

The Epidemiology and Prevention for Injury Control (EPIC) Branch is the lead agency for injury prevention and surveillance in the California Department of Health Services. EPIC's 30 professionals work in downtown Sacramento, less than two hours from both San Francisco and Lake Tahoe. California's population is largest and most diverse in the U.S. We wish to find applicants who seek unparalleled opportunities for publishing on injury topics relevant to current public health policy. In California, there is much interest in aging, disability, and all forms of violence. There are programs, task forces, or projects dealing with topics such as access to care for persons with disabilities, osteoporosis, arthritis, senior falls, older drivers, older pedestrians, and every type of violence. Available data on these topics is abundant, but most remains unanalyzed for lack of staff dedicated to emerging public health issues. Tremendous opportunities lie in analysis of existing data. Readily available to EPIC researchers are the following computerized files: death, multiple cause of death, excellent hospital abstracts, Supplementary Homicide Reports (linked with death files), California Health Interview Survey for 2001 (N = 55,000) and 2003 (N=35,000), Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BFRSS, N = 4,000), Woman's Health Survey (N = 4,000 women). In 2005, all California emergency departments begin reporting patient data. California has active constituencies who would be pleased to collaborate in producing more analyses from these and other available sources. Collaboration with researchers at the University of California is encouraged.

Besides excellent opportunities for analysis of existing datasets, the Fellow can become involved in systems development and conduct analyses in EPIC's active surveillance efforts, particularly child death team reports, intimate partner death team reports, the California Youth Firearms Injury Reporting System, and the National Violent Death Reporting System.

Fellows are encouraged to take leadership roles in California's many task forces, advisory committees, and multidisciplinary working groups

The Department's Emergency Preparedness Office offers training and exercises to ensure preparedness for attack by biological, chemical, and radiological agents. The Primary Mentor is vaccinated for smallpox as part of a BT epidemiologist team. This training, and opportunities for participation, will be available to the fellow.

Assignment Location: Sacramento, CA

Primary Mentor: Roger B. Trent, PHD, MA
Chief, Injury Surveillance and Epidemiology Section (1990-present)
Acting Director, Office of Disability Prevention (1997-present)

Advanced Degrees: PhD, University of Washington (1974)
MA, University of Washington (1969)

Secondary Mentor: Alex Kelter, MD
Chief, Epidemiology & Prevention for Injury Control (EPIC) Branch
(December 1989-present)

Advanced Degree: MD, University of Arizona College of Medicine (1973)