

[Infectious Disease-CDC Quarantine Station](#)

The fellowship position is located in the Quarantine and Border Health Services Branch at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Atlanta, Georgia headquarters. The 100+ member branch is part of the Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, in the National Center for Preparedness, Detection, and Control of Infectious Diseases, CDC. The mission of the Division of Global Migration and Quarantine is to decrease morbidity and mortality from communicable diseases among mobile populations, including immigrants, refugees, migrant workers, and travelers.

The Branch is experiencing a time of strategic growth, opening and staffing new Quarantine stations and forming partnerships with many agencies responsible for the safety of international travelers and the US public. The branch has the primary responsibility for protecting US Ports of Entry (POE) from infectious disease threats through surveillance and response. In addition, the QBHSB has the responsibility to conduct surveillance and investigations of infectious diseases occurring during travel, pandemic influenza preparedness at POEs and the development and study of non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI) for the community mitigation of pandemic influenza are priorities for the QBHSB.

The Division also oversees the medical examination of aliens abroad and in the United States and coordinates with state and local public health agencies to ensure that immigrants receive needed follow up and treatment. It also provides travelers with essential health information through publications and the Internet, responds to immigration emergencies, and collects worldwide health data. Among the Division's most important current activities are surveillance for and response to travelers with influenza (seasonal, avian, and pandemic), tuberculosis, and vaccine preventable diseases. The Division develops plans and procedures with state and local health departments to respond to outbreaks of these and other infectious diseases. We are actively involved in preparation for bioterrorism response through collaboration with other federal agencies.

The placement at CDC's main headquarters campus provides a unique opportunity to gain insight into many activities of the Agency. The fellow will have the opportunity to gain practical experiences at both headquarters and in the field at various quarantine stations. We committed to giving the fellow an experience that would address each of the required competencies including participating in outbreak investigations, evaluating a surveillance system and presenting findings in an oral or written format to appropriate audiences.

Possible daily activities include:

- (1) Reviewing of electronic reports of diseases and other border health related events and preparation of a daily electronic summary of these events that that distributed to all branch members and other government officials both inside CDC and in Washington DC.
- (2) Participating in regular staff meetings where all branch activities are discussed

## Atlanta CDC-Division of Global Migration and Quarantine

(3) Joining and becoming an active member of one or more of our 6 teams (e.g. Aviation Illness Investigation, Land Border, and Informatics).

Possible long term projects include:

- (1) Assisting in the investigation of a variety of infectious diseases of public health importance involving introduced to the US at international airports, seaports or land crossings, working collaboratively with state and local health departments
- (2) Joining a multidisciplinary group of experts from CDC and other federal agencies studying health related school closures and determining how these episodes can inform a variety of national policy issues. A number of research projects will arise from this collaboration ranging from the feasibility of syndromic school absenteeism surveillance, indications for infectious disease related school closures, compliance of adolescents with health- and academic-related instructions during school closures, and the effects of school closure on pandemic influenza and seasonal influenza.
- (3) Developing strategies for pandemic influenza surveillance in air, maritime, and land travelers
- (4) Conducting surveillance for and assessing the spread of seasonal influenza virus in an aircraft during travel and transmission to passengers
- (5) Maintaining surveillance and publishing an annual update of tuberculosis in travelers

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| Assignment Location: | CDC Global Migration and Quarantine<br>Headquarters- Atlanta, GA                                                                         |
| Primary Mentor:      | Daniel Fishbein, MD<br>Medical Epidemiologist<br>National Immunization Program<br>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention             |
| Advanced Degrees:    | MD, Medical College of Wisconsin (1976)                                                                                                  |
| Secondary Mentor:    | Francisco Averhoff, MD, MPH<br>Branch Chief<br>Division of Global Migration and Quarantine<br>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention |
| Advanced Degrees:    | MD, University of California, Irvine (1983)<br>MPH, Johns Hopkins University (1989)                                                      |