Infectious Disease

The fellow will be placed within the Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section (SIDE) and closely associated with the Surveillance of Healthcare-Associated and Resistant Pathogen (SHARP) Unit. The SIDE section is within the Communicable Disease Division, which is with the Bureau of Epidemiology. Both supervisors have extensive experience supervising EIS Officers, Preventive Medicine Residents, CSTE Fellows and graduate students.

Activities

The Fellow will have substantial input in determining the projects they pursue. The fellow's daily activities would comprise work on long-term analytic projects (listed below) and acute outbreak investigations. Other routine activities would include:

- Participation in weekly surveillance meetings with Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology (SIDE) Section staff where current outbreaks and investigations are discussed.

- Participation in weekly "lab/epi" meetings where epidemiologists and laboratorians collaborate and share current investigation updates.

- Participation in bi-weekly epidemiology meetings with senior Communicable Disease epidemiologists, Drs. Melinda Wilkins and Eden Wells. These meetings generally consist of more academic discussions regarding epidemiology methodologies such as study design, analyses.

- The CSTE fellow will have the opportunity to present at local and statewide conferences of interest, as well as national meetings.

- Participation in regional epidemiology meetings, which feature presentations from epidemiologists and other public health staff throughout Michigan. Topics include recent investigations in infectious diseases and environmental health.

- Participation in periodic APIC (Association for Professionals in Infection Control) meetings. The Surveillance of Healthcare-Associated and Resistant Pathogen (SHARP) Unit has developed a strong working relationship with all of the APIC chapters and members.

- Participation in multi-disciplinary meetings/conferences organized by Michigan Health and Hospital Association (MHA), which includes the nationally recognized Keystone Center for Patient Safely and Quality, and the Michigan Society for Infection Prevention and Control (MSIPC).

Potential projects, opportunities for data analyses, outbreak field investigations and opportunities to work on interdisciplinary teams:

- Analysis of the central line associated blood stream infections (CLABSI) data gathered through the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).

- Analysis of surgical site infection (SSI) data following coronary artery bypass graft surgery collected through NHSN.

- Validation of CLABSI and SSI data reported through NHSN.

- Analyses of vancomycin-resistant enterococcus (VRE), vancomycin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (VRSA) and vancomycin-intermediate resistant Staphylococcus aureus (VISA) infections reported through the Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS) and NHSN.

- Analysis of data on multi-drug resistant organisms (MDROs) reported through MDSS and NHSN.

- Analysis of cases of severe Clostridium difficile associated disease reported to the Michigan Department of Community Health.

- Analysis of large statewide HIV, TB and STD databases

- Analysis of Michigan enteric pathogen antimicrobial susceptibility testing data.

- Outbreak field investigations: There are unlimited opportunities to investigate a wide variety of outbreaks as part of an investigation team, and as the lead epidemiologist (with close supervision and support). Michigan regularly participates in national outbreak investigations and routinely collaborates with CDC.

Assignment Location: Lansing, Michigan

Primary Mentor: Melinda J. Wilkins, DVM, MPH, PhD

Director, Division of Communicable Disease

Advanced Degrees: DVM, Michigan State University (1994)

MPH, University of Illinois – Springfield (1999)

PhD, Michigan State University, (2008)

Secondary Mentor:	Eden V. Wells, MD, MPH, Internal Medicine, Preventive Medicine
	Senior Medical Epidemiologist
Advanced Degrees:	MD, The Ohio State University (1989)
	MPH, University of Michigan, School of Public Health (2004)