

Environmental Health/Occupational Health

Assignment Description:

The fellow will work within the Environmental Health Bureau's Office of Environmental, Occupational, and Injury Epidemiology. The fellow will work with all three of the programs, with an emphasis on occupational and environmental epidemiology.

Day-to-Day Activities:

Typically, fellows at the outset meet on a weekly basis for an hour with the primary mentor (Dr. Mitchell) and secondary advisor (Dr. Braggio). As the epidemiology unit's activities have expanded, there will also be meetings with the various programs to hear about the projects underway and gain exposure across the Office. In addition, there are specific meetings with personnel from the asthma and lead surveillance programs, the office of preparedness and response, and the Maryland Department of the Environment. As time goes on, the fellow is expected to pick up ongoing work in one of several programmatic areas, as well as to develop a project. The fellow is also encouraged to take advantage of lecture opportunities at both local universities (Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, University of Maryland).

Potential Projects:

Previous projects include redoing the State's childhood lead targeting plan, an evaluation of the vibrio illness surveillance system, and an evaluation of the summer youth camps illness/injury surveillance system.

The applicant will have a wide array of potential projects from which to choose, depending on their interest. Some of the projects include: evaluation of occupational injury and mortality data associated with agriculture; evaluation of interventions related to improvement of childhood asthma management and prevention; evaluation of quality improvement projects related to food protection; epidemiology of foodborne illness outbreaks as a component of a new rapid response team project; implementation of a new targeting strategy for childhood lead testing; and epidemiology and outreach related to vulnerable and non-English speaking communities in Maryland.

Preparedness Role:

The fellow will work with data from the state's syndromic surveillance system (ESSENCE), integrating those data with geographic information systems.

Assignment Location:	Baltimore, MD
Primary Mentor:	Clifford Mitchell, MD, MPH, MS Director, Environmental Health Bureau Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Secondary Mentor:	John Braggio, PhD, MPH Epidemiologist and Program Manager Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene