

Public Health Advisory Board
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Meeting Notes: September 6, 2006

Members present: Dr. Glennah Trochet (ex-officio), Chris Wood, Scott Seamons, Matt Hedges, Joan Hurlock, Ana Negron, Anthony Russell.
Members absent: Keith Yamanaka (excused), Tina Roberts (excused), Leticia Garcia, Vicki McGahan, Keith Andrews (ex-officio).
Guests attending: Craig Spatola, Will Barrett, Steve Soto, Leslie Benson.
Staff: Alan Lange, Kevin O’Keefe.

Issues	Discussion	Action/Recommendation
Introductions		
Chair’s Report	Pramela Reddi has announced that she will be unable to return to the PHAB. That leaves two open seats (Community, Public Health Professional) on the PHAB. The Executive Committee will begin work this month on the PHAB Work Plan for 2007.	
Approve Meeting Notes	There were no questions or changes requested of the minutes.	- M/S (Scott/Matt) to approve minutes; approved.
DHHS Updates	<p><u>Public Health Division:</u> Dr. Trochet gave an update of issues related to public health, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sue Nesbit was to have given a program overview of the California Children’s Services, but was unable to attend due to labor negotiation issues. Nesbit will be rescheduled to speak before the PHAB at another time. - Several local unions that work in the public health arena are out on strike. The Nurse’s union reached an agreement and are at work, which means that the communicable disease program is staffed as well as the public health lab. The California Children’s Services, which provides physical and occupational therapists to the local school district, is out on strike and as a result these services are not being provided. Dr. Trochet warned that the strike could go on for a week or two. Additionally, social workers are also out on strike. - The Sacramento City Council passed the Pharmaceutical Sale of Syringes bill, which will be implemented in the next eight weeks. In all, there are 60 pharmacy’s within the city limits of Sacramento which will be eligible to be a part of the program. Dr. Trochet noted that nine pharmacies have already said they will not participate in the program. One of the biggest concerns regarding this program is how people are disposing of their used syringes. Dr. Trochet said that several voluntary programs are already underway that are successful. Additionally, Sacramento City Councilperson Sandy Sheedy is introducing a Needle Exchange Program bill which could be funded by the city. - The West Nile Virus season is almost over. So far only eight cases have been reported in Sacramento County, compared to 150 cases last year. - The Sacramento County Budget is currently being considered by the Board of Supervisors. The Public Health Division budget will presumably remain status quo. Dr. Trochet warned that this will not be the case next year (2007-08), when the Public Health Division will face cuts. - The Environmental Management Department will take the Food Safety Placard Program before the BoS in October for a final vote. - Preparation continues at the community level to address the possible outbreak of a pandemic influenza. The Bird Flu was expected to reach North America this fall or next spring. Previously, it was thought that the Bird Flu spread to Europe from migratory birds. It has now been determined that the Bird Flu was spread to Europe from the illegal importation of chickens. This new information means that the Bird Flu may not spread to North America as quickly as previously expected. Nevertheless, health officials are treating its arrival in North America as inevitable and continue preparations. Dr. Trochet encouraged everyone to get a 	- Members will prepare to address the County Budget 2007-08, which promises cuts to the Public Health Division. Prepare to give BoS recommendations regarding these budgetary issue.

	<p>flu vaccination, especially children.</p> <p>- The California State Legislature session has ended with four pieces of public health legislation having been passed and sent to the governor's desk, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB162: Establishes a Department of Public Health within the Department of Health & Human Services, and transfers various responsibilities relating to public health, currently administered by the Department of Health Services, to the new department. The governor is expected to sign this bill. • SB 611: This bill requires meat and poultry distributors, and processors that sell their products in California to notify the California Department of Health Services of the names and locations of retailers that receive potentially contaminated recalled meat. It also requires public health officials to notify the public regarding this information. The governor is expected to sign this bill. • AB 699: Requires the DHS to annually determine the amount of influenza vaccine that is available, as specified, and the amount of vaccine needed for the state's population. This bill requires manufacturers and distributors of the influenza vaccine to report specified information to the DHS upon request. The governor is expected to sign this bill. • SB1534: Allows local governments the ability to provide health aid for undocumented residents. This bill, which was written by State Senator Deborah Ortiz (D-Sacramento), is a reformation of the federal Welfare Reform Act of 1976, which prohibited the expenditure of public funds for most non-emergency health services to undocumented residents. 	
Committee Updates	<p><u>Research & Evaluation:</u> Matt Hedges gave an update on the activities of the REC, including: putting together talking points in favor of the Food Safety Placard Program; and, giving the go ahead for the PHAB to use the Evaluation Criteria in order to prioritize public health issues. Issues currently being looked at include: disaster preparedness; sexually-transmitted diseases; homicide; cerebrovascular disease; infant mortality rates among African Americans; obesity; breastfeeding initiation; tuberculosis; and, coronary heart disease.</p> <p><u>Education & Outreach:</u> There were not enough attendees at the September meeting of the EOC to create a quorum.</p>	- Staff will reschedule meeting of the Education & Outreach Committee.
HIV Health Services Planning Council update on "Out Of Care" Assessment	Craig Spatola, chairperson of the HIV Health Services Planning Council, gave an overview of the 2006 Sacramento Out Of Care Needs Assessment. For this assessment, 45 men and women with HIV/AIDS who have not sought medical assistance in the last 12 months were surveyed. It seeks to address why people living with HIV/AIDS are electing not to seek treatment (such as they felt better, or had billing issues with MediCal) as well as recommend strategies on how to get them back into treatment (such as peer outreach, or more active follow-up after diagnosis).	- Staff will research disclosure responsibilities and requirements as they relate to people with: HIV/AIDS, STDs, and tuberculosis.
Announcements		
Adjourn		Next meeting: October 4.