

Board of Scientific Counselors, Coordinating Center for Infectious Diseases
Teleconference, March 2, 2010
CDC Headquarters
1600 Clifton Road
Atlanta, Georgia

The BSC, CCID convened an open teleconference on March 2, 2010. The purpose of the teleconference was to update board members on the following: the status of CDC's 2009-2010 reorganization; CDC's response to the 2009-2010 outbreak of H1N1 pandemic influenza; and and priority activities and highlights ongoing in the infectious disease national centers. The teleconference was also held to discuss the upcoming BSC, CCID meeting scheduled for May 19-20, 2010.

Dr. Rima Khabbaz, CDC Deputy Director for Infectious Diseases, opened the call and thanked BSC chair Dr. Rich Whitley and other callers for their participation. Dr. Whitley welcomed participants and then turned the meeting back to Dr. Khabbaz to provide updates. Dr. Khabbaz announced that the Office of Infectious Diseases (OID) has been approved by HHS as part of CDC's new organizational structure. Several other new units, established as part of the agency's reorganization, are in various stages of approval, including a new infectious disease national center, the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID). This new center combines many of the functions, staff, and resources formerly located in the National Center for Preparedness, Detection, and Control of Infectious Diseases (NCPDCID) and the National Center for Zoonotic, Vector-borne, and Enteric Diseases (NCZVED). CDC is currently recruiting for a director of the new center.

Dr. Khabbaz also announced that CDC has been participating in the National Strategy for Countering Biothreats, an activity that is being coordinated by the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), HHS. CDC is also working with ASPR on efforts to reinvigorate national activities on improving existing and developing new medical countermeasures.

She informed meeting participants that CDC is transitioning down from its response to the 2009-2010 outbreak of H1N1 pandemic influenza, and most of the staff involved in the response are now returning to their regular jobs.

Several topics were proposed for discussion at the next BSC meeting, scheduled for May 19-20, 2010. These topics included 1) the importance of infectious disease preparedness and prevention and showing the impact of our public health investments; 2) innovative technologies in infectious disease control; 3) looking back on H1N1; 4) the strategic alignment of Tuskegee funding to ensure activities with highest impact; and 5) chronic hepatitis control (hepatitis B and C).

Technical difficulties resulted in an inadequate number of available call-in lines, and the teleconference was halted because of the lack of a quorum of BSC members.

Please be advised that the proceedings called to order on March 2, 2010, did not meet the quorum of membership required to conduct an official meeting of this committee. Because of the lack of quorum, any deliberations, recommendations or outcomes occurring during, or resulting from, the meeting will not be provided to CDC for consideration and/or implementation. These meeting minutes are part of the official committee record. The agenda items discussed at this meeting may be revisited as needed at a later meeting of the committee.

Participants in the teleconference:

BSC members:

John Bennett
Gail Bolan
Matthew Boulton
John Gittleman
Jim Hadler
Duane Hospenthal
Sam Katz
Ron Stall
Robert Weinstein
Richard Whitley (chair)
Mary Wilson

CDC participants:

Rima Khabbaz
Jan Nicholson
Leola Mitchell
Sarah Wiley
Joanne Cono
Robin Moseley
Amy Sandul
Allison Mawle
Steve Redd
Tom Hearn

No public participants