



## **CDC Connection: For the Advisory Committee to the Director**

### **Issues and Alerts**

**H1N1 (Swine) Influenza Pandemic**—Clearly, H1N1 remains the biggest concern at CDC and you should continue monitoring the [CDC H1N1 Flu update](#) for updates and guidance, including information on the [supply status for H1N1 vaccine](#). ■ **H1N1 (Swine)Vaccine Supplies Increasing**—U.S. officials reported the availability of another million doses H1N1 swine flu vaccine, bringing the total so far to 23.2 million doses, but acknowledging the public’s frustration with the wait and uncertainty. CDC Director Thomas Frieden noted “We’re beginning to get to significant increases in the availability.” ([Oct 28 US News & World Report](#); [Oct 28 USA Today](#)) ■ **President Obama Declares H1N1 a National Emergency**—President Obama declared on October 24 that the swine-flu outbreak is a national emergency to help doctors and health-care facilities to respond more quickly as needed; his action authorizes the administration to waive or modify certain federal requirements involving Medicare, Medicaid and health-privacy rules to speed treatment. ([Oct 26 Wall Street Journal](#); [Oct 26 USA Today](#)) ■ **CDC Selects GE Healthcare to Track H1N1**—CDC selected GE Healthcare to provide daily surveillance data for H1N1 and seasonal influenza activity throughout the United States. GE Healthcare will report information from its nationwide database of nearly 14 million patient records to help CDC track the spread of the H1N1 virus in near real-time. ([Oct 28 Reuters](#)) ■ **GAO Suggests Pandemic Flu Could Overwhelm Internet Networks**—Another flu-related concern is that a pandemic could trigger Internet slowdowns and failures because of the surge of people telecommuting to work and school. ([Oct 28 Washington Post](#); [Oct 27 BusinessWeek](#)) ■ **Schools Offering Improved Food Choice**—Data from the 2008 [School Health Profiles Survey](#) document that more secondary schools are selling healthier foods since the previous survey in 2006 ([Oct 5 CDC Press Release](#); [Oct 9 MMWR](#)) ■ **CDC Educates about Appropriate Antibiotic Use**—In October, CDC started the “Work “ program to educate pharmacists, healthcare providers, and the public about appropriate antibiotic use and the growing threat of antibiotic resistance. ([Oct 9 CDC in the News](#)) ■ **Obesity Alarming, Affects Economy Says HHS Secretary**—HHS Secretary Sebelius said recently that obesity “has an impact . . . on costs and on quality of life, on a productive workforce. We are really putting ourselves at a huge disadvantage in a global economy by having a nation that is vastly overweight.” CDC data indicate that one third of American adults are overweight and one third are obese. ([Oct 25 CBS News](#)) ■ **Diet, Exercise Stave off Diabetes**—A new study published in *Lancet* confirms that diet and exercise can delay or prevent the onset of [diabetes](#) more effectively than drugs. ([Oct 28 US News & World Report](#); [Oct 29 The Lancet](#))



## Director's Highlights

**Frieden Testifies to Congress on H1N1 Response**—In late September, CDC Director [Thomas R. Frieden](#) testified before the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, United States House of Representatives, on the response to H1N1 ([Transcript on CDC Web Site](#)) ■

**HHS Approves CDC's Organizational Changes**—CDC has received approval from Secretary Sebelius on its proposed organizational changes and pending congressional approval will be submitting a notice to the *Federal Register* informing the public of the new structure. ■

## Advisory Committee to the Director Updates

Note that the dates for the next Advisory Committee to the Director meeting are being scheduled at this time.

## Our Members

**Eduardo Sanchez** lectured on The Role of Education in Achieving Optimal Health Status and the Influence of Health in Academic Achievement and led a conversation on this topic at Baylor University on October 13–14. ([Baylor University News](#)) ■ **J. Nick Baird** is delivering the session “Alliance to Make US Healthiest's Role in Health Reform and Changing the Role of Public Health” on November 9 at the Annual AHPA meeting. ([APHA Conference Program](#)) ■ **Debra Lappin** delivered the opening remarks at a Capitol Hill briefing “Incentives for Innovation: Protecting America's Greatest Innovators” on October 5. ([Council for American Innovation](#)) ■ **Vivian Berryhill** was a speaker at the first Healthy Congregations' conference “Joining Forces to Create Healthier Communities” in Mississippi on October 10. ([October 9 Desototimestribune.com](#)) ■ **Linda Dillman**, who left Wal-Mart in July, has resigned from CDC's Advisory Committee to the Director.

### FYI: Resources

- [H1N1 Flu Self-Evaluation](http://www.flu.gov/evaluation) (URL: <http://www.flu.gov/evaluation>)
- [CDC.gov Widgets and Gadgets](http://www.cdc.gov/Widgets) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/Widgets>)
- [CDC Radio](http://www2c.cdc.gov/podcasts/browse.asp?c=298) (URL: <http://www2c.cdc.gov/podcasts/browse.asp?c=298>)
- [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](http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/health_care))

