

The "I" on Public Health: Informatics Newsletter

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Program Update

Be Part of the Voice of Public Health Informatics!

Share with us your stories, news, and opportunities
Please send your information to
[Nina Jolani](#)

For information about NACCHO's informatics program, please contact us at

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News

ONC Names Two New ATCBs

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) has named two additional Authorized Testing and Certification Bodies (ATCB). The ATCBs are, ICOSA Labs, a division of Verizon Business, and SLI Global Solutions.

[More information on ATCBs »](#)

Public Health Preparedness Lacking in Data Exchange

In a recent report by Trust for America's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, public health preparedness falls short in several areas; the most critical being data exchange. The report highlights that recent funding cuts are hindering progress in public health preparedness.

[Cited resources from the report »](#)

FCC's Rural Health Care Pilot Program

According to a new Government Accountability Office report, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is proposing to replace parts of the Rural Health Care Pilot Program. The program has failed to benefit the rural health care provider's telecommunications needs. The FCC plans to address the issue with a new broadband services initiative.

[More on the new broadband services initiative »](#)

'Tis the Season for Surveillance

In early December, the BioSense Team kicked off the surveillance season with a robust showing at the International Society for Disease Surveillance conference in Park City, UT. This annual meeting, which garnered a total of 334 attendees from the syndromic surveillance community, presented a unique opportunity to interface and gather input and guidance from stakeholders.

[Continue reading »](#)

Resources

The ICD-10 Transition

As of Oct. 1, 2013, any entity that is covered by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act will be required to adopt ICD-10-CM (Clinical Modifications) and ICD-10-PCS (Procedure Coding System) Final Rule (CMS-0013-F). ICD-10-CM is the updated diagnosis code revision to ICD-9-CM. The ICD-10-CM will allow for more codes to be produced and will benefit in epidemiological tracking.

[Important resources for the ICD-10 transition »](#)

Glossary of Public Health Informatics Organizations, Activities, and Terms

[Glossary Page »](#)

The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Public Health Informatics Certificate Training Program
Targeting public health professionals currently in practice, The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, in collaboration with the Johns Hopkins Schools of Medicine and Nursing and the Public Health Data Standards Consortium, is pleased to announce that the Public Health Informatics Training Program is now accepting applications. This program results in a Maryland State-approved Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in public health informatics.

[More information »](#)

Featured Tool



VaxTrack Immunization Registry Provider Management Database

This model practice outlines how Riverside County (CA) Department of Public Health established the Provider Management Database to assist in the VaxTrack Regional Immunization Registry. The goals of the Provider Management Database are the following:

- Enable registry staff to collect, store, and easily retrieve large volumes of provider data;
- Accelerate provider recruitment and enrollment by allowing for more organized, efficient outreach;
- Improve provider retention; and
- Allow registry management to quickly assemble meaningful data for program and staff evaluation.

[Download the toolkit »](#)

To access the toolbox, you will need to log in via the link to the right of the tool description. If you do not have an account set up, you can create an account via the “New Visitor Registration” link on this page.

[Follow the link »](#)

Events



eHI HIE Webinar: The Future of Health Information Exchange

January 6 | Webinar

[More](#)

eHI Annual Conference

January 19–20 | Washington, D.C

[More](#)

Digital Health Summit and Exhibition

January 6–9 | Las Vegas, NV

[More](#)

Leadership Strategies for Information Technology in Health Care

January 24–28 | Boston, MA

[More](#)

Moving to HIPAA 5010 Transactions, ICD-10 Code Sets

January 25–27 | St. Petersburg, FL

[More](#)

LHD Community Spotlight

Can U Txt Me Now? Text Messaging to the Deaf for Emergencies

The lack of ASL interpreters, technology, or community connections at health departments has hindered our ability to communicate effectively with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, especially during emergencies. But the recent growth in text messaging technologies offers promise. The Seattle & King County Advanced Practice Center (APC) has been excited to explore the possibilities through collaboration with colleagues conducting research with the Northwest Preparedness & Emergency Response Research Center (NWPERRC).

[Continue reading »](#)

Featured Workgroup Member

Joseph Gibson, PhD



Joseph Gibson, PhD, designs and directs studies and program evaluations; designs and implements analytic systems and tools for use in Marion County Health Department (MCHD) and the community; collaborates in research with faculty at several universities; and directs the Epidemiology group in similar work.

His experience includes leading research teams for creating new lines of research, running a multi-million dollar study, serving as scientific lead on a variety of projects, and creating an outcomes tracking and reporting system for disease management programs in 12 disease states for clients representing 9,400,000 lives.

His areas of expertise include maternal and child health issues, access to healthcare among Medicaid and uninsured populations, schizophrenia, medical and pharmacy claims database analyses regarding both health care costs and utilization, and secondary data analysis.

Much of Dr. Gibson's focus has been on public health informatics and preparedness. He has also developed an increasingly broad, standardized analytic system of datasets and tools within MCHD, and introduced a user-friendly analysis tool that is gaining enthusiastic use among MCHD administrators. He has experience in programming and development of systems ranging from a real time, mainframe processing system for huge volumes of pharmacy claims to simple web based information systems.

[Learn more about what his Health Department is doing to support Public Health IT >>](#)

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