

CSTE Fellowship Position
CDC Division of Global Migration and Quarantine
San Diego County Office of Public Health
San Diego, California

This fellowship position is located in San Diego, California and is a partnership of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) San Diego Quarantine Station and the Community Epidemiology Branch, County of San Diego Office of Public Health.

The Quarantine Station is part of the Division of Global Migration and Quarantine (DGMQ), National Center for Infectious Diseases, CDC. The DGMQ's mission is to prevent the introduction, transmission, or spread of communicable diseases from foreign countries into the United States. DGMQ oversees the medical examination of aliens abroad and in the United States, screens arriving international passengers for illness of public health importance, 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 diseases such as SARS and avian influenza, and developing plans, procedures, and relationships with state and local health departments to respond to outbreaks of these and similar diseases. The DGMQ is actively involved in preparation for bioterrorism response through collaboration with other CDC components, public health agencies, and the Department of Defense.

The San Diego Quarantine Station also provides leadership and coordination for the Division's Border Infectious Disease Surveillance (BIDS) activities. BIDS is a collaborative project with border states and counties and Mexico to foster binational cooperation and carry out active surveillance for infectious diseases of mutual public health importance to the U.S. and Mexico. Surveillance to date has focused on fever and rash illnesses such as measles, rubella, and rickettsial disease, viral hepatitis conditions (A-E), encephalitis/West Nile Virus, and influenza. In addition projects on foodborne disease intervention, antibiotic resistance and surveillance for bioterrorism compatible syndromes are underway or in planning.

The San Diego County Community Epidemiology Branch conducts surveillance and disease investigations of approximately 80 notifiable conditions according to State of California health regulations. This provides an excellent opportunity for a fellow to work with public health professionals including physicians, epidemiologists, biostatisticians, public health nurses and communicable disease investigators. The Epidemiology program also works closely with Environmental Health Food and Housing, Vector Control and Hazardous Materials programs.

The public health activities of the two sponsoring agencies are complementary and collaborative, and will give the fellow experience with a broad range of federal and local programs. The fellow will learn about public health activities related to incoming

immigrants and travelers, and participate in cross border and planning meetings related to epidemiology and terrorism preparedness. In addition, DGMQ and San Diego County are 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 projects for a fellow are wide ranging within the infectious disease arena. These projects include, but are not limited to:

1. Piloting and evaluation of non-pharmaceutical interventions related to influenza prevention
2. Evaluation of refugee immunizations on arrival in San Diego County
3. Development and evaluation of border surveillance systems and interventions for foodborne diseases
4. Development and evaluation of border surveillance systems for antibiotic resistant staphylococcal disease and pneumococcal disease
5. Development of improved systems to capture surveillance data from migrant health clinics
6. Evaluation of multi-drug resistant border TB treatment program
7. Evaluation of web-based notifiable disease reporting systems
8. Population-based enhanced laboratory surveillance for hepatitis
9. Participation in acute disease outbreak investigations by DGMQ (e.g. cruise ship outbreaks) and locally by San Diego County
10. Multi-site projects done in coordination with DGMQ headquarters in Atlanta, GA

The fellow will receive training and experience in bioterrorism preparedness and response through DGMQ's CDC activities and extensive work in San Diego County and along the US Mexico border.

Location: San Diego County Department of Health and Human Services, Rosecrans offices near downtown San Diego, the port of San Diego and the San Diego International Airport, San Diego California

Primary mentor: Stephen Waterman, MD
DGMQ Medical Officer
Senior Medical epidemiologist 1981-present

Advanced Degrees: MD, University of Cincinnati (1977)
MPH, UCLA (1981)

Secondary mentor: Michele Ginsberg, MD
Chief, Community Epidemiology
San Diego County (1976- present)

Advanced Degrees: MD, State University of New York (1971)

Associate mentors: Louise Gresham, PhD, MPH
Senior Epidemiologist, San Diego County (1987 – present)

Dr. Kathleen, Moser, MD, MPH
Chief, Tuberculosis Control, San Diego County (1989-present)

Dr. Marisa Moore, MD
CDC Field Medical Epidemiologist
Division of TB Elimination (present)