

The Fellow will work with the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Service's (NJDHSS) Communicable Disease Service, Infectious and Zoonotic Disease Program (IZDP) which is responsible for infectious disease investigations and surveillance activities, including:

- Communicable Disease Reporting System (CDRS): CDRS is a web-based HL7- and NEDSS-compliant application that is used to enter, update and track New Jersey-based communicable disease information; to date, CDRS system users include local health departments, laboratories, and hospitals in 11 of the state's 21 counties, including over 240 users representing approximately 60% of the state geographically.
- Hospital emergency department (ED) volume surveillance: IZDP staff collect daily hospital ED volume data statewide, to characterize ED visits/admissions trends and consequently detect aberrations in disease activity, which might be sentinel events related to bioterrorist events.
- Active surveillance for influenza-like illness (ILI): ILI-surveillance is performed weekly at all state acute care facilities, sentinel schools, nursing homes and private physician offices in each LINC jurisdiction.
- Arboviral disease surveillance (including Lyme disease, West Nile virus)

Potential applied epidemiology projects for the Fellow:

- Evaluate above surveillance systems; investigate "alerts" generated through surveillance systems
- In collaboration with IZDP staff (including health educators, public health nurses, epidemiologists) and local health department staff (namely regional epidemiologists), participate in additional surveillance/public health activities related to outbreaks of existing or emerging infectious diseases; develop data collection tools and databases; manage and maintain these data; produce verbal and written reports/presentations of investigations, including summaries of data and appropriate public health measures and interventions.

The fellow will be trained in bioterrorism preparedness, surveillance, and response.

Assignment Location: Trenton, NJ

Primary Mentor:	Christina Tan, MD Medical Director, Communicable Disease Service (2002-present)
Advanced Degree:	MD, Mount Sinai School of Medicine (1996)
Secondary Mentor:	Suoqun Liu, PhD Bioterrorism Surveillance Coordinator (January 2003-present)
Advanced Degrees:	PhD, University of Pennsylvania (1988) MA, University of Pennsylvania (1984)