

# Berkeley Center for EPHT: Update

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# Berkeley Center for EPHT

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- Report on the five components of our Center
- Some lessons learned over the past 2 years of working with our Western State partners
- Plans for the future

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- Component 1 - Linking Air Pollution Data and Asthma Outcomes in an Epidemiologic Study** (Ying-Ying Meng, Beate Ritz, John Froines, E. Richard Brown at UCLA)
- California Health Interview Survey asthma outcome data have been linked to air pollutant exposure assignments using zip code-based methods (**see poster tonight**).

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**Component 2** - Liaison with partner health departments re: air pollution and asthma based on experience with two projects (Jennifer Mann, John Balmes, Ira Tager)

- Fresno Asthmatic Children's Environment Study (FACES)
- Oakland schools asthma surveillance project
- **EPHT for Asthma Workshop yesterday**

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## Component 3 – Modeling of exposure-body burden relationships (Tom McKone)

- Better understanding of uncertainty and variability in biomarker surveys
  - **See poster tonight** re: estimating internal dose and source-to-dose relationships for three chemicals
  - Comparison of urinary pesticide data from Salinas Valley cohort to NHANES data to assess exposure pathways
- Exposure tracking
  - A method for tracking exposure to air pollution in the Los Angeles Basin has been developed that takes into consideration how people move in time and space

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## **Component 4** – Develop methods and approaches for EPHT (Amy Kyle, Sharan Campelman, Patricia Buffler)

- Data sources and indicators
  - Review of CSTE indicators conducted with Western state partners
  - Review of cancer and birth defects data for EPHT
- Disparities
  - Presentations at ISEE and APHA
- Assistance to Western State partners

# Assistance to Western State Partners

- Products for Technology Forum
  - Recent focus has been on PHIN and how states can get a better view of the technology implications
- Western States meeting in Seattle re: next steps for EPHT; some of the issues discussed were
  - need for more collaboration with environmental agencies
  - stakeholders and communication
  - better drinking water data for tracking
  - further work on indicators

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## Component 5 - Outreach to policy makers and development of training materials

- Environmental Justice training and outreach component led by UCB's Labor Occupational Health Program
  - Workshop with community-based groups to be held this Saturday; part of effort to develop an EJ training module for use by states
- Policy liaison effort led by Holly Brown-Williams of UCB's Center for Community Wellness
  - Attend ***Targeting the Policy Audience breakout tomorrow***
- Training needs assessment for Western State partners led by Christine Arnesen
  - Follow-up to be discussed at Western partners meeting on Fri.

## Lessons learned over past 2 years of working with our state partners

- We know more collectively than individually – the complexity and multi-disciplinary nature of EPHT requires effective collaboration
- We have not effectively engaged the policy audience – this needs to be a top priority
- The most critical issues are not technical issues about data linkage – ***we need to provide what supporters of the EPHT initiative want*** – improved capacity to understand the ways in which environmental factors impact the health of communities

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- Future Plans

- Continue to assist Western State partners to define and articulate what they want to work on collectively/collaboratively
- Start to address the needs of the policy audience
- Continue to support the Products for Technology forum
- Develop EPHT 101 course