



## For Your Information – June 2008

At the State Board of Health (SBOH), we believe information is essential. For several years we have been making SBOH and health-related information available through the distribution of our Board meeting agendas with an attached segment simply called, "FYI". To make this information more accessible we have created this Web page. This page will be updated on a regular basis and should be considered the go-to source for current information on correspondence to and from the Board, a selection of health publications, and health-related conferences.

- [Events and Conferences](#)
- [Correspondence](#)
- [General Interest](#)
- [Public Health Leadership Positions Available](#)
- Publications
  - [General Media](#)
  - [Highlighted Journal Articles](#)
  - [Inside this Issue](#)
- [Rule Development](#)

### Events and Conferences

#### June 2008

Date	Name and Location
Jun. 2-3	<b>Putting the Pieces Together...Building successful community healthcare collaboratives that improve healthcare access, care and quality</b> Holiday Inn SeaTac SeaTac, Washington For information: <a href="http://www.wacommunitiesconnect.org/Conference.html">http://www.wacommunitiesconnect.org/Conference.html</a>
Jun. 10	<b>Annual Injury &amp; Violence Prevention Symposium</b> Washington State Legislative Building, Columbia Room Olympia, Washington
Jun. 12	<b>Fundamentals of Environmental Justice workshop</b> Seattle, Washington For information: Running Grass, <a href="mailto:Grass.Running@epamail.epa.gov">Grass.Running@epamail.epa.gov</a>
Jun. 12	<b>Postpartum Mood Disorders: A Community Discussion of PPMDs</b> Downtown Spokane Public Library Spokane, Washington For information: <a href="mailto:wcpcan@wcpcan.wa.gov">wcpcan@wcpcan.wa.gov</a>
Jun. 22-25	<b>National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) 72nd Annual Educational</b>

## **Conference & Exhibition**

Tucson, Arizona

For information: [www.neha.org](http://www.neha.org)

- Jun. 26 **Fundamentals of Environmental Justice workshop**  
Seattle, Washington  
For information: Running Grass, [Grass.Running@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Grass.Running@epamail.epa.gov)

## **July 2008**

### **Date Name and Location**

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

## **September 2008**

### **Date Name and Location**

- Sep. 9-12 **ASTHO-NACCHO 2008 Joint Conference**  
Sacramento, California  
For information: [http://www.naccho.org/conferences/NACCHOannual06/documents/NA\\_Conf\\_Guide\\_Back\\_Page.pdf](http://www.naccho.org/conferences/NACCHOannual06/documents/NA_Conf_Guide_Back_Page.pdf)
- Sep. 21-24 **Sixth National Conference on Quality Health Care for Culturally Diverse Populations**  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
For information: <http://www.diversityrxconference.com/>
- Sep. 28 - Oct. 1 **ESRI Health GIS Conference: Shaping Global Health**  
Washington, DC  
For information: [www.esri.com/healthgis](http://www.esri.com/healthgis)

## **October 2008**

### **Date Name and Location**

- Oct. 25-29 **Public Health without Borders - APHA 136th Annual Meeting and Exposition**  
San Diego, California  
For information: <http://www.apha.org/meetings/>

## **June 2009**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name and Location</b>
Jun. 21-24	<b>National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) 73rd Annual Education Conference</b> Atlanta, Georgia For information: <a href="http://www.neha.org">www.neha.org</a>

## June 2010

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name and Location</b>
Jun. 5-9	<b>National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) 74th Annual Education Conference</b> Albuquerque, New Mexico For information: <a href="http://www.neha.org">www.neha.org</a>

[Index](#)

## Correspondence

### Correspondence from the Board

#### To: Gail Olson Laing

From: Tara Wolff, SBOH Policy Analyst and Pamela Lovinger, Department of Health, Director of Policy and Business Practices, Epidemiology, Health Statistics, and Public Health Laboratories , May 30, 2008

*Letter responding to Ms. Laing's correspondence to the Honorable Mary Lou Dickerson, Washington State Representative, regarding a request to require screening newborns and infants for retinoblastoma.*

[Index](#)

## General Interest

### Children's Environmental Health Disparities Fact Sheets

EPA is pleased to announce the availability of four new fact sheets on children's environmental health disparities. These new fact sheets address disparities in secondhand smoke exposure and asthma among African American and Hispanic American children. Each fact sheet includes important information on actions parents can take to protect their children and positive actions EPA and other organizations are taking to address each specific environmental health issue. The intended audiences are parents and community-based organizations working on environmental health issues of specific minority populations.

These new fact sheets are the first set in a series. EPA plans to develop fact sheets on environmental health disparities among Asian and Pacific Islander American and American Indian children.

#### Children's Environmental Health Disparities:

- Black and African American Children and Asthma
- Black and African American Children and Secondhand Smoke
- Hispanic and Latino American Children and Asthma
- Hispanic and Latino American Children and Secondhand Smoke

To download the fact sheets, see <http://yosemite.epa.gov/ochp/ochpweb.nsf/content/publications2.htm#2>

[Index](#)

## Public Health Leadership Positions Available

### **Assistant Secretary**

Washington State Department of Health, Division of Community and Family Health

Closes: When Filled

### **Director**

Washington State Department of Health, Public Health Systems Planning and Development

Closes: When Filled

### **Health Policy Associate**

Children's Health Alliance

Closes: March 1, 2008

For information: <http://www.childrensalliance.org/joinus/jobopenings.cfm>.

### **Public Health Nurse II - First Steps Program**

Kittitas County Health Department

Closes: When Filled

For information:

<http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/hr/jobs.asp?jobID=348>

### **Senior Analyst - Operational Definition and Exploring Accreditation**

National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)

Closes: When Filled

For information:

<http://www.naccho.org/careers/headquarters/HQ45.cfm>

[Index](#)

## Publications - General Media

### **A Big Problem Solved?: A new study on childhood obesity is no reason to trim back efforts to slim down children.**

*Washington Post, May 30, 2008*

REJOICE IN the new report from the National Center for Health Statistics that suggests that childhood obesity rates may have plateaued. But rejoice for only a moment. As David S. Ludwig of Children's Hospital Boston wrote in a commentary released with the report, "We're not out of the woods by any stretch. Even if the rates don't go up any more, they are so high that the full impact of the childhood obesity epidemic will continue for the next few decades." It's an epidemic that has been more than two decades in the making. Through a combination of factors, which resulted in reduced physical activity and increased consumption of fat-laden snacks and meals, the waistlines of American children have ballooned. And the health consequences have been significant. Ailments that historically have plagued only adults are showing up in children ranging in age from 6 to 17. Gallbladder disease, Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease are just a few of the health complications they face.

## **Eliminating Health Disparities, Achieving Equity**

*Progressive States Network, May 12, 2008*

In 2000, the World Health Organization ranked the US health care system 37th in the world despite spending more than any other country. In 2007, according to the US Census Bureau, the US ranked 42nd in life expectancy. If you are a person of color, a low-wage worker, non-English speaking, or live in a low-income community, the picture is much worse. For instance, the life expectancy for African-Americans is 73.3 years, five years shorter than it is for whites. For African-American men, it is 69.8 years, just above averages in Iran and Syria, but below Nicaragua and Morocco.

## **Extent of the Problem and Causes of Health Disparities**

*Progressive States Network, May 12, 2008*

White Americans have easier and more access to quality health care than people of color. This problem, however, is much more than being insured or uninsured, although non-Hispanic whites do have the lowest rate of uninsured, at 13% of the white US population. The highest uninsured rate is in the Hispanic community, at 36%. For even those with health insurance, people of color are more likely to receive sub-par care, have worse outcomes and are less likely to receive routine or necessary care than whites.

## **Genetic discrimination ban will improve health care**

*Democrat & Chronicle.com, May 21, 2008*

The story of humanity is defined by extraordinary achievements that impact human history. Five years ago, we saw the completion of one of these achievements — the sequencing of the human genome. This triumph in genetics joins the ranks of other momentous scientific discoveries, such as the discovery of the polio vaccine, that completely changed the face of medicine. However, to fully reap the benefits of this latest genetics discovery, we must make sure that our social policy keeps pace with scientific advancement. That is why 13 years ago, I authored and introduced the first version of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act. This vital legislation has been passed by the House and Senate and at this writing awaits the president's signature.

## **The Health Care Gender Gap**

*Progressive States Network, May 12, 2008*

In a similar focus on gender disparities in health care, the National Women's Law Center (NWLC) published two companion reports, *Women and Health Coverage: The Affordability Gap* and *A Framework for Moving Forward*, which document both the particular difficulties women face in accessing quality and affordable health care and the existence of disparities among women across racial, ethnic, and income lines, as well as evaluates health care reform strategies as they impact women's health care needs.

## **Health Care Has Racial, State Disparities: Foundation to Give \$300 Million to Try To Aid Treatment**

*Wall Street Journal, June 5, 2008; Page D8*

African-Americans covered by Medicare are less likely to get recommended mammograms and other important medical tests than white patients, according to new data set to be released Thursday by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The same analysis showed significant disparities among different states. The new analysis showing geographic and racial variance in care was performed by the Dartmouth Atlas Project, using data from the Medicare program -- meaning that all of the patients had similar federal insurance coverage to help pay for key screening and other medical needs.

## **Hint of Hope as Child Obesity Rate Hits Plateau**

*New York Times, May 28, 2008*

Childhood obesity, rising for more than two decades, appears to have hit a plateau, a potentially significant milestone in the battle against excessive weight gain among children. But the finding, based on survey data gathered from 1999 to 2006 by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and published in Wednesday's issue of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, was greeted with guarded optimism. It is not clear if the lull in childhood weight gain is permanent or even if it is the result of public anti-obesity efforts to limit junk food and increase physical activity in schools. Doctors noted that even if the trend held up, 32 percent of American schoolchildren remained overweight or obese, representing an entire generation that will be saddled with weight-related health problems as it ages.

### **How Safe Are Vaccines?**

*Time, May 29, 2008*

Life, if you're a bacterium or virus, boils down to this: finding a pristine human home to provide for your every need, from food and nutrients to shelter against biological storms. As a microbial drifter, you can literally travel the world, hopping from host to host when the opportunity presents itself or when conditions at your temporary residence start heading south. There's no worry about taking along life's necessities either—viruses in particular are adept at traveling light; incapable of reproducing on their own, they think nothing of co-opting the reproductive machinery of their cellular sponsors to help them spawn generation after generation of freeloading progeny. But ever since Edward Jenner, a country doctor in England, inoculated his son and a handful of other children against smallpox in 1796 by exposing them to cowpox pus, things have been tougher on humans' most unwelcome intruders. In the past century, vaccines against diphtheria, polio, pertussis, measles, mumps and rubella, not to mention the more recent additions of hepatitis B and chicken pox, have wired humans with powerful immune sentries to ward off uninvited invasions.

### **Inertia at the Top: Belated, Patchy Response Further Hamstrung By Inadequate Federal Attention, Experts Say (Part 1 of 5)**

*Washington Post, May 19, 2008*

The problem at first was that the problem was ignored: For almost two decades, young people in the United States got fatter and fatter -- ate more, sat more -- and nobody seemed to notice. Not parents or schools, not medical groups or the government. But since the alarm was finally sounded in the late 1990s, the problem has been the country's reaction: a fragmented, inchoate response that critics say has suffered particularly from inadequate direction and dollars at the federal level. "The sense of this as a national health priority just doesn't come through," said Jeffrey P. Koplan of Emory University, a former director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and chairman of the Institute of Medicine's 2004 study of childhood obesity. The top recommendation of that seminal report was for the government to convene a high-level, interdepartmental task force to guide a coordinated response. No such body has been assembled.

### **Large restaurant chains in King County must document nutrition claims**

*Seattle Post-Intelligencer, May 22, 2008*

Large chain restaurants in King County will have to document how they've calculated the calories and fat content in dishes under new nutritional labeling rules that take full effect next year, officials say. The rules require restaurants to use a "reasonable basis" to justify the nutrition information that will be provided to consumers. The county has assembled a list of software packages, nutrition companies and laboratories with the ability to analyze the nutritional content of a burrito, pizza slice or salad. "They need to provide evidence" that information they're providing to the public is accurate, said James Apa, a spokesman for Public Health -- Seattle & King County.

## **Motel has been ruled unsanitary and unsafe -- but it's their home: Renters say rights violated after order to leave**

*Seattle Post-Intelligencer, May 19, 2008*

One day after being ordered out because of unsanitary conditions, several residents of the Green Lake Motel refused to abandon their homes Monday. Granting a state Health Department request, an administrative court judge Thursday ordered that the Aurora Avenue North motel be emptied by midnight Sunday. But Monday, at least eight long-time residents of apartment-style units there wouldn't leave, arguing that the eleventh-hour order violates their rights as renters. "I don't know how they can call us anything but tenants," said Stephanie Morris, who has lived at the motel for two years. Morris said the motel owner, who is responsible for removing residents, ought to go through a 30-day eviction process.

## **Motel hell adds a layer to homeless problem**

*Seattle Post-Intelligencer, May 22, 2008*

If you look at the bare facts, it's easy to understand the frustration of those facing ouster from the Green Lake Motel. The owners of the rundown motel and apartments in the 8900 block of Aurora Avenue North say the remaining half-dozen tenants must go. State health officials recently blasted the owners for failing to keep the property safe and clean, and suspended the business's license. But really, who ends up paying the price? The working-class tenants -- that's who.

## **NYC calorie-count rule effective immediately: court**

*Yahoo News, April 30, 2008*

NEW YORK (Reuters) - A federal appeals court said on Tuesday that a new rule requiring New York City fast food restaurants to post calorie information on menu boards is effective immediately.

A spokeswoman for the city law department said the city expects restaurants to begin complying with the rule by midnight on Tuesday. The health code provision, which affects businesses that have at least 15 establishments nationwide, requires that restaurants post caloric information on menus and menu boards in the same font and format used to display the name or price of the menu item.

## **Policy Options to Reduce Health Care Disparity**

*Progressive States Network, May 12, 2008*

Despite these challenges, states are taking a leading role in working to eliminate health disparities. A growing emphasis on cultural competency training for providers and ensuring interpretive services is helping to empower patients to take more control of their health needs. Recent state initiatives to ensure coordination among state agencies and the development of long-term plans to identify and eliminate disparities are improving the health care infrastructure and shedding light on the needs of underserved populations. While more needs to be done, the growing awareness of health disparities will help result in greater adoption of many key policy options described below.

## **Research Finds Wide Disparities in Health Care by Race and Region**

*The New York Times, June 5, 2008*

Race and place of residence can have a staggering impact on the course and quality of the medical treatment a patient receives, according to new research showing that blacks with diabetes or vascular disease are nearly five times more likely than whites to have a leg amputated and that women in Mississippi are far less likely to have mammograms than those in Maine. The study, by researchers at Dartmouth, examined Medicare claims for evidence of racial and geographic disparities and found that on a variety of quality indices, blacks typically were less likely to receive recommended care than whites within a given region. But the most striking disparities were found from place to place. For instance, the widest racial gaps in mammogram rates within a state were in California and Illinois, with a difference of 12 percentage points between the white rate and the black rate. But the country's lowest

rate for blacks — 48 percent in California — was 24 percentage points below the highest rate — 72 percent in Massachusetts. The statistics were for women ages 65 to 69 who received screening in 2004 or 2005.

### **RWJF Awards \$2.5 Million to Reduce Disparities in Care for Cardiovascular Disease, Diabetes and Depression**

*RWJF, May 23, 2008*

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has awarded more than \$2.5 million to 10 organizations for initiatives designed to reduce racial and ethnic health care disparities, Nursing Spectrum reports. Each grant recipient will receive up to \$275,000, awarded under the Foundation's Finding Answers: Disparities Research for Change initiative, to evaluate interventions addressing the quality of care provided to patients with cardiovascular disease, diabetes and depression. Grant recipients include the Arizona Board of Regents, Duke University Medical Center in North Carolina, East Carolina Health/Bertie All-County Health Services, Baylor College of Medicine in Texas, Hudson Health Plan in New York, Indiana University School of Medicine, Mobile County Health Department in Alabama, The Regents of the University of California-Los Angeles, University of Pennsylvania and The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Commenting on the award, John R. Lumpkin, M.D., senior vice president and director of the Health Care Group at RWJF, said "the work of these Finding Answers grantees will help us to identify what works in terms of ensuring that all Americans receive the care they deserve."

### **Strategies to Eliminate Disparities**

*Progressive States Network, May 12, 2008*

As states continue to move comprehensive health care reform and move towards quality health care for all, reform must include concrete steps to eliminate health disparities; achieving universal coverage is only part of the answer. In *Identifying and Evaluating Equity Provisions in State Health Care Reform, The Opportunity Agenda and Families USA* examine health care reform efforts in five influential states - California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Washington - and evaluate how well they are addressing the unique needs of specific groups.

### **Your genes, your privacy**

*USA Today, May 21, 2008*

When National Institutes of Health researchers offer screening for genes linked to breast or colon cancer, about a third of people eligible for the testing typically say no. Most patients say they fear that if tests show they have a genetic predisposition to cancer, they'll have trouble getting or keeping health insurance. Soon, that shouldn't be a worry anymore. President Bush is set to sign a bill today — the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act — that will bar employers or health insurers from penalizing anyone because of genetic testing or because they have a family history of a particular disease. People will be free to be tested without worrying that the results could cost them their job or health insurance.

[Index](#)

## Publications - Highlighted Journal Articles

### Journals Reviewed

#### **American Journal of Preventive Medicine**

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

- Vol. 34, No. 6, June 2008

#### **American Journal of Public Health**

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

- Vol. 98, No. 6, June 1, 2008

#### **Health Affairs**

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

- Vol. 27, No. 3, May/June 2008

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

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

- Vol. 299, No. 21, June 4, 2008
- Vol. 299, No. 20, May 28, 2008
- Vol. 299, No. 19, May 21, 2008
- Vol. 299, No. 18, May 14, 2008

#### **The Journal of Health Politics, Policy & Law**

<http://jhppl.dukejournals.org/archive/>

- Vol. 33, No. 3, June 2008

#### **Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report**

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwr\\_wk.html](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwr_wk.html)

- Vol. 57, No. 22, June 6, 2008
- Vol. 57, No. 21, May 30, 2008
- Vol. 57, No. 20, May 23, 2008
- Vol. 57, No. 19, May 16, 2008
- Vol. 57, No. 18, May 9, 2008

#### **The New England Journal of Medicine**

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

- Vol. 358, No. 23, June 5, 2008
- Vol. 358, No. 22, May 29, 2008
- Vol. 358, No. 21, May 22, 2008
- Vol. 358, No. 20, May 15, 2008
- Vol. 358, No. 19, May 8, 2008

#### **Preventing Chronic Disease**

*CDC*

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

## Highlighted Journal Articles

### **Compliance with Vaccination Recommendations for U.S. Children**

*American Journal of Preventive Medicine, Vol. 34, No. 6, June 2008*

Background: Official recommendations for the routine vaccination of U.S. children, made by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), specify the vaccines for administration, the number of doses that should be given, the age ranges for administration, the minimum ages at which doses are considered valid, the minimum intervals between doses within a series, and several additional vaccine-specific adjustments and exceptions. Federally reported estimates of vaccination coverage measure only compliance with the required number of doses; other recommendations are not routinely evaluated.

Conclusions: Approximately 28% of children were not in compliance with the official vaccination recommendations. Missed doses accounted for approximately two thirds of noncompliance, with the remainder due to mis-timed doses and other requirements. Measuring compliance with all ACIP recommendations provides a valuable tool to assess and improve the quality of healthcare delivery and ensure that children and communities are optimally protected from vaccine-preventable diseases.

### **Newborn Screening Bill**

*JAMA, Vol. 299, No. 18, May 14, 2008*

Congress passed legislation establishing national newborn screening guidelines intended to make comprehensive screening widely available throughout the country. While not a mandate, the Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act of 2007 (S 1858/HR 3825 [<http://thomas.loc.gov>]) is intended to increase the use of comprehensive and standardized newborn screening tests. The federal government estimates that annually about 5000 of the 4.1 million US newborns (1 in 800) are born with a potentially severe or lethal condition for which screening and treatment could prevent many or all of the complications. Proponents of the legislation have argued that it is needed as the number of mandated screening tests for newborns at the state level can be as few as 9. The bill, expected to be signed into law by President George W. Bush, also provides federal funding to educate parents and health care professionals about the importance of newborn screening. Another provision in the legislation calls for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to establish a system for collecting and analyzing data that will help researchers develop better detection, prevention, and treatment strategies.

### **Public Knowledge and Attitudes Regarding Public Health Inspections of Restaurants**

*American Journal of Preventive Medicine, Vol. 34, No. 6, June 2008*

Background: Foodborne diseases cause 76 million illnesses in the U.S. each year, and almost half of all money spent on food is spent in restaurants. Restaurant inspections are a critical public health intervention for the prevention of foodborne disease.

Conclusions: This study identified a number of public misconceptions and unrealistically high expectations of the public health restaurant-inspection system. It is important to improve consumers' understanding of inspection scores and the limitations of regulatory inspections, as well as the role of such inspections in disease prevention.

[Index](#)

## Publications - Inside this Issue

### Advances

*Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, May 2008*

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

- Playing Games to Improve Health at the 2008 Games for Health Conference
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Commission to Hold First Field Hearing in North Carolina
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Childhood Obesity Update from Risa Lavizzo-Mourey
- Washington Post Launches "Young Lives at Risk"
- Smoking is Addictive, But Quitting is Contagious
- New Evidence Provides Clinicians With Better Tools to Help Smokers Quit
- Igniting Health Care Payment Reform
- Report Finds Food Safety System in Crisis
- CeaseFire: A Successful Model for Reducing Violence Among Young People

### C.H.E.F and MissionWise eNews Update

*CHEF and MissionWise, June 3, 2008*

- MissionWise® Addresses Social Enterprise at the Washington State Nonprofit Conference
- C.H.E.F.® Elects Garcia to Board In Continued Effort to Eliminate Health Inequities
- MissionWise® Addresses Power of Public Policy Partnerships at Social Enterprise Summit

### Elaborations

*Department of Health, Vol. XIII, No. 4, June 2008*

[http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/fsl/lqa\\_newsletters.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/fsl/lqa_newsletters.htm)

- Waived Testing: Good Laboratory Practice Guidelines & Recommendations
- Tips for Shipping Infectious Substances: Labeling the Package

### EpiLog

*Public Health Seattle & King County, Vol. 48, No. 5, May 2008*

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

- Measles Outbreaks Continue Throughout the US, Including Washington State
- Temporary Unavailability of Rabies Vaccine for Pre-exposure Vaccination
- Travel Health Information for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, August 8-24, 2008

### EpiTrends

*Department of Health, Vol. 13, No. 5, May 2008*

[http://ww2.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/epitrends/08-epitrends/2008\\_trend.htm](http://ww2.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/epitrends/08-epitrends/2008_trend.htm)

- Measles in Washington State
- Measles in Washington and the United States
- 2008 Measles Outbreak in Grant County, WA
- Controlling Measles

### Healthy GIS

*Health & Human Services Solutions Group of ESRI, Spring 2008*

[http://www.esri.com/industries/health/news\\_community/healthy\\_gis.html](http://www.esri.com/industries/health/news_community/healthy_gis.html)

- GIS Uncovers Hospital Infection Transmission Clues
- An Exercise in Decision Support
- Online Guide Explains Legal Privacy Requirements

- From My View--GIS: Helping Shape Global Health One Nation at a Time, Part I
- ESRI on the Road
- Spatiotemporal Analysis of Syphilis Case Distribution
- Workshop Probes GIS Tools for Analysis and Fieldwork
- Notable Links
- ESRI News
  - ArcGIS Tracking Analyst Visualizes and Analyzes Change over Time
  - Conference Examines Shaping Global Health with GIS
  - ESRI UC Returns to San Diego in August

## **The Nation's Health**

*American Public Health Association, May 2008*

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

### **Nation**

- Faith groups bring new voices to climate change discussion: Social justice, health are key messages
- Shortage of U.S. public health workers projected to worsen: About 250,000 new workers needed
- Genomics heralded as new tool for improving public health: Emerging science
- Advocates call for changes in injury data reporting: Improved e-coding could lead to more prevention techniques
- EPA's smog standard a missed opportunity, advocates report
- Center trains community providers on state-of-the-art diabetes care
- Falls among elderly an ongoing, serious public health problem
- Power plant emissions up, as cleaner energy sought
- Hoping to inspire action, GAO adds U.S. Census to 'at-risk' list
- Immigrants not major factor in nation's health insurance crisis
- Rise in foodborne illnesses from leafy vegetables tied to production
- Educational opportunities offered with 'Unnatural Causes' film series
- Nation in brief

### **State/Local**

- States lack key laws that would offer protections on highways
- Chicago program brings health to area homeless: Providing stable housing proves successful tactic, study finds
- Tight state budgets put strain on critical public health programs
- States in brief

### **Globe**

- Q&A with global health leader Mirta Roses Periago
- International forum tackles global public health work force shortages
- Globe in brief

### **General**

- May 21 webcast to focus on treatment, signs of health care-associated MRSA

### **Healthy You**

- Having fun should include protection from the sun

### **Health Findings**

#### **APHA News**

- National Public Health Week 2008 kicks off: Nation marks 'Climate Change: Our Health in the Balance'
- Registration opens this month for APHA's 136th Annual Meeting
- Applicants sought for new round of APHA traffic safety program
- APHA Learning Institutes offer opportunities for continuing education

- APHA members propose new Association policies
- Association members vote to approve single APHA Bylaws in recent ballot
- APHA Advocates

### **APHA Sections**

- APHA Sections, SPIGs announce nominees for 2008 leadership

### **Affiliates**

- Idaho Affiliate offers health groups a home on the Internet
- Washington Affiliate works to protect kids in cars from smoking
- Study in Florida Affiliate journal receives global news attention

### **Journal Watch**

- President's Column
- Emergency care systems: The safety net of safety nets

### **Letters**

### **Job Openings**

- Web Exclusive
- Many Iraq and Afghanistan veterans suffer from major depression
- Alcohol abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder increase after Katrina
- Health disparities linked to physician practice resources
- Midwestern states receive least federal support for public health
- Smoking early in pregnancy raises risk of heart defects in newborns
- New county-level report shows disparities in stroke hospitalizations
- U.S. health care system needs major fix, health care leaders say
- Newly identified genetic variations may affect breast cancer risk
- Nearly 40 percent of world's population lacks access to a proper toilet
- Social form of bullying linked to depression, anxiety in adults
- Lowering cholesterol, blood pressure may reverse atherosclerosis in adults with diabetes
- Training reduces serious pregnancy complications in Latin American hospitals

### **Newsmakers**

### **Resources**

### **NewsBrief**

*National Association of Local Boards of Health, Vol. 15, No. 3, 2nd Quarter 2008*

### **DC Update**

- HRSA Meetings
- Public Health Preparedness Workforce Act
- Support "Vaccines for Children" Legislation for Local Health Departments
- Partnership News: Public Health in Agriculture Policy

### **NALBOH News**

- The Future of Public Health\*--20 Years Later
- SALBOH Committee Meets in Bowling Green, OH

### **Board Governance**

- Springtime and the NPHSP

### **Community Health**

- Is Lighting Up a Right or a Privilege?
- Congratulations to the Davis County (Utah) Board of Health
- Children Walk Through Their Favorite Stories
- 2008 Diabetes and Obesity Disparities in Healthcare Systems Conference
- Be Proud of Your Success!
- Protecting the Lives of Our Newborns

- FDA Regulation of Tobacco

### **Environmental Health**

- Recreational Water Safety
- Design Your Own Experiences
- Where's the Beef (That's Safe to Eat)?
- Biodigesters: Are they the Answer?

### **Preparedness**

- Congratulations to Kansas City Medical Reserve Corps!
- Are You Up to the Challenge?
- Help Wanted!
- On the Road Again

### **State Health Notes**

*Forum for State Health Policy Leadership, Vol. 29, No. 516, May 27, 2008*

#### **State News**

- Iowa Takes an Incremental Approach to Universal Coverage
- More Churches Are Paying For Health-Care Services—States Wonder: Are These Groups Insurers?
- "Silver Alerts" Sound the Alarm When Certain Seniors Go Missing

#### **Highlights**

- Google provides online health records...Monitoring brain injuries in veterans...Treating autistic adults.

#### **Graphically Speaking**

- The number of Americans using health savings accounts has nearly doubled in the past two years with growth highest in the small group market. [Click here to see more.](#)

### **State Health Notes**

*Forum for State Health Policy Leadership, Vol. 29, No. 515, May 12, 2008*

#### **State News**

- The Guidance on SCHIP; States Wait, Watch and Hope
- Delaware Finds Wellness is Healthy for the Bottom Line
- Maryland Overhauls Medicaid Dental System

#### **Highlights**

- A Long-term care cost increases...NYC calorie count...D.C. needle exchange

#### **Graphically Speaking**

- More than 91,000 infants were the victims of maltreatment during their first year of life; a third suffered abuse or neglect during their first week of life: a first-ever study from the CDC.

### **Thrive!**

*Washington Health Foundation*

<http://www.whf.org/News/ThriveMagazine.aspx>

### **WSMA Reports**

*Washington State Medical Association*

### **Zoonotic Disease Newsletter**

*Washington State Department of Health*

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

### [Index](#)

### Proposed Rule Making (CR-103)

- WAC 246-282-006, Washington State *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* control plan  
CR-103 filed: May 14, 2008  
CR-103 filed as: *WSR 08-11-051*

The purpose of this rule is to protect public health by establishing a state-specific control plan to reduce the incidence of *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*-associated illness (vibriosis). The control plan consists of time-to-temperature controls, training, illness response, record-keeping requirements, and modified Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point plans.

[Index](#)