

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES STEERING COMMITTEE

Infectious diseases are a significant cause of death worldwide. CSTE's Infectious Disease subcommittees are among the largest and most active groups within CSTE. In alignment with their respective local, state and territorial public health departments, CSTE members collaborate with federal public health programs (i.e. CDC, FDA, USDA, etc.) and CSTE sister organizations (i.e. APHL, ASTHO, NACCHO, NASTAD, etc.) to support projects related to infectious disease research, surveillance, preparedness, response, and prevention.

Infectious Disease subcommittee members also work collaboratively with other CSTE program areas to facilitate investigation, identification, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease. In their efforts to prevent further spread of infectious diseases and to encourage timely reporting, CSTE's Infectious Disease subcommittee members participate in the annual CSTE position statements process. This process is to update case definitions for various infectious diseases as well as to place and remove infectious diseases from the list of Nationally Notifiable Infectious Diseases.



## RECENT PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

- Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak and Response (CIFOR) *Guidelines to Improve Foodborne Disease Outbreak Response* and Toolkit
- Evaluation of Cluster Definitions for Foodborne Outbreak Investigations
- Regular Epidemiology/Laboratory Integrated Reporting Pilot
- HIV/AIDS Surveillance Coordinator Orientation Manual
- National Assessment of HIV/AIDS Surveillance Capacity
- Influenza Incidence Surveillance Pilot Project
- Avian Influenza Rapid Response Training
- National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians (NASPHV) compendium meetings

### STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIR: LAURENE MASCOLA

#### SUBCOMMITTEE

Adult Immunization  
 Childhood Immunization  
 Food Safety  
 HIV  
 Healthcare Associated Infections  
 Influenza  
 STDs

#### CHAIR

Kathleen Harriman  
 Paul Cieslak  
 Bela Matyas  
 Maria Courogen  
 Marion Kainer  
 Christine Hahn, Dale Morse  
 Cortland Lohff

#### INTEREST AREAS

ABC surveillance • EIP • Emerging Infections •  
 TB • Viral Hepatitis • Vectorborne & Zoonoses

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACTIVITIES

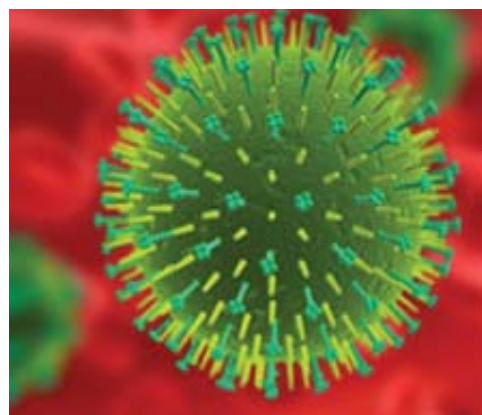
- **The CSTE Food Safety Subcommittee** is made up of public health professionals dedicated to building epidemiology capacity for the detection and prevention of foodborne illness and death. Members of this subcommittee are dedicated epidemiologists at the local, state and federal levels who are charged with identifying foodborne outbreaks early and preventing wide spread illness from foodborne pathogens. The Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak and Response (CIFOR) is a multi-agency organization co-chaired by CSTE and NACCHO that is dedicated to improving the detection, investigation, control, and prevention of foodborne disease.

- As part of the **Influenza Subcommittee**, CSTE members and staff represent public health in the ability to detect and control public health threats including emerging infectious diseases. For example, during the 2009 H1N1 Influenza outbreak, CSTE hosted and participated in initial daily epidemiology and surveillance conference calls between CSTE members at all levels of public health, partner organizations, and CDC and organized calls between states, localities, and CDC for community mitigation and participated in calls for vaccine uses and distribution. The calls informed policy, guidance, and protocols for the epidemiology and surveillance of H1N1, community mitigation for H1N1, and vaccine distribution in the United States and were exceptionally useful mechanisms for interactive discussions and decision making among all levels of public health.



- **The HIV/AIDS Subcommittee** includes an active group of HIV/AIDS Surveillance Coordinators with many interests and activities surrounding HIV/AIDS surveillance. This subcommittee works with CDC's HIV Incidence and Case Surveillance Branch and uses its expertise in HIV/AIDS epidemiology to effectively use epidemiologic HIV/AIDS data to guide public health practice and to inform public health policy.

- **The National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians (NASPHV)**, a professional organization of over 150 public health veterinarians, was established in 1953 as the Association of State and Territorial Public Health Veterinarians (ASTPHV). Since the early 1990s, the organization has hosted its annual meeting in conjunction with the CSTE annual conference. The organization works closely with CSTE and several other partner organizations to promote the role of veterinarians in public health and to address zoonotic disease and issues of public health concern.



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For more information about all of CSTE's activities and news.