

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
March 8, 2018
MINUTES**

**APPROVED
5/10/18**

COMMISSIONERS

Jean G. Champommier, Ph.D. Chairperson *
Crystal D. Crawford, J.D. **
Patrick T. Dowling, M.D., M.P.H. *
Kelly Colopy, M.P.P. *

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE

Dr. Jeffrey Gunzenhauser, Medical Director **

Sara Guizar, Secretary *
Public Health Commission

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION ADVISORS

Barbara Ferrer, Director of Public Health *
Kim Harrison Eowan, Senior Advisor for the Chief Deputy Director *

****Present **Excused ***Absent***

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
<u>I. Call to Order</u>	<i>The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. by Chairperson Champommier, at the Central Public Health Center.</i>	<i>Information only.</i>
<u>II. Announcements and Introductions</u>	<i>Introduction of Commissioners and guests was conducted.</i>	<i>Information only.</i>
<u>III. Approval of Minutes</u>	MOTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 11, 2018 MOTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 8, 2018	<i>Commissioner Chair Champommier entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes for (January 11, 2018, and February 8, 2018). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dowling, all in favor.</i>
<u>IV. Public Health Report</u>	Kim Harrison Eowan provided the Commission with the Public Health (PH) Report, and discussed Department of Public Health (DPH) activities since the last report on February 8, 2018. Update On Hepatitis A Cases Ms. Harrison Eowan provided the Commission with the most recent and final update to the Board of Supervisors (Board) on hepatitis A cases and prevention efforts. Over 36,000 hepatitis A vaccines were distributed to partners and a total of 37 hepatitis A cases were reported amongst the homeless and the Men Having	

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	<p>Sex with Men (MSM) populations. DPH has determined that there is no ongoing local transmission of hepatitis A amongst related to the outbreak declared in 2017.</p> <p>Dr. Ferrer stated DPH will continue to monitor any new cases and will respond quickly to prevent spread within the County of Los Angeles. DPH has vaccinated over 8,000 individuals in response to the Hepatitis A outbreak in California, and continues efforts to provide outreach in jails and to the homeless population. DPH continues to work with community partners to assure individuals at greatest risk of acquiring hepatitis A get vaccinated, and to promote improved access to public hygiene facilities.</p> <p>Cold Weather Alert: Low Temperatures Expected in Parts of Los Angeles County</p> <p>Ms. Harrison Eowan informed the Commission regarding the cold weather alert/ low temperatures expected in parts of LAC. Wind chill temperatures are expected to be below 32 degrees Fahrenheit in the Antelope Valley and the LAC mountain areas. DPH emphasized the importance of precautions and reminds people not to use stoves, barbeques, or ovens to heat their homes due to the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning. Shelters and other public facilities are recommended places where people can stay warm.</p> <p>Consumers Warned About Certain Cactus Imported from Mexico Due to Health Risk</p> <p>The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) sent out a high warning to consumers regarding the packaged cactus pads, or nopales, imported from Mexico sold at specific retail and wholesale locations around the state due to the presence of unapproved pesticides. Routine surveillance samples collected by DPR inspectors found various pesticides at levels that pose a health risk to humans. DPR immediately removed the cactus pads from store shelves and distribution centers.</p> <p>Dr. Ferrer stated that the sampled contaminated cactus pads were offered for sale to consumers in the northern parts of California. She stated DPH works on efforts to inform the public on the importance of a healthy diet which cactus can be a part of the diet. CDPH and DPR have alerted the U.S. and Drug Administration about the cactus pad issue.</p>	<p><i>On March 13, 2018, the PHC Secretary provided the Commission with copies of the new DPH Strategic Plan, 2018-2023.</i></p>
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	<p>1-800-GET-THIN: Don't Be a Victim of a Health Care Scam</p> <p>Ms. Harrison Eowan stated that DPH has reminded residents to be wary of medical products or services that are marketed directly to consumers. DPH works on efforts to empower consumers about health related products and services that are potentially unsafe. DPH emphasizes the importance of obesity prevention strategies to help people achieve healthy weight and decrease the risk of chronic diseases.</p> <p>Dr. Ferrer informed the Commission regarding the Public Health (PH) Week event taking place the first week of April 2018. The PH Week event will focus on individual and community health, and in promoting opportunities for individuals to eat healthy, prepare nutritious meals, and get vaccinated. DPH also works on efforts to expand a summer enrichment program for high school students at the Charles Drew University (CDU) Medical Center and link them to internships in community-based organizations. Material information on the PH Week event will be provided to the Commission. The following resources were discussed by Dr. Ferrer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Workforce development and commitment for all LAC communities</i>• <i>Participation of high school students in health career opportunities</i>• <i>Employee Wellness Expo</i>• <i>Emergency preparedness efforts to increase CPR training</i> <p>Dr. Ferrer stated that DPH was requested by the Board of Supervisors (Board) to take the lead on domestic violence prevention and gun safety for LAC. DPH will also focus on trafficking, child abuse, interpersonal violence, dating, and street violence.</p> <p>Commission Chair Champommier expressed his concern around domestic violence, gun violence, and awareness and education under prevention.</p> <p>Commissioner Dowling commented on the health of cactus pads (Nopales) in the diet, and thanked Dr. Ferrer for her dedicated work around CDU Medical Center. He also commented on UCLA's involvement with the American Heart Association and on immigrant physicians from Latin America that provide CPR training at clinics in various parts of LAC.</p> <p>Commission Chair Champommier thanked Dr. Ferrer for the Public Health Report and for her presence.</p>	<p><i>On March 23, 2018, the PHC Secretary provided the commission with information/materials on the PH Week event.</i></p>
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<p><u>V. Presentation: Vaccine Preventable Disease Control Program</u></p>	<p>Dr. Michelle Parra provided the commission with an update on the Vaccine Preventable Disease Control Program, previously known as Immunization Program.</p> <p>Dr. Parra provided the Commission with information on the various activities performed by the Vaccine Preventable Disease Control (VPDC) Program, and on VPDC's efforts to increase community immunity and to prevent communicable diseases within communities in LAC.</p> <p>Immunization Subvention Grant</p> <p>Dr. Parra stated that VPDC is funded by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). The VPDC program supports efforts to ensure accessibility to recommended vaccines.</p> <p>VPDC Overarching Strategic and Specific Goals</p> <p>Dr. Parra stated that vaccines are provided by the State to control outbreaks. She informed the Commission about the following VPDC's overarching goals and services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Assess and improve coverage levels in LAC of all vaccines recommended to protect the population</i> • <i>Detect, report, and control vaccine-preventable diseases in the jurisdiction</i> • <i>Ensure that private providers and stores manage their vaccines properly</i> • <i>Vaccine accountability and management</i> • <i>Prevention, surveillance, and disease control</i> • <i>Improve and maintain preparedness for an influenza pandemic</i> • <i>Improve compliance with childcare and school immunization entry requirements</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Monitor schools and Perform yearly assessments</i> <p>Reportable Vaccine Preventable Diseases, LAC 2016</p> <p>Dr. Parra provided the Commission with a report on the low rates of most expected communicable diseases in LAC. Three (3) major outbreaks occurred in 2017; Measles, Mumps, and Varicella. Dr. Parra discussed the following graphs and charts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vaccine-Preventable Diseases Reported in LAC - Confirmed & Probable</i> • <i>Large-Scale and High-Profile VPDC Program Outbreaks, LAC 2017</i> • <i>Measles Cases Exposed in A Community Setting, LAC vs California</i> 	
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- *Comparing LAC Measles Outbreaks, 2014-2015 vs 2016-2017*
- *LAC Men Having Sex with Men (MSM) Mumps Outbreak Summary*
- *LAC 2017 Varicella Outbreak Summary*
- *LAC Pertussis Epidemics: 2010 & 2014 - 2018*
- *LAC Pertussis Cases in Most Recent Peak Epidemic & Post Epidemic Years*
- *Incidence of Pertussis Increasing?*

Hepatitis A Outbreak

Dr. Parra stated that VPDC continues to work with LGBT and MSM community partners to ensure these populations get vaccinated for hepatitis A. VPDC also works with the PH STD clinics on recommendations and requirements to ensure immunity to vaccine preventable diseases. Dr. Parra discussed the following graphs and charts:

- *Hepatitis A Situational Update as of February 2018*
- *Total Cases of Hepatitis A Outbreak in LAC*
- *Hepatitis A in Men Having Sex with Men Confirmed Cases by Onset Quarter from 2016 to February 2018, LAC*
- *Hepatitis A Outbreak 2017-2018*
- *Key Efforts and Activities*
- *Successes/Lessons Learned*
- *Influenza Season 2017-2018*

Influenza Antiviral Prioritization; National and California Department of Public Health Recommendations

Dr. Parra informed the Commission about CDPH's recommendations for prioritizing people who are hospitalized, severely ill, or at higher risk for complications, including:

- *Young children, especially those younger than 2 years of age*
- *Adults aged 65 years and older*
- *Residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities*
- *Persons with chronic pulmonary, cardiovascular, renal, hepatic, hematological, and metabolic disorders*
- *People with immunosuppression, including those caused by medications or by HIV infection*
- *Women who are pregnant or postpartum within 2 weeks after delivery*
- *American Indians/Alaska Natives*

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Commissioner Colopy asked about any shortages of influenza vaccinations.

Dr. Parra stated that the Centers for Disease and Control have a website where providers are able to locate antiviral vaccinations when needed. No shortages of influenza vaccines have been reported.

Preventing Hepatitis B

Dr. Parra provided the Commission with information regarding the perinatal hepatitis B prevention unit within the VPDC program. She stated that in 2015, 755 women that gave birth in LAC tested positive to hepatitis B. 433 of the 755 cases were lost due to birth tourism. Dr. Parra also stated that over the last three (3) years, between 17 - 23% of moms were lost to follow-up before their child completed the vaccination series. Dr. Parra discussed the following recommendations for preventing perinatal hepatitis B:

- *Universal hepatitis B vaccination within 24 hours of birth for all medically stable infants*
- *Test all hepatitis B surface antigen positive pregnant women for hepatitis B virus*
- *Post vaccination serology testing for infants whose mother's HBsAg status remains unknown indefinitely*
 - *Infants surrendered shortly after birth*
- *Revaccination with one (1) dose of hepatitis B vaccine for infants born to HBsAg positive women*
- *Guidance for vaccinating persons with chronic liver disease, and other exposures to hepatitis B*

CDC Recommends New Shingles Vaccine

On October 2017, the Food and Drug Administration approved the use of a new recombinant zoster vaccine (Shingrix). Vaccination recommendations were also approved for people 50 years of age and older (previously 60 years of age).

Third Dose of Mumps - Containing Vaccine in Outbreak Situations

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	<p>Dr. Parra stated that the ACIP voted to recommend a third dose of mumps containing vaccine for individuals identified by PH Officials as being in high risk groups during outbreaks.</p> <p>Personal Belief Exemptions (PBE) Law Update</p> <p>The PBE law no longer permits immunization exemptions based on personal beliefs for children in child care and public and private schools. She stated that children lacking all the required vaccines will need to be homeschooled. Dr. Parra discussed the following charts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>PBE Rates by Service Planning Areas (SPA)</i>• <i>Average PBE Vaccination Percent Among Kindergarten Schools</i>• <i>LAC Kindergarten Enrollee Immunization Rates</i> <p>Future efforts for VPDC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase uptake of vaccines amongst adults and identified at-risk populations• Build relationships – medical community, social communities• Create Vaccine Portfolios for various risk groups• Research on changes in vaccine preventable disease ecology <p>Commissioner Dowling commented about a 10-month old child with Pertussis, and on the importance of receiving the TDAP vaccine. Commissioner Dowling also expressed his concern regarding health insurance coverage for the Shingles vaccine.</p> <p>Commissioner Colopy asked VPDC about efforts in providing more than one vaccination to individuals who have already received a first dose.</p> <p>Dr. Parra stated VPDC continues to provide outreach and education on the importance of receiving the TDAP vaccine. She stated that second and/or third vaccinations are not provided unless it is recommended.</p> <p>Commissioner Champommier thanked Dr. Parra for an excellent presentation.</p>	
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<u>VI.</u> <u>Unfinished Business</u>	MOTION: APPROVAL OF THE PHC ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017	<i>Commission Chair Champommier entertained a motion to approve the PHC's Annual Report for 2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Colopy. All in favor by saying "Yes".</i>
<u>VII.</u> <u>Public Comment</u>	<p>Ms. Lolita Namocatcat of the Asian Pacific Counseling and Treatment Center expressed her concern regarding the outbreaks in communities of LAC. She asked VPDC about any mandatory requirements for receiving vaccinations.</p> <p>Dr. Parra stated VPDC offers vaccines to anyone who is not vaccinated. She also stated that vaccinations are not mandatory.</p>	
<u>VIII.</u> <u>ADJOURMENT</u>	The meeting adjourned at approximately at 12:00 p.m.	