



CDC Connection: For the Advisory Committee to the Director

New Issues and Alerts

H1N1 (Swine) Influenza Outbreak Declared a Pandemic—On June 11 the [World Health Organization](#) raised the worldwide pandemic alert level to [Phase 6](#) in response to the ongoing global spread of the novel influenza A (H1N1) virus. Note that this declaration is a reflection of the spread of the virus, not the severity of illness caused by the virus. ([CDC H1N1 Flu update](#); [WHO Epidemic and Pandemic Alert and Response](#)) ■ **US Tops More than a Million Cases of H1N1 (Swine) Flu**—CDC's [Anne Schuchat](#), Director of the [National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases](#), noted that H1N1 flu has infected more than a million Americans and continues to infect thousands more every week even though the annual flu season is well over. ([June 26 New York Times](#)) ■ **44 Million in US Lack Health Insurance**—An estimated 43.8 million Americans had no health insurance in 2008, a which is a 50-year low, according to the report [Health Insurance Coverage: Early Release of Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey, 2008](#), from CDC's [National Center for Health Statistics](#). ([July 2 CDC Press Release](#); [July 2 Associated Press](#)) ■ **America's Obesity Policies Failing**—Adult obesity rates increased in 23 states and did not decrease in a single state in the past year, according to *F as in Fat: How Obesity Policies Are Failing in America 2009*, a report released on July 1 by the [Trust for America's Health](#) and the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#). ([2009 Report](#); [Executive Summary](#)) ■ **CDC Launches Web Site Aimed at Obesity**—On June 25, CDC unveiled the [LEANWorks!](#) (Leading Employees to Activity and Nutrition) Web site to help businesses address [obesity](#) during a National Business Group on Health meeting in Washington, DC. "CDC [LEANWorks!](#) was developed in direct response to organizations asking CDC for help in addressing the obesity epidemic. ([CDC Lean Works!](#); [June 26 Modern Healthcare](#))" ■ **ER's Treat 129 Older Americans for Falls Everyday**—From 2001 to 2006, each day an average of 129 Americans aged 65 years and older were treated in emergency departments—more than 47,000 each year—for injuries from falls that involved walkers and canes, according to a CDC study published in the June 23 [Journal of the American Geriatrics Society](#). ([June 29 CDC Press Release](#)) ■ **Cookie Dough Source of *E. coli* outbreak in 29 States**—The FDA has confirmed finding *E. coli* 0157, a deadly strain of bacteria, in samples of Nestlé Toll House refrigerated cookie dough produced at the company's plant in Danville, VA; CDC has reported 72 cases of *E. coli* 0157 illness linked to cookie dough in 29 states and that 34 people have been hospitalized, 10 with a serious complication known as hemolytic-uremic syndrome. ([June 30 CDC Web Site](#); [June 29 FDA News and Events](#); [June 30 Washington Post](#)) ■ **FDA Granted Authority to Regulate Tobacco**—On June 22, President Barack Obama signed the [Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act](#) granting the FDA authority to regulate tobacco products. ([June 22 White House Transcript](#); [June 22 FDA News and Events](#); [June 23 Seattle Times](#)) ■ **Surgeon General Promotes Healthy Homes**—On June 22 [Acting Surgeon General Steven K. Galson](#) issued the Surgeon General's Call to Action to Promote Healthy Homes, offering a holistic approach to creating healthy homes, and serving as a larger Healthy Homes Initiative led by CDC and [HUD](#). ([June 9 HHS Press Release](#); [CDC's Healthy Homes](#); [HUD's Healthy Homes](#))



Director's Highlights

Frieden Cited as One of 10 Most Creative People in Health Care—[Fast Company](#) has tagged CDC Director [Thomas R. Frieden](#) in its top-10 list of the most creative people in health care, citing him “as the vocal force behind many of NYC's most aggressive public health initiatives in recent years.” ([June 15 Fast Company](#)) ■ **CDC's Web site Connects with Public**—Metrics show that CDC has positioned itself as one of the most trusted sources for health information on the Internet and that CDC recognizes the public wants its information from the source. ([June 5 NextGov Tech Insider](#)) ■ **Work Starts on Building 24**—Construction is starting on a new research support facility, now dubbed “Building 24,” to replace the last antiquated facilities at CDC's Edward R. Roybal campus with a modern, energy efficient building. ([June 13 In Brief Atlanta Journal Constitution](#))

Advisory Committee to the Director Updates

Note that the next Advisory Committee to the Director meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 29, 2009.

Our Members

Linda Dillman is leaving Wal-Mart in July, and at this time she has not announced her plans. ([June 1 Blogging Stocks](#)) ■ In a letter to the *New York Times*, **Eduardo Sanchez** emphasized that factors, including where and how we live and social standing, are significant determinants of health. ([June 20 New York Times](#)) ■ **Kenneth Mandl** held a June 19 seminar at CDC entitled Electronic Health Records: Public Health Record Opportunities for Public Health. ■ **Suzanne Delbanco** blogs about the consequences of decreased hospital infection control spending. ([June 2009 Arrowsight Medical](#)) ■ **Nisha Botchwey** has developed a Web site that defines a model interdisciplinary curriculum to address the health implications of the built environment. ([June 8 University of Virginia News](#))

Appreciation and Farewell

Dr. Bradley Perkins, who was the designated federal official for the Advisory Committee to the Director, has retired from federal service. Brad served as the Chief, Office of Strategy and Innovation and as CDC's Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer and has recently started a new position with Vanguard Health Systems as Executive Vice President of Strategy and Innovation and Chief Transformation Officer. His leadership, insights, and creativity will be missed.

FYI: Resources

- [CDC.gov Web Metrics Dashboard](http://www.cdc.gov/metrics) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/metrics>)
- [National Health Interview Survey Early Release Program](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/releases.htm) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/releases.htm>)
- [Resources for Tobacco Control Programs](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/stateandcommunity/index.htm) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/stateandcommunity/index.htm>)
- [Advisory Committee to the Director](http://www.cdc.gov/about/advisory/advCharter.htm) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/about/advisory/advCharter.htm>)
- [White House Agenda for Health Care](http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/health_care) (URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/health_care)

