

Maternal and Child Health

The Office of Family Health (OFH) is the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) agency of the Oregon Public Health Division (PHD) in the state health department. Our office has many opportunities due to the breadth of programs and databases available: Maternal Child Health (Perinatal, Child, and Adolescent Health), Women's & Reproductive Health, Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention, Oral Health, Genetics, Immunizations, and the Nutrition & Health Screening for Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC).

The office administrator is Katherine Bradley, PhD, RN. She will work with Dr. Ken Rosenberg, the lead MCH Epidemiologist in developing a fellowship that addresses the CSTE program design and the professional interests of the fellow, and builds on the strengths of the Office and staff. Dr. Rosenberg will be the primary mentor with Dr. James Gaudino, as a secondary mentor. Dr. Gaudino is the Medical Epidemiologist for our Immunization program, and previously served as MCH Epidemiologist for the Washington State Health Department. An additional resource is Dr. Melvin Kohn, state Epidemiologist and Administrator of the Office of Disease Prevention and Epidemiology. The partnerships between OFH and Dr. Kohn's office, provides unique access and support across multiple programs.

The MCH Epidemiology Fellow will be located in the maternal and child section of OFH and have the opportunity to work across all programs. Work will include learning about the complimentary roles of state and local programs, surveillance systems in public health, program and surveillance system evaluation, survey design and methods, and study design and data analysis for presentations and publications. Oregon has hosted three MCH Epidemiology Fellows since 2001.

The following are a list of potential projects reflecting the databases and program breadth available in Oregon:

PRAMS: Oregon conducts both the PRAMS survey and PRAMS-2, a follow-up survey that re-interviews PRAMS respondents when the child is 2 years old. The Fellow will join the PRAMS team, learn how the data are collected, analyze data from PRAMS and PRAMS-2, weight the PRAMS-2 survey data, and be the first to analyze PRAMS-2 data.

National Survey of Children's Health: Explore the potential of the data from the National Survey of Children's Health. Develop a data analysis program reflecting key policy issues, and work with program to shape policy discuss based on study results.

ESRBS /YRBS: Design and carry out studies using data from Oregon Elementary School Risk Behavior Survey of 4th-6th graders and the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System around mental health issues, physical activity, obesity and tobacco use.

BRFSS: Design and carry out studies using data from Oregon Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System around women's health issues and family history.

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ORCHIDS: The Oregon Perinatal and Child Health Data System collects client level data across three home visiting programs. 1) Design and conduct a program evaluation, 2) analyze and compare client risk factors across counties, 3) conduct an analysis to assess the effectiveness of selected program interventions with desired outcomes.

WIC: The WIC program has a database of client level nutritional interventions with prenatal women and their children. Evaluate effectiveness of program interventions such as proportion of clients taking multivitamins containing folic acid, or longitudinal review of BMI weights.

Family Planning: Design and carry out longitudinal studies using client level data from the Family Planning database targeting health disparities.

FamilyNet: OFH is creating a single, cumulative record for each client by linking MCH program modules. The FamilyNet data system will provide the ability to track intermediate and high-level outcomes, and a data mart for population-based analysis of high priority maternal and child health indicators. Design and carry out cross-program studies.

Needs Assessment: The Title V (federal maternal child health block grant) 5 year needs assessment will be conducted in 2009. Participate in the development of the framework, data design, and lead research associates in compiling and interpreting data for program staff.

Surveillance System Evaluation: Evaluated the first year of data from the PRAMS-2 survey to determine whether questions should be changed and to assess adequacy of response rate.

Immunizations: Using the immunization registry 1) Assess risk factors for pre-school under-immunization, study the risk factors for pre-school child under immunization using full birth cohorts from birth certificates, Oregon's statewide immunization registry and the Oregon PRAMS-2 survey. 2) Evaluate the optimal times for child immunization recall-and-reminder postcard interventions by Oregon's Child Immunization Registry from a large, randomized control trial currently in progress. 3) Assess factors associated sub-optimal child immunization practices among rural Oregon clinicians - using quantitative and qualitative data from the Rural Immunization Initiative. 4) Investigate factors associated with parent choice to sign exemptions to Oregon school immunization requirements using data from this complexly-designed, statewide case-control survey of parents of school age children.

2007 Oregon Perinatal Data Book: Create policy fact sheets that assist in translating the data in our first Data Book to suggest directions for legislative and program action to improve perinatal health.

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Statewide Publications: Oregon has multiple publication vehicles for getting public health information out to local, state and public partners. Write for multiple audiences (health care providers, newspapers, etc) about new MCH developments.

Emergency Preparedness: The Fellow will be working with Emergency Preparedness staff to incorporate the Maternal and Child Health focus into disaster planning and exercises. In addition, the Fellow will work with MCH staff to begin to include an emergency preparedness awareness in existing programs, particularly case management and home visiting for perinatal women and young children.

Assignment Location:	Portland, Oregon
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Primary Mentor:	Kenneth Rosenberg, MD, MPH Maternal and Child Health Epidemiologist Oregon Public Health Division
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Advanced Degrees:	MD, Tufts University (1973) MPH, Columbia University (1989)
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Secondary Mentor:	James Gaudino, Jr., MD, MS, MPH, FACPM Senior Immunization Medical Epidemiologist Oregon Public Health Division
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Advanced Degrees:	MD, University of California, Davis (1985) MPH, University of California, Berkeley (1987) MS, California State University (1980)
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