



CDC Connection: For the Advisory Committee to the Director

Issues and Alerts

US Obesity Rates Increasing—The Trust for America’s Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s report, [F as in Fat: How Obesity Threatens America's Future 2010](#), discloses that adult obesity rates rose in 28 states during 2009 and that Southern states have the highest rates. ([June 29 WebMD](#); [June 29 CNN](#)) ■ **U.S. Adults Consume Too Much Sodium**—Ninety percent of Americans consume too much salt, and most of this sodium comes from processed grains such as pizza and cookies and from meats, including poultry and luncheon meats, states a CDC report. ([June 24 CDC Online Newsroom](#); [June 25 MMWR](#)) ■ **CDC Responds to Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill**—CDC continues to monitor potential health threats or conditions from human exposure to the oil spill and has deployed 29 staff to the Gulf States. ([July 6 CDC Website](#)) ■ **Vital Signs Series Debuts**—CDC has launched a new monthly series [CDC Vital Signs](#) designed to convey key data and messages on specific health topics. The first issue focuses on breast and colon cancer; upcoming issues will highlight obesity, tobacco and alcohol use, access to healthcare, motor vehicle safety, HIV and AIDS, teen pregnancy, infant mortality, cardiovascular health, asthma, and food safety. ([July 6 MMWR](#); [July 6 CDC Press Release](#); [July 6 Healthleaders Media](#)) ■ **New York City’s Superior Health**—Statistics indicate by the end of the 1990s, New York managed to have a higher life expectancy than the United States did as a whole, according to economist Edward Glaeser. ([June 29 Economix in the New York Times](#)) ■ **California’s Pertussis Rate Quadruples**—Lackluster immunization rates may be causing the largest outbreak of whooping cough during the last 50 years in California, according to state health officials. ([June 29 LA Times](#)) ■ **Hospital Acquired Infections Increasing**—More than 1,800 veterans may have been exposed to potentially deadly viruses including HIV from improperly sterilized dental equipment at a St. Louis-area VA hospital, another example of the widespread problem of hospital-acquired infections. ([July 1 Associated Press](#); [June 30 Fox News](#); [June 30 Columbia Missourian](#)) ■ **Abuse of Prescription Painkillers Grows in US**—Emergency room visits for nonmedical use of prescription painkillers more than doubled between 2004 and 2008, according to CDC estimates. ([June 18 ABC News](#); [June 18 MMWR](#)) ■ **Secretary of State Cites text4baby During Summit**—An international version of text4baby program that is launching in Russia was highlighted by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton during her remarks at the second U.S.–Russia Civil Society to Civil Society Summit; a CDC led workgroup developed messages for the US version of this mobile information service, and CDC also participates as an outreach partner ([June 24 US Department of State Website](#); [June 25 Healthy Russia Project](#)) ■ **Incidence of West Nile Virus Declines**—CDC data show that the 2009 West Nile virus season was the mildest in eight years, and so far only one case of serious illness has been reported in 2010. ([July 2 MMWR](#); [July 2 Associated Press](#))



Director's Highlights

Frieden Issues Statement on First Anniversary of the Tobacco Control Act—CDC

Director Dr. Frieden supported the new FDA regulation banning the use of the terms “light,” “low,” and “mild” in marketing cigarettes on the anniversary of the [Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act](#). ([June 22 CDC Media Statement](#)) ■

Frieden Addresses CDC Response to Lead in DC Water Supply—CDC Director Dr. Frieden addressed issues regarding lead in the water Washington, DC, water supply and noted that CDC

“communicated scientific results poorly” in its initial response, prompting a reanalysis and new report. ([June 27 Washington Post](#)) ■

Frieden Leads ARC Panel—CDC Director Frieden recently led a panel at the Atlanta Regional Commission’s community health forum to address questions about the region’s health now and in the future. ([June 22 Atlanta Business Chronicle](#))

Advisory Committee to the Director Updates

The next Advisory Committee to the Director meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2010, at CDC in Atlanta. ■ [Carmen Villar](#), Chief of Staff for CDC, is the new designated federal official for the Advisory Committee to the Director.

Our Members

Eduardo Sanchez recently noted that Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas is collaborating with Bridges to Excellence to improve care for patients with cardiovascular disease and to reward BCBSTX network physicians for providing exceptional care. ([June 14 PRNewswire](#)) ■

John Seffrin discussed the legislation that banned terms such as “light,” “low,” and “mild” from the advertising, packaging, and marketing of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco products during a June 17 press conference. ([June 17 Bloomberg Business Week](#)) ■

Jonathan Lord transitioned to a new position as Chairman of the Board and Chairman of Compensation Committee for DexCom Inc in May. ([Bloomberg Business Week](#); [Reuters](#))

FYI: Resources

- [CDC Calendar of Events](http://www.cdc.gov/about/newsEvents/events.htm) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/about/newsEvents/events.htm>)
- [Public Health Image Library](http://phil.cdc.gov/phil/home.asp) (URL: <http://phil.cdc.gov/phil/home.asp>)
- [Knowledge to Action Science Clips](http://www.cdc.gov/phlic/sciclips/) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/phlic/sciclips/>)
- [Advisory Committee to the Director](http://www.cdc.gov/about/advisory/advCharter.htm) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/about/advisory/advCharter.htm>)
- [HealthReform.gov](http://www.healthreform.gov/) (URL: <http://www.healthreform.gov/>)

