

The Fellow will work with the State Epidemiologist and the Division of Infectious Diseases staff on projects that are considered educational for the Fellow, valuable to the Division of Infectious Diseases, and possibly of value to bioterrorism preparedness. The position would be located in the Chicago office of the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) but arrangements can be made to locate the position in Springfield if that is preferred.

Day to day activities could include data gathering, interviewing of cases of reportable diseases, working with local health departments to gather and evaluate information related to reportable diseases, evaluation of surveillance datasets, outbreak response including possibly deployment to local health departments to assist on site with outbreak control activities, preparing powerpoint presentations and presenting them to constituents such as healthcare providers, local health departments, and state health department employees, drafting abstracts for submission to local or national conferences and possibly presenting that work in those venues, creating prevention messages, analyzing existing datasets to evaluate trends over time and risk factors for disease outcomes, and duties as assigned.

An example of a data analysis project would be to evaluate the Hepatitis C surveillance system, analyze the data, and assist with revision of the surveillance system to make it more feasible and consistent with the CDC guidelines. An example of an outbreak field investigation and interaction with an interdisciplinary team would be to work with our Rapid Response Team on an outbreak of an infectious disease (there are many in Illinois) and assist with the steps for outbreak investigations. The Rapid Response Team is a multi-disciplinary team including environmental health specialists, communicable disease specialists, a veterinarian, and a data management specialist as well as the State Epidemiologist.

Assignment Location: Chicago, IL

Primary Mentor: Mark S. Dworkin, MD, MPHTM, FACP
State Epidemiologist (November 2000-present)

Advanced Degrees: MD, Rush Medical College (1989)
MPHTM, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine (1994)

Secondary Mentor: Craig C. Conover, MD, MPH
Acting Chief/Medical Director, Division of Infectious Diseases (2003-present)

Advanced Degrees: MD, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry (1986)
MPH, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health (1994)