



For Your Information – October 2006

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.

- [Events and Conferences](#)
- [Correspondence](#)
- [Local Boards of Health: Minutes and Agendas](#)
- [General Interest](#)
- [Public Health Leadership Positions Available](#)
- Publications
 - [General Media](#)
 - [Inside this Issue](#)
 - [Highlighted Journal Articles](#)

Events and Conferences

September 2006

Date	Name and Location
Sept. 12-15	ASTHO Annual Meeting Hyatt Regency Atlanta Hotel Atlanta, Georgia For Information: www.astho.org
Sept. 27-29	2006 Food Safety Education Conference - Reaching at-risk audiences and today's other food safety challenges Adam's Mark Hotel Denver, Colorado For Information: www.fsis.usda.gov/denver2006

October 2006

Date	Name and Location
-------------	--------------------------

- Oct. 15-17 **National Academy for State Health Policy's 19th Annual State Health Policy Conference**
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
For information: www.nashp.org
- Oct. 16-18 **Joint Conference on Health**
"Health Across the Generations: Demonstrating the Value of Public Health"
Yakima Convention Center
Yakima, Washington
For information: <http://www.wspaha.org>
- Oct. 17-20 **Quality Health Care for Culturally Diverse Populations: Building the Essential Link between Quality, Cultural Competence, and Disparities Reduction**
Renaissance Seattle Hotel
Seattle, Washington
For information: www.diversityrx.org/CCCONF/06/index.html
- Oct. 18-19 **Northwest Environmental Summit**
Greater Tacoma Convention & Trade Center
Tacoma, Washington
For information: www.envsummit.com/
- Oct. 26-27 **Blood Borne: A Silent Epidemic**
Hyatt Regency
Chicago, Illinois
For information: amy.shaeffer@commonhealthcenter.org

November 2006

- | Date | Name and Location |
|-------------|---|
| Nov. 4-8 | Public Health and Human Rights: American Public Health Association's 134th Annual Meeting and Exposition
Boston Convention & Exhibition Center
Boston, Massachusetts
For information: http://apha.org/meetings/ |
| Nov. 9-10 | Improving Health Through Partnerships: 2006 Tribal Leader Health Summit
Little Creek Casino Resort
Shelton, Washington
For information: http://www.aihc-wa.org |

December 2006

- | Date | Name and Location |
|-------------|--------------------------|
|-------------|--------------------------|

- Dec. 4-5 **Washington State Conference on Quality-Based Health Care Purchasing**
 Bell Harbor Conference Center
 Seattle, Washington
 For information:
<http://www.pugetsoundhealthalliance.org/qualityconference/>
- Dec. 4-6 **National Environmental Public Health Conference**
 Atlanta, Georgia
 For information: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/conference/index.htm>
- Dec. 5 **Fundamentals of Psychological Preparedness for Human Remains Exposure (HRE) Workshop: Preparing for the Worst**
 Arlington, Virginia
 For information: http://www.homelanddefensejournal.com/hdl/conf_hre06.htm
- Dec. 12 **Washington Health Legislative Conference**
Getting From Here to There: Alternative Strategies for a Healthy Future
 SeaTac Hilton
 SeaTac, Washington
 For information: <http://depts.washington.edu/rchpol/events/legcon06index.htm>

February 2007

- | Date | Name and Location |
|-------------|---|
| Feb. 8-10 | 6th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth Conference
Westin Bonaventure Hotel
Los Angeles, California
For information: http://www.newpartners.org/ |

[Index](#)

Correspondence

Correspondence from the Board

To: Mr. John Eric Rolfstad, Executive Director, People's Memorial Association
From: Kim Marie Thorburn, MD, MPH, Chair, Washington State Board of Health, October 2, 2006
Response to letter regarding request for clarification of chapter 246-500 WAC, Handling of Human Remains.

To: Mr. Reed Tacia
From: Kim Marie Thorburn, MD, MPH, Chair, Washington State Board of Health, October 6, 2006
Response to letter concerning Island County Health Department's on-site sewage system program.

To: Ms. Karen Valenzuela, Washington State Department of Health

From: Kim Marie Thorburn, MD, MPH, Chair, Washington State Board of Health, October 6, 2006
*Letter of support regarding proposed resolution to the Washington State Public Health Association
"Addressing the Public Health Implications of the Built Environment"*

Correspondence to the Board

None.

Other Correspondence

None.

Index

Local Boards of Health: Agendas and Meeting Minutes

Chelan-Douglas Board of Health Minutes

September 18, 2006

- General business
 - Call meeting to order
- Consent agenda
 - Approval of August 21 minutes
 - Approval of August payroll and benefits
 - Approval of payment of vouchers 20060603 to 20060688
 - Contracts: Consolidated Contract Amendment #12; ARS/EIP Alternative Response/Early Intervention; Foster Care Public Health Nurse Passport Services; DOH Amendment N15434-Steps Program
- Program Update: Public policies that impact health
- Board discussion
- Public comment
- New business
 - Resolution 2006-009 O & M Licensing Requirements
- Unfinished business
- Reports
 - Administrator
 - Support services
 - Personal health services
 - Environmental health services
- Adjournment

Chelan-Douglas Board of Health Minutes

August 21, 2006

- Reports
 - Administrator - Murdock Trust Foundation Grant
- General business
 - Call meeting to order
- Consent Agenda
 - Approval of July 17 meeting minutes

- Approval of July payroll and July benefits
- Approval of payment of vouchers 20060492 to 20060602, plus 20060454 to 200660470
- Contract Matrix
- Program update - Dental Health Program
- New business
 - Discussion of BOH alternatives
 - Resolution 2006-007 surplus property
 - Resolution 2006-008 accept electronic payments
- Unfinished business
 - Resolution 2006-006 public records officer
- Adjournment

Grant County Board of Health Agenda

September 6, 2006

- Approval of August 9, 2006 minutes
- Public forum for citizen's comments and applications
- Environmental health report
 - amendment of the food ordinance proposal
- Personal health/administrator report
- Health officer's report
 - smoking variance
 - chickenpox update
- Approval of vouchers for August 31, 2006
- Other business
- Adjournment

Jefferson County Board of Health Agenda

September 21, 2006

- Approval of agenda
- Approval of August 17 minutes
- Public comments
- Old business and information items
 - First confirmed human west nile case in Washington
 - Beneficial use of biosolids in Jefferson County
 - Migratory bird testing results
 - Washington smoking rate drops
- New business
 - Initiative 901: Jefferson County Responds
 - 2007 performance measures
 - State Association of Local Boards of Health proposal
 - Report to City of Port Townsend
- Activity Update
 - Co-Occurring Disorder Integrated Treatment Training October 2, 2006
- Agenda Planning

Jefferson County Board of Health Agenda

August 17, 2006

- Approval of agenda
- Approval of July 20 minutes
- Public comments - None
- Old business and information items
 - Information services and facility charges to the Health Department
 - Board recommendations: Green business
 - Cyanobacteria and Vibriosis update
 - JCPH public education and outreach plan
- New business
 - Joint Committee on Public Health Financing
 - Health care worker vaccination - time for a mandate?
 - Jefferson County Public Health Preparedness Point of Dispensing Exercise
 - Activity update/Agenda Planning
 - Pandemic Influenza community forums

King County Board of Health Agenda

October 20, 2006

- Call to order
- Announcement of any alternates serving in place of regular members
- Approval of September 15 minutes
- General public comments
- Chair's report
- Board member's updates
- Director's report
- Administrator's report
- Health Code Merger Process (Action Item)
- Amendment to the King County Board of Health Operating Rules (Action Item)
- Public Health Funding
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month (Action Item)
- Overweight Prevention Initiative
- Adjournment

King County Board of Health Agenda

September 15, 2006

- Call to Order
- Announcement of Any Alternates Serving in Place of Regular Members
- Approval of July 14 and July 25 (Action Item)
- General Public Comments
- Chair's Report
- Board Member's Updates
- Director's Report
- Administrator's Report
- Health Code Merger Process
- Public Health Operational Master Plan (PHOMP) Update
- Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)

- Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- Adjournment

King County Board of Health Agenda

August 18, 2006

Meeting cancelled. Next meeting September 15, 2006

Kittitas County Board of Health Agenda

October 25, 2006 ~ Special Meeting

- Business: Public Meeting for review and BOH approval of Gibson Solid Waste Permit Application

Kittitas County Board of Health Agenda

October 19, 2006

- Approval of September 21 minutes
- Introductions and announcements
 - BOHAC representative(s)
 - Introduction of new staff
- Contracts and amendments: Consolidated contract #C13037 Amendment #13
- Department Updates/Issues: Staffing replacements progress report
- Business:
 - Preparations for two mass flu clinics (October 24 & 31)
 - Special Board of Health meeting for public testimony and BOH approval of Gibson Solid Waste Permit Application (Wed., October 25, 2006, 10 a.m., Commissioners' Auditorium): explanation of process
 - Recruitment and staff retention issues
 - Pandemic flu antiviral purchase opportunity

Kittitas County Board of Health Agenda

September 21, 2006

- Approval of July 20 and August 17 minutes
- Approval of August 22 and August 28 special meeting minutes
- Introductions and announcements: BOHAC representatives
- Department Updates/Issues: Staffing replacements progress report
- Business:
 - Flu clinic planning
 - Coordination of Community Healthcare Coalition for provision of county-wide emergency healthcare services
 - The Centers for Disease Control's new national distribution system for vaccines

Kittitas County Board of Health Agenda

August 17, 2006

- Approval of July 20, 2006 minutes
- Introductions and Announcements:
 - BOHAC representative(s)
 - Introduction of new staff (WIC Coordinator, Assessment Coordinator/HP Manager, Health Educator)
- Contracts and Amendments:

- Interpreter FFP Administrative Match Contract, DSHS Contract #0563-83289 Amendment #1
- Consolidated Contract #C13037 Amendment #11
- Department Updates/Issues
- Business – Staffing replacements progress report – Cathy Bambrick

Snohomish Health District Board of Health Agenda

September 12, 2006

- Call to order and roll call
- Chair's report
 - Update on search to replace retiring health officer
 - Executive committee minutes
- Health officer's report
 - Recognition of Tuberculosis team as the health district team of the quarter
 - Healthy communities update
 - Monthly report
- Approval of August 15 minutes
- Public comment period
- Committee reports and standing reports
 - Administration committee
 - Program policy committee
 - Standing reports and comments - 1) communicable disease report 2) community health division report 3) environmental health division report 4) vital statistics report
- Consent agenda
 - Approval of resolution 06-13
 - Approval of increase in adult vaccination administration fee and influenza fee
- Action items
 - Approval of compensation study recommendation
- Discussion items - none
- Information items
 - Scheduled meetings
- Executive session - as needed
- Other business
- Adjournment

Snohomish Health District Board of Health Agenda

August 15, 2006

- Call to order and roll call
- Chair's report
 - Appointment of members of environmental health fee committee
 - Search committee to replace retiring Health Officers
 - Report on NALBOH conference
- Health officer's report
 - Monthly report
- Approval of July 11 minutes
- Public comment period
- Committee reports and standing reports

- Administration committee
- Program policy committee
- Standing reports and comments - 1) communicable disease report 2) community health division report 3) environmental health division report
- 4) vital statistics report 5) financial report
- Consent agenda
 - Approval of resolution 06-12
 - Approval of Tamiflu stockpile purchase for health district employees and families
- Action items
 - Approval of increase in .5 FTE Web Designer to 1.0 FTE
 - Approval of remodeling plan for third floor of Rucker Building
 - Approval of capital budget increase for generator
 - Approval of policy regarding hiring tobacco-free employees
- Discussion items - none
- Information items
 - 2005 Snohomish Health District Audit report
 - North Region EMS & Trauma Care Council mini-grant for safety camps
 - Scheduled meetings
- Executive session
- Other business
- Adjournment

Spokane Board of Health Agenda

September 28, 2006

- Call to order
- Roll Call
- Citizen input
- Chair report
- Health officer report
- Approval of July 26 minutes and July 27 minutes
- Approval of vouchers July 1-31 and August 1-31
- Reports
 - Washington State Board of Health
 - Onsite Sewage Program
 - Spokane county Smile Survey Results
- Board member concerns

Tacoma Pierce County Board of Health Agenda

September 6, 2006

- Comments by the public
- Consent Agenda
 - Approval of August 2 minutes
 - Approval of resolutions 2006-3885 through 2006-3886
- Regular Agenda
 - Approval of resolutions 2006-3887 through 2006-3893
- Director of health comments
 - Puyallup Street Scramble held on Saturday, August 26, 2006

- Needle exchange update
- Comments by Board of Health members
- Executive Session
- Adjournment

Tacoma Pierce County Board of Health Agenda

August 2, 2006

- Comments by the public
- Consent Agenda
 - Approval of August 2 minutes
 - Approval of resolutions 2006-3874 through 2006-3878
- Regular Agenda
 - Approval of resolutions 2006-3879 through 2006-3884
- Director of health comments
 - Open house
 - Puyallup Street Scramble
 - WSPHA
 - Update: Antiviral purchasing, pandemic flu preparations include stockpiling medications to protect Pierce County
 - Quality improvement
- Comments by Board of Health members
- Executive Session
- Adjournment

Thurston County Board of Health Agenda

October 2, 2006

- Call meeting to order
- Approval of agenda.
- Approval of September 11 minutes
- Update on Citizen Issues
- Opportunity for the public to address the board
- Consent Items - None
- HIV counseling, referral and testing at the accountability & restitution center
- No Motion – Information Only
- Director's Report
- Health Officer's Report
- Adjournment

Thurston County Board of Health Minutes

September 11, 2006

- Call meeting to order
- Introduction of new staff
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of August 7 Minutes
- Correspondence: NACCHO Letter of Appreciation; Steve Davies and John Ward Commendation Email
- Update on citizen issues - None

- Opportunity for the public to address the board - None
- Consent items ~ Lewis County Interlocal Agreement for Health Officer Services Amendment No.1
- Influenza vaccine for essential workers
- Update on joint select committee on public health finance: 4410 committee
- Director's report - None
- Health officer's report - None
- Adjournment

[Index](#)

Public Health Leadership Positions Available

Program Analyst

Kittitas County Health Department

Closes: When Filled

For information:

<http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/hr/jobs.asp?jobID=337>

Public Health Director

Kittitas County Health Department

Closes: When Filled

For information:

<http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/hr/jobs.asp?jobID=346>

Public Health Nurse II - Communicable Disease Prevention

Kittitas County Health Department

Closes: When Filled

For information:

<http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/hr/jobs.asp?jobID=347>

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>

[Index](#)

Publications - General Media

CDC: Make HIV tests part of routine medical care for all Americans 13-64

USA Today, September 21, 2006

AIDS virus testing should be offered regularly to everyone ages 13 to 64 in every hospital, doctor's office and clinic to speed diagnosis and help curb the epidemic, federal health officials recommended Thursday. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommendations are not legally binding, but they are designed to make HIV testing as routine as tests for high blood pressure, cholesterol and

diabetes. About 1 million people in the USA are HIV-positive, but 250,000 of them have not been diagnosed, according to the CDC.

Health Clinic Breaks Ground

Spokesman Review, September 30, 2006

A circle of Indian children and elders, politicians and activists broke ground Friday for the NATIVE Project's new health care facility in Spokane's West Central neighborhood. They did so with sticks used to dig camas root, the traditional food of Northwest tribes, after Kalispel elder Francis Cullooyah blessed the soil. The \$3.9 million expansion will combine NATIVE's health and behavioral health clinics, which last year provided services to more than 22,000 clients – Indian and non-Indian alike, insured and uninsured.

Howard flu-shot drive-in to test readiness

Washington Post, October 12, 2006

In an event being billed as one of the most ambitious drive-through flu clinics in the nation's history, Howard County health officials hope to immunize as many as 2,000 men, women and children Sunday. The clinic will be located along the two-mile outer loop of Columbia Gateway Drive. Beyond getting people ready for the flu season, it will help the community test its ability to respond to a health emergency requiring the rapid and orderly distribution of a vaccine or other medication.

More infant deaths tied to premature birth

Seattle Times, October 2, 2006

ATLANTA — Scientists now say a third of infant deaths are due to premature births, a much larger percentage than previously thought. In the past, "preterm birth" has been the listed cause of death in fewer than 20 percent of newborn fatalities. But that number should be 34 percent or more, said researchers at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That's because at least a dozen causes of newborn death are actually problems that go hand in hand with premature births, such as respiratory distress syndrome caused by underdeveloped lungs. "This brings preterm birth, as a cause of death, to the kind of level that we think it deserves," said the CDC's Dr. Bill Callaghan, the lead author of a study appearing today in the journal Pediatrics.

New vaccine would target ear, sinus infections

MSNBC, September 25, 2006

U.S. researchers said on Tuesday they are starting trials of a new vaccine aimed at wiping out childhood ear and sinus infections and many cases of bronchitis in adults. Unlike virtually all other vaccines on the market, this one will not be aimed at saving lives, but at preventing nuisance illnesses, the researchers said.

Program introduces children to dental care

Spokesman Review, September 21, 2006

Name of program: Access to Baby and Child Dentistry.

What it does: Dr. Kim Thorburn, health officer at the Spokane Regional Health District that the program helps Medicaid-eligible kids from birth to age 6 get access to dental care. The health district also coordinates training of volunteer dentists who may not be used to treating children. The dentists are reimbursed by Medicaid.

The health district also provides case management to help parents make and keep appointments with the dentists.

"There is real evidence that this program is working," she said.

Small-town medicine

Seattle Times, October 2, 2006

When Dr. LeeAnna Muzquiz was growing up on the Flathead Indian Reservation in northwestern Montana, doctors seemed to come and go. She saw her dad die in his 40s of a heart attack and other family members deal with chronic health problems without the benefit of consistent, quality medical care. A member of the Salish and Kootenai tribes, Muzquiz decided she wanted to do something to help her people.

Snack Food Producers to Provide More Nutritious Foods to Schools

New York Times, October 6, 2006

In an effort to fight the rise in childhood obesity, five of the country's largest snack food producers announced today that they would start providing more nutritious foods to schools to replace sugary, fat-laden products in vending machines and cafeterias. Removing doughnuts, ice cream, candy, cupcakes, potato chips and energy bars from the machines, lunch lines, school stores and even fund-raising events is the goal of a voluntary agreement between the companies and the Alliance for a Healthier Generation.

Speed of the Spread of Flu Is Linked to Airline Travel

New York Times, September 12, 2006

Airline travel has a significant effect on the spread of influenza, a new study reports, raising the question of whether flight restrictions may be helpful in controlling a pandemic. Although computer simulations have already suggested a link, this study, published online yesterday in PLoS Medicine, offers the first observations of the phenomenon.

Whooping cough, school vaccination policy linked

Seattle PI, October 11, 2006

CHICAGO -- State laws in Washington and elsewhere that make it easy for children to skip school-required vaccinations may be contributing to whooping cough outbreaks around the country, a study suggests. All states allow children to be exempted from school immunization requirements for medical reasons -- because they might have a bad reaction, for example, or have weak immune systems -- and 48 states allow exemptions for personal or religious beliefs.

[Index](#)

Publications - Inside This Issue

Advances

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, September 2006

- IOM Report Urges More Resources to Reverse Childhood Obesity Epidemic
- America's Obesity Epidemic Getting Worse
- RWJF and Tavis Smiley Presents Partner on Eliminating Childhood Obesity
- Gulf Coast Residents to Receive Special Community Health Leadership Awards
- Partners in Nursing's Future Establishes Local and Regional Partnerships to Develop Nursing Workforce Strategies
- New PBS Series Explores *Remaking American Medicine*
- Jaguars Foundation Receives 2006 Steve Patterson Sports Philanthropy Award
- Health Courts: An Alternative for Resolving Medical Liability Claims

Media Advocacy Sustains and Advances Tobacco Policy Gains

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

Alliance

Western Washington Area Health Education Center

<http://www.wwahec.org>

E-Health

Association of State and Territory Health Officials

<http://www.astho.org/newsletter/newsletters/2/archives.php?u=Jmk9Mg%3D%3D>

Elaborations

Department of Health

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

Environmental Health News

Association of State and Territory Health Officials

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

Environmental Health Perspectives

Journal of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Vol. 114, No. 10, October 2006

Focus: Caring for Children Amidst Chaos: Guidelines to Maintain Health

Spheres of influence: Registering Skepticism: Does the EPA's Pesticide Review Protect Children?

Neurodevelopment : Folate Genes Associated with Neural Tube Defects

Cancer: Cancer Risk Assessment of Inner-City Teenagers

Asthma: Swimming Pools and Childhood Asthma

Mini-monograph: Ethics in Children's Environmental Health Research

Book review: Power, Justice, and the Environment

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

EpiLog

Public Health Seattle & King County, Vol. 46, No. 9, September 2006

- Update on Multi-State Outbreak of *E. coli* O157:H7 Infections Associated with Consumption of Fresh Spinach

- First Human West Nile Virus Infection in Washington: Two Cases Reported From Pierce County

- Pandemic Flu Factsheets for Patients

- Medical and Support Volunteers Wanted for Public Health Reserve Corps

- Communicable Disease and Epidemiology contact information

- Reported Cases of Selected Diseases in Seattle and King County

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

Public Health Preparedness

Association of State and Territory Health Officials, September 2006

DPHP Annual Meeting

National Preparedness Month

Meeting the Performance Measures: Case Studies from the States

Promising Practices

Federal Updates

ASTHO Publications and Resources

State News

Upcoming Events

Public Health Preparedness Resources and Reports

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

State Health Notes

Forum for State Health Policy Leadership, Vol. 27, Issue 477, October 16, 2006

- The HPV vaccine and the states
- Montana law paves way for collaboration between indian tribes and state
- California looks to dental hygienists to improve dental care
- **Highlights and graphically speaking**—Prescription drugs: Border Seizures to End; Ohio Begins Prescription Monitoring Program; Prescription Drug Abuse Up, Other Abuse Down in California Students; A Preference for Phones or “Snail Mail”

State Health Notes

Forum for State Health Policy Leadership, Vol. 27, Issue 477, October 2, 2006

- **State news:** Newly approved by the FDA for over-the-counter sale, the Plan B emergency contraceptive poses a myriad of policy questions for states; A lawsuit has temporarily blocked SB1137, which aims to toughen California's drug treatment law by imposing jail time to those who don't adhere to drug court requirements.
- **Highlights:** Cover Tennessee details...Health Insurance Premiums Slow...HIV Testing Guidelines...U.S. Ranks Low on Quality Standards...Suicide Rates.
- **Graphically speaking:** Data show that the rate of obesity and overweight is increasing. Also, coordination among and evaluation of prevention programs is lacking.

State Health Notes

Forum for State Health Policy Leadership, Vol. 27, Issue 475, September 18, 2006

- **State news:** Ask the experts: what lessons does Maryland's “play-or-pay” hold for other states?; In November, Arkansas will launch the Safety Net Benefit Program, a premium assistance plan to help small businesses offer basic coverage to their employees.
- **Highlights:** Circumcision and Infection...Health Coverage for Kids Declines...Improving Mammography Rates Among Women...DEA Pain Policy...Inmates and Mental Health
- **Graphically speaking:** Population survey shows illicit drug use among people aged 50 to 59 increased; rates among youth decline.

[Index](#)

Publications - Highlighted Journal Articles

Nonmedical Exemptions to School Immunization Requirements

JAMA, Vol. 296, No. 14, October 11, 2006

School immunization requirements have played a major role in controlling vaccine-preventable diseases in the United States. Most states offer nonmedical exemptions to school requirements (religious or personal belief). Exemptors are at increased risk of acquiring and transmitting disease. The role of exemption policies may be especially important for pertussis, which is endemic in the United States.

Perceived Barriers to Walking for Physical Activity

CDC Preventing Chronic Disease, Vol. 3, No. 4, October 2006

Although the health benefits of walking for physical activity have received increasing research attention, barriers specific to walking are not well understood. In this study, questions to measure barriers to walking for physical activity were developed and tested among college students. The factor structure, test–retest and internal consistency reliability, and discriminant and criterion validity of the perceived barriers were evaluated.

Revised Recommendations for HIV Testing of Adults, Adolescents, and Pregnant Women in Health-care Settings

MMWR, Vol. 55, No. RR-14, September 22, 2006

These recommendations for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) testing are intended for all health-care providers in the public and private sectors, including those working in hospital emergency departments, urgent care clinics, inpatient services, substance abuse treatment clinics, public health clinics, community clinics, correctional health-care facilities, and primary care settings. The recommendations address HIV testing in health-care settings only.

[Index](#)

General Interest

Progress in Preventing Childhood Obesity: How Do We Measure Up?

Institute of Medicine, September 13, 2006

The Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Committee on Progress in Preventing Childhood Obesity report, *Progress in Preventing Childhood Obesity: How Do We Measure Up?*, examines the progress made by obesity prevention initiatives in the United States over the past two years.

The report builds on the IOM's 2005 report, *Preventing Childhood Obesity: Health in the Balance*, which was a congressionally mandated study that provided a blueprint to guide concerted actions for many stakeholders--including government, industry, media, communities, schools, and families--to collectively respond to the growing obesity epidemic in children and youth.

To extend the reach and impact of the *Health in the Balance* report, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation requested in 2005 that the IOM convene an expert committee to examine the nation's progress in addressing obesity in children and youth. This report, *Progress in Preventing Childhood Obesity: How Do We Measure Up?* presents the committee's conclusions and recommendations.

The report emphasizes a call to action for key stakeholders and sectors to lead and commit to childhood obesity prevention, evaluate all policies and programs, monitor their progress, and widely disseminate promising practices.

[Index](#)