

Infectious Disease-HAI

The Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) is a large city local health department. The city of Chicago is an urban environment that contains approximately 2.9 million residents. With several large academic teaching hospitals, there are several opportunities for partnerships with public health. CDPH has close working relationships with all of the large and most of the small acute care hospitals in the city. CDPH hosts a technical advisory group meeting that occurs monthly with stakeholders in the city. Attendees include infection control professionals, infectious disease physicians, hospital epidemiologist, microbiology laboratory directors, and neighboring health department colleagues. These relationships have served as the basis for several past investigations where public health has partnered with hospital infection control.

In addition to monthly meetings, CDPH actively participates in a hospital epidemiology consortium for the Chicago area. CDPH has a history of hosting task forces for MRSA in neonatal units, multidrug-resistant *Acinetobacter*, and *Clostridium difficile*.

A HAI fellow from CSTE would have several opportunities at CDPH. CDPH is called regularly for outbreak investigations at healthcare institutions. In addition, CDPH is actively engaged in surveillance investigations with hospital infection control professionals. A fellow would be involved in a surveillance project or outbreak investigations.

The state of Illinois is partnering on this application and will be offering work on potential projects, support, and additional mentorship to a potential fellow.

Specific projects could include:

1. Point prevalence for KPC containing bacteria in acute care hospitals and long term acute care settings
2. Participate in mapping and surveillance methods of long term acute care hospitals
3. Work on a project to establish electronic laboratory reporting of MDROs among participating hospitals.
4. Work with the Illinois Department of Public Health on a statewide surveillance issue surrounding healthcare associated infections.
5. Coordinate invasive MRSA reporting
6. Evaluate administrative discharge data for *C. diff* using existing data sets.
7. Investigate respiratory virus (influenza, adenovirus, parainfluenza, RSV) detection abilities among microbiology labs.

8. We are also asked to investigate so many HAI outbreaks; there are several opportunities here.

9. We are open to the interests of potential fellows.

Assignment Location: Chicago, Illinois

Primary Mentor: Susan Gerber, MD
Chief Medical Officer and Deputy Commissioner, Chicago Department of
Public Health

Secondary Mentor: Stephanie Black, MD, MSc
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