



## For Your Information – June 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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### Announcements and Press Releases

- **Washington State Department of Health**

*Release date: June 1, 2005*

Commercial shellfish harvest will be limited in part of Henderson Inlet. The Washington State Department of Health announced that it plans to close 49 acres of shellfish beds in Henderson Inlet because of bacterial contamination in the water. The downgrade--effective in late June--is required because fecal coliform levels indicating the presence of human sewage and animal wastes exceeds state and federal water quality standards.

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### Events and Conferences

June 2005

Date	Name and Location
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 guatemal@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](http://www.aslme.org/conferences)  
Sheraton Midtown Atlanta  
Atlanta, Georgia
- June 21-24    The Disease Management Colloquium  
For information: [www.dmconferences.com](http://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](http://www.neha.org)  
Providence, Rhode Island
- July 2005  
Date            Name and Location
- July 11-22     2005 Executive Management Program: Foundations for Strategic Leadership  
[www.cascadecourses.org](http://www.cascadecourses.org)  
The University of Washington Seattle Campus  
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!  
Howard Johnson  
Tacoma, Washington
- July 25-27     Comprehensive Health Education Foundation's 10th Annual National  
Prevention Symposium  
For more information: [www.chef.org](http://www.chef.org) or 1-800-323-2433

Marriott Marina del Rey  
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!  
Red Lion Hotel  
Olympia, Washington

August 2005

Date              Name and Location  
August 5-8      Creating Healthy Lifestyles for the 21st Century  
Conference on Food, Soil, and Environmental Chemical Connections to Health  
Using the Wisdom of the True Health Pioneers, Past and Present  
Ocean Shores Convention Center  
Ocean Shores, Washington

August 6-9      The 5th Annual Life's End Institute Retreat  
Missoula, Montana

August 7-9      NASHP's 18th Annual State Health Policy Conference  
[www.nashp.org](http://www.nashp.org)  
Nashville, Tennessee

August 8-12     The Art of Leading through Others  
For information: <http://www.cascadecourses.org> or 206-616-1748  
Cascade Center for Public Service and Leadership, Daniel J. Evans School of  
Public Affairs  
University of Washington  
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](http://www.sundwon.org)  
Yakima Convention Center  
Yakima, Washington

## September 2005

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

## November 2005

Date	Name and Location
Nov. 5-9	American Public Health Association's 133rd Annual Meeting & Exposition For information: <a href="http://apha.org/meetings/">http://apha.org/meetings/</a> Ernest N. Morial Convention Center New Orleans, Louisiana

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## Correspondence

### Correspondence to the Board

- **Washington State Board of Health Members**  
*Source: Rufus R. Rose, citizen of Whidbey Island*  
E-mail expressing concerns regarding fecal coliform and water standards.
- **Washington State Board of Health Members**  
*Source: Mr. Kenneth Snipps*  
Letter asking why the Board's mailing address is a post office box.
- **Mr. Ned Therien, Health Policy Analyst, Washington State Board of Health**  
*Source: Ms. S.L. Allen, Technical Assistant, Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)*  
E-mail regarding Ms. Allen's research of state-mandated environmental justice groups. The MDE is comparing policies and programs to see what is lacking within their own, and what they can do to improve them.

### Correspondence from the Board

- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
Letter to Mr. Mike McCarty, Assistant Director of the Association of Washington Cities, informing him of Washington State Board of Health Member The Honorable David Crump's interest in being reappointed to the Board.
- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
Letter to Ms. Valoria Loveland, Director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture, requesting a meeting to discuss ways the Department of Agriculture and the Board might work together.
- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
Letter to Mr. Jay Manning, Director of the Washington State Department of Ecology, requesting a meeting to discuss ways the Department of Ecology and the Board might work together.
- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
Letter to Mr. Gary Weeks, Director of the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, requesting a meeting to discuss ways the Department of Labor and Industries and the Board might work together.
- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
Letter to Mr. Steve Hill, Administrator of the Washington State Health Care Authority, requesting a meeting to discuss ways the Health Care Authority and the Board might work together.
- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
Letter to Dr. Terry Bergeson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, requesting a meeting to discuss ways the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Board might work together.
- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
Letter to Ms. Robin Arnold-Williams, Secretary of the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, requesting a meeting to discuss ways the Department of Social and Health Services and the Board might work together.
- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
Letter to The Honorable Mike Kreidler, Insurance Commissioner, requesting a meeting to discuss ways the Office of the Insurance Commissioner and the Board might work together.

- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
E-mail response to Mr. Rufus R. Rose acknowledging the receipt of his e-mail regarding fecal coliform and water standards. Mr. McLaughlin noted that the concerns expressed in the e-mail were that of the Department of Ecology's regulatory activities.
- **Ms. Lonnie Peterson, Public Information Officer, Washington State Board of Health**  
Letter responding to Mr. Kenneth Snipps regarding his question about the Board's mailing address.
- **Mr. Ned Therien, Health Policy Analyst, Washington State Department of Health**  
Letter responding to Ms. S.L. Allen regarding her research of state-mandated environmental justice groups.
- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
Letter to Mr. John M. King, Director of the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs, requesting a meeting to discuss ways the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Board might work together.
- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
Letter to Ms. Rosalund Jenkins, Director of the Washington State Commission on African American Affairs, requesting a meeting to discuss ways the Commission and the Board might work together.
- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
Letter to Mr. Craig Bill, Acting Executive Director of the Washington State Governor's Office of Indian Affairs, requesting a meeting to discuss ways the Office of Indian Affairs and the Board might work together.
- **Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health**  
Letter to Ms. Ellen Abellera, Executive Director of the State of Washington Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, requesting a meeting to discuss ways the Commission and the Board might work together.

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## General Interest

- ***Telemedicine and E-Health Law***  
*by Lynn D. Fleisher, Ph.D, JD and James C. Dechene, Ph.D, JD*  
From the transmission of x-rays and other diagnostic images for interpretation at a distant site, to "virtual microscopes," "smart bandages," and robotic surgery, technology is transforming medical treatment. Yet while new developments promise to improve the delivery of medical services, especially to remote areas, they also raise complex legal issues.  
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## Local Boards of Health: Agendas and Meeting Minutes

- **Tacoma -Pierce County Board of Health**

June 1, 2005

<http://www.tpchd.org/page.php?id=46>

- America's Promise--The Alliance for Youth
- Legislative Update
- Comments by the Public
- Consent Agenda
- Regular Agenda
- Director of Health Comments
- Comments by Board of Health Members
- Executive Session

- **Grant County Board of Health**

June 8, 2005

<http://www.granthealth.org/grantcountyboardofhealth.htm>

- Approval of May 11, 2005 Minutes
- Public Forum for Citizen's Comments and Applications
- Environmental Health Report
- Personal Health/Administrator Report
- Health Officer's Report
- Approval of Vouchers for May 31, 2005
- Other Business

- **Whatcom County Board of Health**

June 14, 2005

- Public Session
- Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB)--Chair Report
- On-site Sewage Systems PHAB Subcommittee Update
- Oral Health Update

- **Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health**

June 15, 2005

<http://www.tpchd.org/page.php?id=46>

- Proposed Health Department Budget for 2006

- **Jefferson County Board of Health**

June 16, 2005

<http://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/meeting%26minutes/meetings%26minutesold.htm>

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes of May 19, 2005 Board of Health Meeting
- Public Comments
- New Business
- Activity Update
- Agenda Planning

- **King County Board of Health**

June 17, 2005

<http://www.metrokc.gov/HEALTH/news/05061301.htm>

- Announcement of Any Alternates Serving in Place of Regular Members
- Approval of Minutes of May 20, 2005 Meeting
- General Public Comments
- Chair's Report
- Board Member's Updates
- Director's Report
- Administrator's Report
- Rulemaking: Environmental Health Unified Hourly Rate
- Rulemaking: Food Code
- Update on Sexually Transmitted Diseases

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

June 23, 2005

<http://www.srhd.org/information/about/minutes.asp>

- Citizen Input
- Chair Report
- Health Office Report
- Approval of Minutes of May 26, 2005
- Approval of Vouchers of May 1-31, 2005
- Action Items
- Reports
- Board Member Concerns
- Study Session

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## Public Health Leadership Positions Available

- **Public Health Program Manager**  
Clallam County Department of Health and Human Services

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## Publications - General Media

- **Alliance, The Western Washington Area Health Education Center**  
*Spring 2005*  
Articles of interest: "WWAHEC--Developing Tomorrow's Workforce," "New Resources," "Forks Hospital Awarded \$850,000 Grant," "Generic Medications Available Through Patient Assistance Program," "Reaching Into the Community: Neighborhood Free Medical Clinic," and "WWAHEC Executive Director on National Health Service Corps Advisory Council."
- **sunlight & shadows, Newsletter of the SIDS Foundation of Washington**  
*Summer 2005*

Articles of interest: "Helping a Father on Father's Day," "2005 Fallen Note Auction," "Standardizing Infant Death Investigations," "Eastern WA Update," "An Unfinished Mother," "Safeway 'Charity of Choice' Campaign," and "SIDS Awareness Items."

- **CHDD Outlook, News from the Center on Human Development and Disability at the University of Washington Health Sciences Center**

*Summer 2005, Vol. 16, #2*

Articles of interest: "Screening for hearing loss: new study aims to improve detection and intervention in young children," "Using new technologies to study the p53 gene's role in neurodegenerative and neurodevelopmental disorders," "When bigger isn't necessarily better: brain imaging studies may help unravel some of autism's mysteries," and "Bright Futures in Early Childhood enhances efforts to give children a head start toward good health."

- **NewsBrief, National Association of Local Boards of Health**

*Second Quarter, 2005*

Articles of interest: "Report from Washington," "NALBOH News," "Tobacco-Free USA," "Conference Highlights," "State Association News," and "Environmental Health & Emergency Preparedness."

- **Reports, A publication for the members of the Washington State Medical Association**

*May/June 2005*

Articles of interest: "Let's walk the talk! Physicians called upon to get some exercise, serve as role models for fitness," "Exercise benefits known, but partaking is another matter," "Yes on I-300/No on I-336 materials for the office," "Discounted auto/home insurance for WSMA members," "Free WSMA patient materials available for your office," "Important insurance information for residents and fellows," and "Pulling the plug on patient safety."

- **Immunization Program Update**

*June 2005*

Articles of interest: "Working Together--Immunization Highlights from the Program Manager," "Whatever Happened to Polio?" "Immunization Web Registry Celebrates First Birthday," "National Conference," "Spotlight on Local Programs," "Kitsap Co. WIC/Immunization Record Round-Up," "Improvement in Perinatal Hep B Prevention Efforts," "Spring Tetanus Awareness Campaign 2005," "Additional TD Resources," "Varicella Update," "New ACIP Meningococcal Recommendations," and "New Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System."

- **TopHealth, The Health Promotion and Wellness Newsletter**

*June 2005*

Articles of interest: "Which Way Does Your Head Ache?" "The Latest on Contacts," "Making Dairy Diet-Friendly," "How to Forgive--and Feel Better," and "The Awful Tooth."

- **Experimental Shingles Vaccine Proves Effective in Nationwide Study**

*Source: NIH News, June 1, 2005*

In one of the largest adult vaccine clinical trials ever, researchers have found that an experimental vaccine against shingles (zoster vaccine) prevented about half of cases of shingles--a painful nerve and skin infection--and dramatically reduced its severity and complications in vaccinated persons who got the disease. The findings appear in the June 2 issue of *The New England Journal of Medicine*.

- **Nutrition rules may bite school clubs**

*Source: The Spokesman Review, June 2, 2005*

Ice cream sales went up like the temperature this spring at Ferris High School's DECA store, which came as good news for after-school activities that rely on money from those sales. But no

one expects those sales to last. The national battle against the bulge moves into most area schools next fall when new policies will block the sale of the highest selling items at schools like soda, candy, and ice cream bars.

- **Vaccine Curbs Shingles Cases and Severity**

*Source: The New York Times, June 2, 2005*

An experimental vaccine can reduce both the incidence and the severity of shingles by more than half, doctors reported yesterday, in a development that could spare hundreds of thousands of Americans from an extremely painful disease. The effectiveness of the vaccine was determined in an unusually large clinical trial involving more than 38,500 people over the age of 60, the group most prone to shingles, a skin and nerve infection.

- **CDC Team Investigates an Outbreak of Obesity**

*Source: The New York Times, June 3, 2005*

For the first time, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has sent a team of specialists into a state, West Virginia, to study an outbreak of obesity in the same way it studies an outbreak of an infectious disease. Kerri Kennedy, the program manager at the West Virginia Physical Activity and Nutrition Program, said the state had requested the agency's investigation.

- **Infected may sue for negligence, court rules**

*Source: The Toronto Star, June 6, 2005*

A \$75 million lawsuit by 40 families of West Nile virus victims who believe the Ontario government should have done more to warn the public of its dangers has, once again, been given the green light. A divisional court panel unanimously dismissed a government appeal Thursday and put the lawsuit back on track.

- **Struggle boils on water fluoridation**

*Source: The Philadelphia Inquirer, June 7, 2005*

Factions for and against the potential mandatory fluoridation of New Jersey's water supply squared off yesterday in a final attempt to sway the state Public Health Council. Their arguments to the council were much the same as they have been: The additive either offers a huge benefit for children's dental health or is a poison the government has no right to force-feed to the entire population.

- **No candy or soda in state's schools**

*Source: Asbury Park Press, June 7, 2005*

By the start of the 2007-08 school year, students from prekindergarten through high school will no longer be offered junk food, soda, or candy in New Jersey schools, under a policy announced Monday by acting Governor Codey. Public, private, and parochial schools in which 5 percent or more of students participate in the federal Child Nutrition Program, which provides reduced-cost meals, will be subject to the policy, said Jeff Beach, spokesman for the state Department of Agriculture.

- **Schools assailed for response to mold and other problems**

*Source: Seattle Post Intelligencer, June 8, 2005*

For months, as water from a leaky pipe pooled and mold spread underneath classrooms filled with first- and second-graders, Arbor Heights Elementary teacher Robert Femiano urged Seattle Public Schools officials to fix the problem. Students in his wing of the West Seattle school were complaining of mysterious headaches that disappeared once they left the classroom. Many seemed to be constantly coming down with colds and other ailments.

- **CDC Public Health Law News**  
*June 8, 2005*  
Articles of interest: "Idaho wants potatoes exempt from Calif. Law," "Governor drops curtain on night sight experiment," "No candy or soda in state's schools: Junk food ban starts in 2007-08," "Struggle boils on water fluoridation," "Junk food at school reigns; new rules' 1st year sees more fruits and veggies, but old habits bite back," "DEA labels cold syrups a meth risk," "Feds scale back tobacco demand," "States limit cell use by drivers," and "Infected may sue for negligence, court rules."
- **Junk food at school reigns**  
*Source: The Dallas Morning News, June 7, 2005*  
You can take away the Snickers bars. But they'll just eat twice as many cookies. Take the curly fries. They'll go for the chips. Texas schoolchildren found plenty of empty calories at school despite sweeping changes in nutrition policies that debuted this year. If they weren't interested in carefully regulated school lunches, they could still find non-nutritious snacks in the lunch lines, at the a la carte counters, or at soda machines in high school hallways.
- **Tooth care translators**  
*Source: Yakima Herald Republic, June 8, 2005*  
Rhonda Hauff sees it nearly every day at Yakima Neighborhood Health Services. Non-English speaking mothers come in confused about why their children have tooth decay, but with the dentists only able to speak English, the translation is lost. That usually means turning to a dental assistant. The dental assistants--some of whom are fluent in Spanish--can explain to the mothers that they shouldn't put sugary substances into the bottles to help their children fall asleep, even though it is a common cultural practice.
- **Fat Found to Accelerate Aging Process**  
*Source: The Washington Post, June 14, 2005*  
Scientists have produced the first direct evidence that fat accelerates aging, possibly speeding the unraveling of crucial genetic structures inside cells that wither with age. A team of researchers from the United States and Britain found that the more people weigh, the older their cells appear on a molecular level, with obesity adding the equivalent of nearly 9 years of age to a person's body.
- **Bid to replace tainted water in Clark County advances**  
*Source: The Oregonian, June 10, 2005*  
The Senate Appropriations Committee on Thursday approved \$500,000 to build a water system for north Clark County residents whose water supply has been contaminated by arsenic, US Senator Patty Murray, D-Wash., announced. Recent tests of private wells in the northern part of the county revealed arsenic levels above 500 parts per billion, which greatly exceeds the US Environmental Protection Agency drinking water standards.
- **CDC Public Health Law News**  
*June 15, 2005*  
Articles of interest: "Prison health officials admit problems, note reform efforts," "State considers change in arsenic rules," "Perry signs bill for mandatory area evacuation," "County workers' insurance costs to be tied to their health habits," "Government reports drop in rate of family violence," "McDonald's plaintiffs debate requirements for reinstated 'fat suit,'" "Most states let drivers exceed speed limit," "Tobacco accord seems likelier as government cuts demands," and "US to review heart drug intended for one race."

- **Water district criticized over fluoride vote**

*Source: The News Tribune, June 17, 2005*

Lakewood dentist Danny Moulding is worried that children in his city won't be drinking fluoride in their water. Resident Ray Schuler is irate that he spent time and energy promoting the additive in an election campaign, only to have the results ignored by public officials. Physician Muriel Taylor is angry that her vote in favor of fluoridation--as well as the votes of thousands of other Lakewood residents--was discounted.

- **Health Care Costs, Spending Up**

*Source: Washington Post, June 21, 2005*

After hints that the rapid growth in health care spending was slowing, a report being released today suggests the brief reprieve has stalled and the soaring costs are likely to force more people out of the market. Health spending by privately insured Americans rose 8.2 percent in 2004, virtually the same increase as the previous year, according to analysts at the Center for Studying Health System Change, a nonpartisan research group.

- **CDC Public Health Law News**

*June 22, 2005*

Articles of interest: "High court raises bar for safety of thrill rides," "Rell vetoes junk food bill," "Drug court aims to break the link between substance abuse and crime," "Jury finds smoking grounds for eviction," "Does lead poison lurk at play sites?" "Life-changing device," "Attorney general says tattoo law suspect," "Navajo first lady takes anti-alcohol campaign to Indians nationwide," and "US judge urges cigarette makers to settle case."

- **CDC Public Health Law News**

*June 29, 2005*

Articles of interest: "In the desert, a soul's journey vs. water risk," "Swimming pool owners targeted in fight against West Nile," "Smoking ban confuses businesses, customers," "Fireworks spark cross-border trips," "Home labs may soon vanish, but not meth," "Texas inmates to take HIV test before release," "Zero-tolerance gets another look," "Feds seeks \$14 billion in tobacco penalties," "Time for drastic changes in tall buildings? Experts disagree," and "'Boozecans' targeted."

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## Publications - Highlighted Journal Articles

- ***American Journal of Public Health***

*June 1, 2005; Vol. 95, No. 6*

<http://www.ajph.org/content/vol95/issue6/?etoc>

- ***The Journal of the American Medical Association***

*June 1, 2005; Vol. 293, No. 21*

<http://jama.ama-assn.org/content/vol293/issue21/index.dtl?etoc>

- **Potential Deterrent Effect of Name-Based HIV Infection Surveillance**

*Source: JAIDS, June 1, 2005, Volume 39, Number 2*

With the development of more effective therapies, which significantly delay the onset of AIDS for many people, public health experts believe the numbers of AIDS cases and deaths are no longer reliable measures for monitoring the epidemic. Guidelines issued by the Centers for

Disease Control (CDC) have recommended that all states extend their reporting requirements from late-stage HIV infection (AIDS cases) to initial HIV infection diagnosis.

- ***MMWR Weekly***  
*June 3, 2005, Volume 54, No. 21*
- ***The Journal of the American Medical Association***  
*June 8, 2005; Vol. 293, No. 22*  
<http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/293/22/2693?etoc>
- ***The Journal of the American Medical Association***  
*June 8, 2005; Vol. 293, No. 22*  
Issue dedicated to tuberculosis.
- **Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Infant Mortality--United States, 1995-2005**  
*Source: MMWR Weekly, June 10, 2005/54(22);553-556*  
A national health objective for the year 2000 was to reduce the infant mortality rate (IMR) in the United States to 7.0 deaths per 1000 live births among infants aged <1 year (1,2). The national health objective for 2010 targets a rate of 4.5 infant deaths per 1000 live births (3); an overarching goal calls for eliminating disparities among racial and ethnic populations. To examine racial and ethnic disparities in IMRs, data were analyzed from the National Vital Statistics System for the period 1995-2002. IMRs were calculated by race/ethnicity of the mother in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia (DC).
- ***MMWR Weekly***  
*June 10, 2005, Volume 54, No. 22*
- ***The Journal of the American Medical Association***  
*June 15, 2005; Vol. 293, No. 23*  
<http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/293/23/2831?etoc>
- ***The Journal of the American Medical Association***  
*June 22, 2005; Vol. 293, No. 24*  
<http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/293/24/1967?etoc>
- **Combined Tetanus, Diphtheria, and 5-Component Pertussis Vaccine for Use in Adolescents and Adults**  
*Source: The Journal of the American Medical Association, June 21, 2005*  
In 2003, 11,647 cases of pertussis, many in adolescents and adults, were reported to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Preliminary CDC data for 2004 indicate an increase to 18,957 cases. Although increased awareness and improved diagnostic methods may increase reporting, factors such as the variable efficacy of whole-cell pertussis vaccines previously used in the United States, undervaccination in childhood, and waning immunity in adolescents and adults may also explain an increase in incidence.
- **New Human Retroviruses Discovered**  
*Source: The Journal of the American Medical Association, June 21, 2005*  
The path that HIV is believed to have traveled, from nonhuman primates in central Africa to the humans who have direct contact with them, may be a well-beaten one. Cross-species transmission of retroviruses was once thought to be a rare event. Now, however, the discovery of two new primate retroviruses adds to the evidence that these viruses may be actively and frequently jumping the species barrier.

- **MMWR Weekly**  
*June 24, 2005, Volume 54, No. 24*
- **New Combination Vaccine**  
*Source: The Journal of the American Medical Association, June 29, 2005*  
The first combination booster vaccine against pertussis, tetanus, and diphtheria for adolescents has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration. It will be marketed as Boostrix by GlaxoSmithKline Inc (Brentford, Middlesex, England) and indicated for use as a single booster dose to adolescents aged 10 to 18 years. Although combination booster vaccines exist against tetanus and diphtheria, this is the first to include pertussis, a highly communicable disease that can be particularly serious for infants.

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## Publications - Reports

- **Kitsap County Health District 2004 Annual Report**  
The 2004 report provides an overview of the public health services provided last year with an emphasis on public health partnerships. The report also highlights the new home office in the Norm Dicks Government Center in Bremerton, Washington.
- **Washington State Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Animal Health and Consumer Services Monthly Report**

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## Rule Development

### Proposed Rule Making (CR-102)

#### **WAC 246-100-166 Immunizations of child care and school children against certain vaccine preventable diseases**

*CR-102 filed: June 1, 2005*

WAC 246-100-166 is to be revised to require immunization against varicella (chickenpox) or documentation of disease as a condition for children 19 months through age 12 in licensed child care centers or schools.

### Rule Making Order (CR-103)

#### **WAC 388-106-0720, -0725, -0730, -0735, -0740**

*CR-103 Date Adopted: June 24, 2005*

Adopting new rules to implement the Medicare-Medicaid Integration Program (MMIP), a new and innovative managed care program in the state of Washington that will combine long-term and medical services under one coordinated service delivery model and capitated payment structure, thereby improving client health outcomes through increased coordination, while better managing Medicaid expenditures.

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