

The Washington State Department (DOH) proposes mentoring a Fellow through a collaboration of the DOH Office of Epidemiology, Non-Infectious Conditions Epidemiology (NICE) and the Office of Maternal and Child Health's Assessment Section (MCHA). Both of these units provide epidemiologic services to programs in state and local health, external health related organizations, and the public. NICE resides in DOH's centralized epidemiology office and has a broad scope of work including chronic disease, injury, and the non-infectious aspects of MCH and environmental health. MCHA focuses on issues related to maternal and child health. The collaboration offers an opportunity for the Fellow to become immersed in MCH epidemiology on a day-to-day basis while developing a broader applied public health perspective through the connection with NICE.

The Fellow will have the opportunity to select one of three surveillance systems to evaluate following the CDC's Updated *Guidelines for Evaluating Public Health Surveillance Systems*: 1) the MCH Data Report which provided a periodic surveillance summary of MCH priorities in Washington, 2) the Washington State Birth Defects Registry, and 3) the Washington State Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS). These systems offer opportunities for hands on experience in collecting, managing, analyzing and interpreting data; for developing recommendations for system-related policy; and for developing the Fellow's major project. An example of a major fellowship project might involve a special study to assess the quality of the birth defects data or developing a survey to obtain feedback from users of the MCH Data Report. Other options for a major project include assessing factors related to maternal and infant morbidity through analysis of PRAMS, birth, death or hospitalization data, or through linking these and other data sets, such as those in the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, child death review, or the US Census; collaboration in developing an assessment plan for Children with Special Health Care Needs; collaboration in the revision of the Maternal Mortality Surveillance System; collaboration on the statewide MCH Five Year Needs Assessment; or collaboration on the biennial adolescent health survey.

The Fellow would have the opportunities to attend several state and regional conferences making presentations to both professional and lay audiences. The Fellow would also have the opportunity to be involved in an infectious disease outbreak or chronic disease cluster investigation. Further, the fellow will be trained in bioterrorism preparedness and response.

Assignment Location: Olympia, WA

Primary Mentor: Juliet Van Eenwyk, PhD, MS
State Epidemiologist for Non-Infectious Conditions/Section Director,
Non-Infectious Conditions Epidemiology (2000-present)

Advanced Degrees: PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago (1990)
MS, Roosevelt University, Chicago (1975)

Secondary Mentor: Riley M. Peters, PhD, MPA
Maternal and Child Health Assessment Manager (October 2002-present)

Advanced Degrees: PhD, University of Washington, School of Community Medicine (1998)
MPA, University of Southern California (1977)