy chores, wide expanses of land, and fresh air make leaner, stronger bodies.

- **Clearer waters ahead?**

*Source: The News Tribune, March 14, 2005*

The eggs were valuable. The filets were not. When Skokomish tribal fishermen couldn't profit from the tons of chum salmon they caught, they threw most of the dead fish into Hood Canal, where they figured crabs would eat them. But last spring, after environmental activists started calling the lower end of Hood Canal a dead zone, government officials cited carcass dumping as one of many ways people contribute to the area's blight.

- **Trouble under the surface**

*Source: The News Tribune, March 14, 2005*

Sparkling water and mountain views make Hood Canal look like paradise. But this winter's unusual sunshine and warm weather have a downside: Algae thrive in it. By summertime, thick mats of the stuff will clog canal shores. Later in the season, as the algae rot, they will use up oxygen that fish need to breathe.

- **A cleaning solution for mess left by meth labs**

*Source: Houston Chronicle, March 17, 2005*

When police in Houston and across the country bust methamphetamine labs in living rooms, motel rooms, and even the back seats of cars, local agencies are often left to clean up the deadly mess that includes poisonous gases, cancer-causing chemicals and flammable solvents.

- **Gov. Gregoire Calls for Immediate Action to Clean Up Hood Canal**

*Source: Office of the Governor, March 18, 2005*

Gov. Christine Gregoire today said "the time has come for on-the-ground action" to halt pollution on the Hood Canal. "We all should be very embarrassed that this wonderful area has become so degraded," Gov. Gregoire said. "We are in serious danger."

- **Three crisis states show improvement since tort reform**

*Source: American Medical News, March 21, 2005*

The steady progress toward stabilizing or reducing liability insurance rates has been, in one supporter's words, like "taking an aspirin for bringing a fever down."

- **New scams focus on familiar target: physicians**  
*Source: American Medical News, March 21, 2005*  
 Authorities say the best defense for "419" advance-fee scams is skepticism.
- **The CDC Public Health Law News**  
*March 23, 2005*  
 Articles of interest: "Quarantine Quandary," "Bioterrorism preparedness: Isolation and quarantine issues," "Cigarette makers and US seek deal," "*Gonzales v. Castle Rock*," "High Court turns away Philip Morris," "State laws vary on driving distractions," "Philip Morris to challenge local cigarette giants," and "Workers put their hearts on the line."
- **HIV notification may knock on door**  
*Source: The Olympian, March 28, 2005*  
 A public health official knocks on your door and breaks the news no one wants to hear: You've been exposed to HIV. Your name was on a list of partners linked to someone who tested positive for the virus, the official says--he doesn't say who. Now you have to get an HIV test. Some AIDS activists say this is not the way the system should work.
- **'Diabesity,' a Crisis in an Expanding Country**  
*Source: The New York Times, March 29, 2005*  
 I can't understand why we still don't have a national initiative to control what is fast emerging as the most serious and costly health problem in America: excess weight. Are our schools, our parents, our national leaders blind to what is happening--a health crisis that looms even larger than our former and current smoking habits?
- **The CDC Public Health Law News**  
*March 30, 2005*  
 Articles of interest: Money found for suicide study," "Suit challenges 'low-sugar' cereals," "No agency monitors petting-zoo sanitary conditions," "Schools' suicide survey," "College hosts beer and wine soirees," "*Douglas County v. Anaya*," "Tattooing remains needling problem for Oklahoma lawmakers," "Communications often the security hole at schools, specialists say," and "Lawyers fume over tobacco suit: Cigarette makers lose bid to hold plaintiffs' legal team responsible for costs in class-action."
- **Children more vulnerable to pollutants, agency says**  
*Source: The Olympian, March 30, 2005*  
 Children might be more vulnerable than adults to cancer risks from certain gene-damaging chemicals, the Environmental Protection Agency said Tuesday. The agency has updated the way it decides which pollutants pose cancer risks, which is intended to lead to better and more accurate reviews of carcinogens that might be regulated.

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## Publications - Highlighted Journal Articles

- **Effectiveness of School Programs in Preventing Childhood Obesity: A Multilevel Comparison**  
*Source: American Journal of Public Health, March 2005, Vol. 95, No. 3*

A major public health crisis facing today's youth is the pandemic increase in excess body weight. In the United States, over the past 4 decades, childhood obesity rates have increased 3- to 4-fold and are moderately higher than the rates in Canada, Australia, and Europe.

- ***EPI-LOG, Communicable Disease and Epidemiology News***  
*March 2005, Vol. 45, No. 3*  
Articles of interest: "Recent Travel-Associated Infections Reported in King County," "Recognizing and Preventing Travel-Associated Infections," and "Reasons to Report Travel-Associated Notifiable Conditions to Public Health."
- ***MMRW Weekly, Volume 54, No. 8***  
*March 4, 2005*
- ***Interventions to Increase Influenza Vaccination of Health-Care Workers--California and Minnesota***  
*Source: MMWR Weekly, March 4, 2005, 54(08);196-199*  
Vaccination of health-care workers (HCWs) has been shown to reduce influenza infection and absenteeism among HCWs (1), prevent mortality in their patients (2), and result in financial savings to sponsoring health institutions (3). However, influenza vaccination coverage among HCWs in the United States remains low (4--6); in 2003, coverage among HCWs was 40.1 percent (CDC, unpublished data, 2005). This report describes strategies and implemented in three clinical settings that increased the proportion of HCWs who received influenza vaccination.
- ***QuickStats: Prevalence of Overweight\* Among Children and Teenagers, by Age Group and Selected Period--United States, 1963-2002***  
*Source: MMWR Weekly, March 4, 2005, 54(08);203*  
Overweight among children and teenagers more than tripled between the 1960s and 2002.
- ***The Journal of the American Medical Association***  
*March 9, 2005, Vol. 293, No. 10*  
<http://jama.ama-assn.org/content/vol293/issue10/index.dtl?etoc>
- ***MMWR Weekly, Volume 54, No. 9***  
*March 11, 2005*
- ***Salmonellosis Associated with Pet Turtles--Wisconsin and Wyoming, 2004***  
*Source: MMWR Weekly, March 11, 2005, 54(09);223-226*  
Salmonellosis associated with small pet turtles in the United States was a major public health concern in the 1970s (1). In 1975, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) banned commercial distribution of small turtles (i.e., those with carapaces of <4 inches) (2). The FDA ban prevents an estimated 100,000 cases of salmonellosis among children each year (3). However, a recent resurgence in the sale of small turtles has generated concern.
- ***MMWR Weekly, Volume 54, No. 10***  
*March 18, 2005*
- ***Preemptive State Smoke-Free Indoor Air Laws--United States, 1999-2004***  
*Source: MMWR Weekly, March 18, 2005, 54(10);250-253*  
Exposure to secondhand smoke results in approximately 3000 lung cancer deaths and 35,000

heart disease deaths in the United States each year (1). Policies establishing smoke-free environments are the most effective method for reducing exposure to secondhand smoke (2).

- **Trends in Tuberculosis--United States, 2004**

*Source: MMWR Weekly, March 18, 2005, 54(10);245-249*

During 2004, a total of 14,511 confirmed tuberculosis (TB) cases (4.9 cases per 100,000 population) were reported in the United States, representing a 3.3% decline in the rate from 2003. Slightly more than half of the United States cases were in foreign-born persons. This report summarizes data from the national TB surveillance for 2004 and describes trends since 1993.

- **MMWR Weekly, Volume 54, No. 11**

*March 25, 2005*

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## Publications - Reports

- **Washington State Pregnancy & Induced Abortion Statistics 2003**

*Issue date: March 2005*

*Washington State Pregnancy and Induced Abortion Statistics 2003*, published by the Center for Health Statistics of the Washington State Department of Health, contains tables on pregnancies--the sum of births, induced abortions, and fetal deaths--and more detailed information about induced abortions for calendar year 2003.

- **Canada Communicable Disease Report**

*Issue date: March 1, 2005; Volume 31-05*

Canadian Report on Persons Who Fail to Disclose HIV Status. An Expert Working Group of the Public Health Agency of Canada has published a report on persons who fail to disclose their HIV/AIDS status to sexual and drug-sharing partners. The Expert Group, which met in 2002 and 2003, included physicians, psychologists, public health officials, lawyers, and other experts. The report covers public health approaches to handling persons who fail to disclose their status.

- **Newborn Screening: Toward a Uniform Screening Panel and System, Report for Public Comment**

*Issue date: March 2, 2005*

Report covers the changing dynamics of emerging technology, and the complexity of genetics which require an assessment of the state of the art in newborn screening and a perspective on the future directions such programs should take.

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## Rule Development

### Proposed Rule Making (CR-102)

- **Chapters 246-100 and 246-101 WAC-HIV Counseling and Testing and Partner Notification Services**

*CR-102 Filed: March 2, 2005*

In general, these proposed rule changes address expanding access to HIV testing, increasing efforts to notify exposed partners of their exposure to HIV infection, and encouraging services to meet the HIV prevention needs of HIV-infected persons.

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