

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
MAY 23, 2013
MINUTES

APPROVED

COMMISSIONERS

Patrick Dowling, M.D., M.P.H., Chairperson**
Jean G. Champommier, Ph.D., Vice-Chair**
Waleed W. Shindy M.D., M.P.H.*
Michelle Anne Bholat, M.D., M.P.H. *

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE

Jonathan E. Fielding, Director of Public Health and Health Officer***
Angela Haley, Secretary*
Public Health Commission

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION ADVISOR

Cynthia Harding, Chief Deputy**
Public Health

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION YOUTH ADVISOR

Vacant

*Present **Excused ***Absent

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
I. CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:04 a.m. by Commissioner Bholat at Central Health Center.	Information only.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
MAY 23, 2013
MINUTES**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
II. ANNOUNCEMENTS & INTRODUCTIONS	<i>Introductions of Commissioners and guests were conducted.</i>	<i>Information only.</i>
III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES	<i>Minutes will be approved at the next meeting due to a lack of a quorum.</i>	

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
MAY 23, 2013
MINUTES**

<p style="text-align: center;">TOPIC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DISCUSSION/FINDINGS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP</p>
<p>IV. PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT</p>	<p>Carrie Brumfield provided the Commission with a Public Health Report and discussed public health activities since the last report on April 25, 2013.</p> <p>Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus</p> <p>The Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV). MERS-CoV is a newly discovered coronavirus that is linked to the cause of respiratory illness in 40 people from Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Jordan, the United Kingdom (UK), the United Arab Emirates, and France from April 2012 to May 2013. The World Health Organization (WHO) is reporting that approximately half of these patients have died. To date, there are no reports of persons in the United States becoming infected and sick with MERS-CoV.</p> <p>The coronaviruses are a group of viruses which generally cause minor illness. However, this coronavirus, MERS-CoV, is very different from most other human coronaviruses. The Department of Public Health (DPH) has disseminated three announcements (in April and May 2013) targeted to infectious disease and emergency department physicians in all L.A. County acute care hospitals.</p>	

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
MAY 23, 2013
MINUTES**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
<p>IV. PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT CONTINUED</p>	<p>Avian Influenza A H7N9</p> <p>As of April 26, 2013, there have been 122 reported causes of human infection due to avian influenza A H7N9, of whom 23 died. Cases have been reported in China from five provinces (Anhui, Henan, Jiangsu, Shandong, and Zhejiang) and two municipalities (Beijing and Shanghai), and one case has been reported in Taiwan. Of the cases where data are available, dates of illness onset range from February 19 to April 16, 2013. As of now, we know that: all infections were acquired while in China; there are currently no reports of person to person transmission; and the majority of cases reported close contact with animals, mostly poultry (chickens).</p> <p>To date, the federal government has not issued any travel warnings associated with H7N9. However, people who visit China are advised to avoid live animal markets and contact with live poultry. Anyone who becomes sick with flu-like illness within 10 days after returning from China should see their physician right away and report their travel history.</p> <p>AIDS Group Pushes for Measure to Form City Health Department in L.A.</p> <p>Ms. Brumfield discussed the L.A. Times news article of where the nonprofit healthcare AIDS group announced that they filed enough signatures with election officials to qualify a ballot measure that would let L.A. residents vote on whether the city should have a Public Health Department separate from the</p>	

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
MAY 23, 2013
MINUTES**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
<p>IV. PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT CONTINUED</p>	<p>county's. The AIDS group said they turned in roughly 70,000 signatures (50,000 of which they believe are valid) from residents who think voters should decide the issue, which would likely be in June 2014.</p> <p>Resolution from L.A. City Council</p> <p>Ms. Brumfield distributed and discussed the resolution from the L.A. City Council that opposes the ballot initiative, and it was signed by five city councilmembers and was presented by Herb Wesson, Jr., 10th District. The L.A. City Council will be hearing the proposed resolution on May 28th, and DPH will be watching to see the outcome. The Board of Supervisors is very much aware of this proposed resolution. DPH will keep the Commission informed of the outcome.</p>	

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
 PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
 MAY 23, 2013
 MINUTES**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
<p>V. VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM (VPHP)</p>	<p>Dr. Karen Ehnert, Acting Director, Veterinary Public Health Program (VPHP), provided the Commission with an update of the activities within VPHP.</p> <p>Vision:</p> <p>The residents of L.A. County are protected from zoonoses and County animals are free of reportable animal diseases.</p> <p>Mission:</p> <p>To protect the health and wellbeing of the residents of L.A. County (LAC) by surveillance and control of zoonoses, to investigate and control all reportable animal diseases, and to enforce applicable laws and ordinances.</p> <p>Legally Mandated Duties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rabies Control • Animal Importation • Animal Disease Surveillance • Disaster Response, animal related • 2020 Healthy Pets Healthy Families • No sick animals • Rabies quarantines 	

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
MAY 23, 2013
MINUTES**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
V. VPHP CONTINUED	<p>Changes, Challenges and Successes</p> <p>Rabies Control: Changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk Based Rabies Control Procedures – started in 2012 • Canine rabies vaccination exemptions – state law enacted January 2012 <p>Rabies Control: Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major increase in bat rabies • Public perception • Messaging • Setting new standards <p>Rabies Control: Success</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created model standards • Risk based approach to bites • Exemption forms/protocols • Proposed legislation • Modify dog rabies vaccination age • AB 272 	

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
 PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
 MAY 23, 2013
 MINUTES**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
<p>V. VPHP CONTINUED</p>	<p>Animal Importation: Changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAX Animal Importation Collaboration • Improve pre-notification of shipments • LAX dog shipment inspections • Connect with USDA & USFW • Import confinement follow up • Share findings • Proposed disease risk assessment project <p>Animal Importation: Challenges & Success</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges: Agencies • Airline personnel turnover • Limited federal powers • Jurisdiction differences • Obtaining animal import manifests • Successes: Cooperation • Reduced problem shipments • Improved cargo handling of shipments • Animal Importation Work Group <p>Animal Disease Surveillance: Continued Focus on Collaboration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veterinary clinic outreach binder – 400+ vet clinics • Reporting value • Partner hospital program 	

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
 PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
 MAY 23, 2013
 MINUTES

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
<p>V.VPHP CONTINUED</p>	<p>Animal Disease Surveillance: Continued Focus on Collaboration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Murine Typhus • Flea borne disease • Human case increasing • Collaboration with ACDC & EH • Future veterinary clinic based outreach • Burkholderia pseudomallei (melioidosis) <p>Syndromic Surveillance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Syndromic Surveillance • Example data • Correlate with Human Syndromic Surveillance • Syndromes of emerging infectious diseases • Data – illness • Detect outbreaks <p>Animal Disease: Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unique Animal Health Ordinances • Staff turn: clinics, shelters, parks, etc. • Limited lab testing capacity – CAHFS lab in San Bernardino • Minimal computerization 	

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
 PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
 MAY 23, 2013
 MINUTES**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
V.VPHP CONTINUED	<p>Animal Disaster Preparedness: Role</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Animal Disaster Plan – VPH Role</i> • <i>Exercise Participation</i> • <i>Expert advice: TAG & BioWatch</i> • <i>Animal disease monitoring</i> • <i>Educate & solicit participation</i> <p>2020 Healthy Pets – Healthy Families (HPHF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>LAC One Health Initiative</i> • <i>Modeled after Healthy People 2020</i> • <i>Goal: Improve human & animal health</i> <p>What are we trying to do? MAP-IT Framework</p> <p>Mobile – Develop collaborative</p> <p>Assess – Gather data & set local animal health goals</p> <p>Plan – Identify best interventions</p> <p>Implement – Jointly implement programs/campaigns</p> <p>Track – Monitor impact and progress</p>	

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
 PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
 MAY 23, 2013
 MINUTES

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
V.VPHP CONTINUED	<p>Initial Focus Areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bite prevention • Spay-neuter requirement • Pet obesity • Second hand smoke (pets can die from poison if they eat a cigarette butt) • Vaccine preventable diseases • Disaster preparedness • Zoonotic disease prevention <p>Activities to Date</p> <p><u>Mobilization: Getting the ball rolling</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept approval • Engage internal and external partners • Create supporting coalition <p>Assessment: Building Supporting Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal health surveys: online, in person, at clinics • Local bite and animal disease data • Targeted surveys 	

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
MAY 23, 2013
MINUTES**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
V.VPHP CONTINUED	<p>Next Step: Plan & Implement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HPHF Coalition meeting quarterly • HPHF Framework report drafted • Focus groups to start identifying priority <p>HPHF Successes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New collaborations and partners • Human and animal health, government and private • Forum for information sharing and improved coordination: Murine Typhus Forum – April 10th <p>Community Outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skid row pet clinics • Veterinary clinic outreach • Vet consults • Presentations • Health fairs & community events • Program website • Future social media collaboration 	

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
 PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
 MAY 23, 2013
 MINUTES**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
<p>V. VPHP CONTINUED</p>	<p>Mentorship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students & volunteers • Benefits: • Student – experience, MPH projects • Program – epidemiology support, surveys • Challenges: • CBEEP process • Space & parking costs • Successes: projects, student funding <p>Summary: Vision for the Future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continual evolution and process improvement • Improve surveillance capacity • Expand collaboration • Improve data to guide our actions • Increase prevention based activities <p>Commissioner Shindy asked how can the Commission help with the Skid Row Pet Clinic. Dr. Ehnert indicated if the Commission has connections with L.A. City Parks and Recreation Department that would be helpful. Ms. Brumfield indicated she would investigate if DPH had any connections and contact someone with L.A. City Parks and Recreation Department.</p>	

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
MAY 23, 2013
MINUTES**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
<p>V. VPH CONTINUED</p>	<p>Commissioner Shindy asked Dr. Ehnert what is the source of the funding for the 2020 Project. Dr. Ehnert indicated funding is available from Net County Cost (L.A. County).</p> <p>Commissioner Bholat asked what is the cost of a parvo vaccine. Dr. Ehnert indicated the total cost is around \$2.50.</p> <p>Commissioner Bholat asked what is the relationship between VPHP and Animal Control, and who controls that organization. Dr. Ehnert indicated VPHP has a close relationship with Animal Control, and they are an independent entity.</p> <p>The Commission thanked Dr. Ehnert and staff for a comprehensive presentation.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.</p>	