The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Chinese government have collaborated on public health priorities that affect China, the United States, and the global community for more than 30 years. U.S. CDC focuses its China-based work on HIV/AIDS, emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, immunizations, workforce development, non-communicable diseases, and laboratory quality and safety.

HIV/AIDS

It has been 10 years since the landmark launch of the China-US CDC collaboration on HIV/AIDS. A primary goal of CDC’s HIV work in China has been to control the spread of HIV from those already infected. The program focuses technical assistance to China on developing evidence-based guidelines and sound technical strategies that result in enhancing local capacity in HIV/AIDS surveillance, laboratory methods, interventions for hard-to-reach populations, and quality HIV care and treatment. In the next five years, programs will concentrate activities in five key provinces and one prefecture with high disease burdens and restricted economic resources. The collaboration focuses on developing national HIV/AIDS policy, conducting innovative pilot projects and building laboratory and public health workforce capacity. Particular attention is focused on most-at-risk populations such as men who have sex with men, female sex workers, people who inject drugs, and ethnic minorities with high HIV prevalence. The partnership is increasingly dedicated to supporting China's role in the international public health community through dissemination of scientific information and support to other developing countries.

Non-communicable Diseases

Recognizing the significant public health burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), an innovative China-US collaboration for NCDs that includes chronic disease and injury prevention and control has been developed. Efforts focus on key strategic areas and providing capacity building and learning opportunities for both China and US CDC. Strategic activities include dietary salt intake reduction to prevent high blood pressure and heart disease, tobacco control, injury prevention, air quality and human resource capacity building. Efforts in all of these areas are strongly supporting implementation of China’s first-ever National NCD Prevention and Control Five Year Plan (2011-2015).

Immunization

CDC works with Chinese public health officials to eradicate, eliminate, or control vaccine preventable diseases through immunization efforts. A CDC expert assigned to the WHO China office leads efforts to advise China MOH on strengthening the China immunization program and enhancing evidence-based immunization recommendations and practices. Immunization goals include implementing the Polio Endgame Strategic Plan, eliminating measles, accelerating control of hepatitis B, and providing the scientific evidence-base to promote the inclusion of new vaccines in China’s immunization program.
Global Disease Detection (GDD)
The China-U.S. Collaborative Program on Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) serves as one of ten GDD Centers. EID’s main role in China is to provide assistance to the Chinese Government in outbreak response, pathogen discovery, surveillance, laboratory strengthening and quality control, training of public health practitioners and researchers, and building networks that enhance collaboration with the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention. GDD includes the following programs:

International Emerging Infections Program (IEIP)
U.S. CDC and China CDC experts work to strengthen public health surveillance, prevent transmission of infections, and improve laboratory detection of epidemic-prone infectious diseases. This comprehensive approach helps China identify and contain infectious disease outbreaks before they spread globally. IEIP-China currently provides technical assistance to China CDC to support surveillance systems for severe respiratory infections, foodborne infections, healthcare-associated infections, in particular tuberculosis, viral hepatitis and vector-borne diseases.

Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP)
The Chinese Field Epidemiology Training Program (CFETP), a two-year program, strengthens disease surveillance, applied epidemiology, and response capacities through a rigorous curriculum and extensive field work experience that is designed to train China’s future public health leaders. Two tracks are currently being offered—one with a focus on communicable diseases, and second on non-communicable diseases that includes chronic diseases, injuries, and environmental health.

Influenza
For more than 20 years, CDC has supported the Chinese National Influenza Laboratory to monitor seasonal and novel influenza viruses with pandemic potential. Now, CDC, China CDC, and the MOH have combined expertise on pandemic influenza preparedness, influenza surveillance, and rapid response to prevent, identify, and control influenza. In addition, CDC is working with Chinese public health leaders to gather data and identify domestic scientific evidence to inform Chinese national influenza vaccination policy on expanding existing influenza vaccine programs. In response to H7N9 outbreaks, CDC worked closely with Chinese health authorities to analyze and report on surveillance data, share viral specimens, and improve vaccine development capacity.

Strengthening Laboratory Capacity
CDC assists China in improving the quality of laboratory services at selected national and provincial laboratories with the implementation of international-based laboratory standards, improving worker safety, and reducing the risk of accidentally releasing harmful substances.

Tuberculosis
With 1.5 million cases of tuberculosis (TB), China has the second highest burden of TB in the world after India. In 2008, the GDD Program in China incorporated TB into its mission. The objective is to provide strategic technical assistance and training on priority areas for TB control, including operational research on drug-resistant tuberculosis, infection control and laboratory strengthening.

Impact in China
- Over 3 million followers on a health promotion Chinese Twitter account (Weibo), which broadcasts on a range of health topics, including immunization, H7N9, and smoking cessation.
- In 2012, FETP trainees participated in 118 outbreaks ranging from cholera to brucellosis.
- From 2009-2013, identified at least 20 provincial foodborne outbreaks using molecular typing methods of foodborne infections caused by Salmonella and created a national database of strain types.

For more information please contact Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

CDC-Atlanta
1600 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30333
Email: cgh@cdc.gov
Web: http://www.cdc.gov/global

For more country information: http://www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/countries/china

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