



Clinician Says Epidemiologic Evidence Linking Acetaminophen To Asthma Is Strong Enough To Halt Use In Children

Other Investigators Holding Out For A Randomized Trial

The issue of whether or not epidemiologic evidence can be judged strong enough despite potential confounding factors to take preventive action appears to be alive and well in the debate on the relationship between acetaminophen and asthma.

Saying that he cannot tolerate further delay to obtain incontrovertible evidence of a strong causal association between acetaminophen and asthma, a clinician writing in Pediatrics in December 2011 is now recommending a halt in the use of

- Asthma continues on page 2

New Summer Institute In Epidemiology At Columbia Proves Successful In Its First Year

Plans Are To Add More Than A Dozen New Courses In 2012

Maybe it was the low cost, the excitement of New York City, the renown faculty, the proximity to a densely populated area, or the strong reputation of the school that attracted them to the program. Regardless of the reasons, the organizers of a new Epidemiology and Population Health Summer Institute at Columbia University (EPIC) are not arguing with their initial success in attracting ~130 student participants in the first year.

According to Sandro Galea, Chairman of the Department of

Epidemiology at Columbia, the Institute was launched to appeal to non-matriculating students with little time or resources for study and to international students unable to spend an entire semester at the school. The EPIC Institute created brief, intense 1 week courses at relatively low cost. This formula worked to attract students with approximately two-thirds coming from the New York, New Jersey, Connecticut tri-state area and one third from overseas.

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“the possibility that a measure as simple as limiting acetaminophen use might result in so great a decrease in suffering... is both sobering and exciting”

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in the use of acetaminophen to treat children with asthma or at risk for asthma.

Risk Estimates

According to John McBride, professor of pediatrics at Northeast Ohio Medical University, the epidemiologic association between acetaminophen use and asthma is well established. He cites in his Pediatrics review a meta-analysis of studies in children which estimated a pooled odds ratio for wheezing in the previous year of 1.97, and an analysis of studies in adults which found an estimate of 1.74.

Particularly striking are the high population attributable risks which have been calculated for children ranging from 38-41% for different child age groups.

Furthermore, according to McBride, increased acetaminophen use after the recognition of the role of aspirin and Reye syndrome, is correlated with the increased prevalence of asthma from 3.6% to 5.8% which has taken place between 1980-2003.

Another SIDS Situation?

Says McBride, “the possibility that a measure as simple as limiting acetaminophen use might result in so great a decrease in suffering of children throughout the world (and a reduction in the cost of their medical care) is both sobering and exciting. The situation could recapitulate experience with the ‘Back to Sleep’ campaign during which the

estimated PAR of prone sleeping for sudden infant death syndrome was confirmed by the resulting reduction in its incidence.”

Reasons To Hold Off

The call for more evidence before accepting the conclusion that acetaminophen causes asthma comes from investigators who are concerned that asthma itself might be the cause of increased use of acetaminophen (reverse causation), or that alternative analgesics might exacerbate asthma and therefore cause persons with asthma to increase their use of acetaminophen to avoid alternatives, or that increased viral illnesses or fever in asthmatics leads to increased acetaminophen use (confounding by indication).

Hill Criteria Met

However, while not able to eliminate the possibility of confounding, McBride believes that several of the Hill criteria have been met, including the 1) strength of the association, 2) consistency of results across ages, geography, and cultures, 3) the timing of the exposure before the occurrence of asthma, 4) the specificity of the association for acetaminophen and not other analgesics, 5) the pronounced dose-response relationship, 6) a plausible biologic mechanism, 7) consistent experimental data, and 8) the coherence of the evidence with the increased use of acetaminophen following the decrease in aspirin use for Reye syndrome.

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First Philosophy of Epidemiology Conference Held in Johannesburg

[Ed. Contributors to this article are Alex Broadbent, one of the organizers of the Conference and a staff writer from the Epidemiology Monitor.]

The conference on Philosophy of Epidemiology hosted by the University of Johannesburg in December 2011 was the first of its kind, to the best of the knowledge of anyone present. The aim was to bring together philosophers of science, epidemiologists, and others with an interest in the pushing forward thought on the conceptual and methodological challenges that epidemiology faces.

Challenges

Such challenges include 1) the best way to think and talk about causation, 2) the right way to approach causal inference for scientific and practical purposes, 3) the relative merits of different measures of strength of association, 4) the merits and limitations of various study designs, and 5) the existence and nature of any special political and social obligations upon epidemiologists, among others.

Potential Benefits

The premise of the conference was that both epidemiology and philosophy of science stand to gain from philosophical study directed specifically at epidemiology. Alfredo Morabia, Columbia University epidemiologist in attendance at the conference, told the Monitor, "these persons [non-epidemiologists] from different backgrounds with a level of knowledge about epidemiology and with a good training in basic epidemiology are dissecting epidemiology under a microscope. They are describing what epidemiologists do, the way we think, the way we measure, the way we try

to justify our inferential process, and why we can say a causal association exists. We will learn a lot from this process. This is going to lead somewhere."

Good Omen

The speakers covered a wide range of topics and hailed from a variety of academic disciplines, but they shared this dual emphasis on conceptual and practical questions. This is a good omen for this nascent area of study. The overriding impression from the papers taken together was of a process of real mutual learning, of a kind often hoped for but less often observed in interdisciplinary meetings. This is confirming evidence for the hypothesis that interaction between philosophers and epidemiologists can be fruitful for both.

Outcomes

One of the concrete outcomes of the conference was a plan to establish a Philosophy of Epidemiology section in the journal *Preventive Medicine*, using papers arising from the conference as a springboard. Plans are also under consideration for a larger event intended in part to raise the profile of work on these topics that has been taking place over the last few years, and to demonstrate the utility of this kind of conceptual work for epidemiological progress.

A copy of the abstracts from the conference is available as extra material at the website of The Epidemiology Monitor, www.epimonitor.net ■

"these persons... are dissecting epidemiology under a microscope."

"This is a good omen for this nascent area of study."

Future Plans

Encouraged by the turnout and the positive reviews, epidemiologists Ryan Demmer and Gina Lovasi, co-directors of the Institute, are redoubling their efforts for 2012 and plan to add another 15 courses next summer. This relatively large number of courses will catapult Columbia to the front ranks of institutions such as the University of Michigan and the Johns Hopkins University Schools of Public Health with much older programs that offer a similar number and range of courses in epidemiology and related topics and skills.

Attendees

The attending students represented a wide variety of backgrounds ranging from undergraduate students wanting to get a flavor of epidemiology before deciding on a career path to senior clinical investigators wanting to learn new skills to better analyze data. According to the co-directors, the summer institute was an “academic mall” with courses on introductory topics in epidemiology, advanced analytic courses, offerings on theory, and “content” courses covering specific subjects such as cancer.

The average number of students per course was approximately 10 in the first year and organizers hope to raise that number to between 10-30 in the second year and to double the number of attendees while increasing the actual number of courses to 33. Included will be new courses on

social epidemiology, introductory biostatistics, clinical epidemiology, social media and public health, and ethics.

Courses

The courses fall largely into three categories, namely foundations of epidemiology and public health, skills for conducting or analyzing data, and subject matter domains such as diabetes. In 2012, each course will last for 20 hours over one week and take place in the morning or afternoon for four hours. Students will be able to take more than one course at a time in this fashion. “We think this format and structure are really effective,” said the organizers. Each course is priced the same at US \$600 and is offered without academic credit.

Profits

A notable feature of the Columbia Institute, according to Dr Galea, is that the profits from the Institute flow into an EPIC fund established to help students. They can apply to the fund for materials or anything they need three times a year. Also, according to Galea, the Institute is only one of the new educational offerings the School is planning to make epidemiology training possible for a broader group of students with different needs. For example, Columbia is creating a new Executive Masters in Epidemiology for persons who can attend classes only on weekends. The School also expects to be providing degrees that can be earned online through distance learning.

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“We think this format and structure are really effective.”

“the summer institute was an “academic mall”

Update On Snow The Movie

Film Selected For San Luis Obispo Festival

DVD's To Be Made Available By Feb 15, 2012

By Roger Bernier, Editor, The Epidemiology Monitor

I had a chance to view the the new 22 minute Snow Movie produced by Isaac Ergas and recently described in The Epidemiology Monitor (Sept 2011).

I enjoyed it and found myself wondering how historically accurate some of the scenes are such as Snow attempting to dismantle the pump with an iron bar ahead of the meeting with the Board of Governors. Talk about taking matters into your own hands!!

Also, did Snow's knowledge about anesthesia and gases really help him to persuade the doubters? Finally, was there an outlier case on Margaret Street as portrayed in the movie that was an important clue to linking the water supply to cholera. Outliers like this one and another at the brewery provided very compelling evidence.

I asked Isaac Ergas the producer to comment on these questions. I am sure readers who watch the movie will have their own. Here is what Ergas told me.

First question:

No, there is no evidence that Snow attempted to dismantle the pump on his own. As a short film, I need to quickly demonstrate that shutting it down on his own was not a possibility.

When I asked an expert (Vinten-Johansen) why Snow simply did not remove the handle himself, he replied that most likely residents would have simply got another handle. My story did not have time for that. I added the lock just to make it harder and to

further drive home the point that Snow would need the permission of the Board to get it shut down.

Second question:

Yes, as an anesthesiologist, he had excellent knowledge on the characteristics of gases. This was probably his greatest asset in determining the nature of cholera since it was so evident to him that it did not act like the gases he was so familiar with. In Vinten-Johansen's book, he references a hearing in which Snow was an expert witness on behalf of the "offensive tradesmen" (bone boilers, etc...) and he specifically talks about the law of diffusion of gases (I took his Snow's words into my script on this).

Third question:

The outlier was not on Margaret street, but rather in the outlying area of Hampstead (not sure which actual street). We had difficulty in visually portraying Hampstead on the scale of map that we had, so we decided to bring the mark closer to the pump and not mention where exactly it was in the dialogue. Unfortunately, we could not add the street name.

Screenings of the Film To Date

According to Ergas, the film has had the following screenings. His report and comments are included below.

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"there is no evidence that Snow attempted to dismantle the pump on his own."

"I enjoyed it and found myself wondering how historically accurate some of the scenes are"

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Window on the Field

Asked what their slate of offerings in epidemiology revealed about the current state of the discipline, co-director Demmer told the Epidemiology Monitor that the Institute is eclectic and reflects the interdisciplinary nature of the field with students coming from many different professional backgrounds. Secondly, the program reflects some of the tension in the field between those interested in studying specific interventions such as drugs and programs versus those interested in broader categories of risk factors such as those at a broader population level.

Courses in 2012

The courses being planned for June 4-29, 2012 are listed below and more information about the program is available from the website at <http://cuepisummer.org>

Readers interested in other summer programs can review the list of programs planned for 2012 in a related article in this issue on page 8. The list was taken from the special December issue of the Epidemiology Monitor entitled "The Year In Epidemiology" at www.epimonitor.net

EPIC 2012

Week 1: June 4-8

- [Advanced Epidemiology: Applications in Causal Thinking](#)
- [Epidemiology of Complementary and Alternative Medicine](#)
- [Program Evaluation](#)
- [Introduction to Biostatistics](#)
- [Epidemiological Analysis Using SAS](#)
- [Lifecourse Epidemiology](#)
- [Epidemiology of Diabetes and Obesity](#)
- [Introduction to Observational Epidemiology](#)

Week 2: June 11-15

- [Select Topics in Social Epidemiology](#)
- [Epidemiologic Analysis Using R](#)
- [Nutritional Epidemiology](#)
- [Public Health Surveillance](#)
- [Infectious Disease Epidemiology](#)
- [Longitudinal Data Analysis](#)
- [Geographic Information Systems](#)
- [Assessing and Managing Risks](#)

Week 3: June 18-22

- [The Ethics of Public Health](#)
- [Cancer Epidemiology](#)
- [Systematic Review and Meta-analysis](#)
- [Introduction to Multi-Level Modeling](#)
- [Introduction to Pharmacoepidemiology](#)
- [Approaches to Race in Epidemiological Research](#)
- [Analysis of Complex Survey Data](#)
- [Clinical Epidemiology](#)
- [Measuring Patient Reported Health Outcomes](#)

Week 4: June 25-29

- [Structural Interventions](#)
- [Genetic Epidemiology](#)
- [Comparative Effectiveness Research Methods](#)
- [Randomized Clinical Trials](#)
- [Social Media in Population Health Communication](#)
- [Logical Reasoning in Human Genetics](#)
- [Place and Health](#)
- [Epidemiologic Analysis Using Stata](#)

"the Institute is eclectic and reflects the interdisciplinary nature of the field"

"the program reflects some of the tension in the field"

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Letters To The Editor - On Birds & Ornithologists, Science & Philosophy

Dear Editor,

Alex Broadbent, comparing epidemiologists and philosophers, says "You don't expect birds to be good ornithologists." This is a curious choice of metaphor, as it was originally employed by someone not very supportive of Broadbent's position. Wittingly or unwittingly, Broadbent is adopting the metaphor of Nobel laureate Richard Feynman, who said, "Philosophy of science is about as useful to scientists as ornithology is to birds"; he did not think philosophy had practical value for those actually doing science (or working as car mechanics, for that matter).

Bart K. Holland, Ph.D.

UMDNJ - New Jersey Medical School

Dear Editor,

Bart Holland notices my remark about birds not necessarily making good ornithologists. He points out that the metaphor was employed by Richard Feynman, whose view was that scientists need philosophers like birds need ornithologists. With all the respect due to that great physicist, ornithologists are in fact of some use to birds on occasion.

They identify the habitats in which birds thrive and do what they can to protect those habitats. They try to persuade other, non-ornithologist humans of the wonders of birds. They study the migratory paths of birds, their mating habits, and everything else that makes them birds, and this knowledge is used (or should be) when cleaning up oil slicks, locating wind farms, and deciding whether to permit the building of luxury hotels on unspoiled beaches.

The birds, or most of them, would agree with Feynman, since most of them are too busy being birds to worry much about the scientists studying them. That is right and proper and just what you would expect. But it does not mean that Feynman was right; only that he had more in common with the birds than the ornithologists.

Alex Broadbent

University of Johannesburg

[Ed. These letters prompted us to inquire a bit further about the quote about the philosophy of science attributed to Richard Feynman. Below is what we learned from wikipedia. Send us your views about the value of ornithology to birds by way of analogy about the value of philosophy to epidemiologists and we will print your letters here. This seems like a good opportunity to reintroduce some of the humor that historically was a more common feature of The Epidemiology Monitor!

"Philosophy of science has historically been met with mixed response from the scientific community. Though scientists often contribute to the field, many prominent scientists have felt that the practical effect on their work is limited; a popular quote attributed to physicist Richard Feynman goes, "Philosophy of science is about as useful to scientists as ornithology is to birds." In response, some philosophers...have pointed out that it is likely that ornithological knowledge would be of great benefit to birds, were it possible for them to possess it."

2012 Summer Programs in Epidemiology

A list of summer programs, most of them included in the current issue of The Epidemiology Monitor calendar, is provided below for readers who have an interest in these learning opportunities.

New Zealand

February 7-24

Course: 16th Annual Public Health Summer School

Sponsor: University of Otago, Wellington

Location: Wellington, NZ

Contact: Phone: + 64 4 385 5541/48

Email:

information.wsmhs@otago.ac.nz

Web: <http://tinyurl.com/6mqczzu>

Maryland USA

June 18 – July 6

2012 Summer Institute of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Sponsor: Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Location: Baltimore, MD, USA

Contact: Ayesha Khan

Phone: (410) 955-7158

Email: akhan@jhsph.edu

Web: <http://tinyurl.com/7wrnl3j>

Italy

June 3-23

Summer School on Modern Methods in Biostatistics and Epidemiology

Sponsor: Association for Information and Training in Epidemiology

Location: Treviso, Italy

Contact: Debora Rizzuto

Phone: +46 8 690 5368

Email: bioepiedu@ki.se

Web: <http://tinyurl.com/7ynn4ph>

Scotland

June 25 – July 13

Summer School in Epidemiology & Global Health

Sponsor: University of Dundee

Location: Dundee, Scotland, UK

Contact: Ms. Janice Duffy

Phone: +44 1382 388 505

Email: j.duffy@dundee.ac.uk

Web: <http://tinyurl.com/7o4bvnw>

France

June 18 – July 6

IARC Summer School in Cancer Epidemiology

Sponsor: Union for International Cancer Control

Location: Lyon, France

Contact: Sue Anthony

Phone: +33 (0) 4 72 73 80 72

Email: cor@iarc.fr

Web: <http://tinyurl.com/7c8ro2k>

Michigan USA

July 8-27

47th Graduate Summer Session in Epidemiology

Sponsor: University of Michigan

Location: Ann Arbor, MI, USA Contact: Jody Gray

Phone: (734) 764-5454

Email: umichgss@umich.edu

Web: <http://tinyurl.com/6ryggao>

Canada

Date To Be Announced

McGill Summer Program In Epidemiology

New York, USA

June 4-29

Epidemiology and Population Health Summer Institute

Sponsor: Columbia University

Location: New York City

USA Contact: Elaine Meyer

Phone: (212) 305-3651

Email: cuepisummer@columbia.edu

Web: <http://cuepisummer.org>

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Tribeca Film Institute and the Alfred P Sloan Summit

Snow's second screening took place at the Directors Guild in New York City, as part of a weekend long science and film summit hosted by both the Tribeca Film Institute and the Alfred P Sloan Foundation. It screened along with several other short films and was received extremely well by an audience made up of filmmakers from around the world.

Universities and Public Health Institutions

Snow has also screened at several universities and public health institutions both here and abroad. This includes the University of Iowa, University of Miami, University of Southern California and a Rsg de Borgen in the Netherlands. Though I was not in attendance at any of these, the feedback I received thus far is that they found the film extremely useful in an academic setting and some intend to make use of it on an annual basis.

Film Festivals

Snow has been submitted to several film festivals around the world (both large and small). Though we have only heard back from a small percentage of them, Snow was just selected for the San Luis Obispo Film Festival <http://slofilmfest.org/>
We did not get into Sundance or Slamdance or Berlin.

Upcoming Screenings

Snow is already set to screen in several places in the coming year:

- 2/13: USC Digital Media Studies Group at USC.
- 3/22: University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health
- 4/13: USC First Look Film Festival at USC.
- April ??: Part of Global Health Awareness Week at USC.

DVDs will be available from the website (www.snowthemovie.com) by 2/15/2012. ■

"It... was received extremely well by an audience made up of filmmakers from around the world."

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Policy Tension

McBride concludes by alluding to a divide between his interests as a pediatrician treating children and the interests of government or professional associations who may be waiting for "incontrovertible evidence". "I can understand how those responsible for regulation or policy statements of professional organizations might be more comfortable waiting for incontrovertible evidence...however, I need further studies not to prove that acetaminophen is dangerous but, rather, to prove that it is safe." ■

"I need further studies not to prove that acetaminophen is dangerous, but rather, to prove that it is safe."

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Top Ten Quotes of 2011 From The Pages Of The Epidemiology Monitor

For the past few years we have identified the top ten stories in epidemiology from back issues of the newsletter and other sources. In a new twist for 2011, we offer our top ten quotes from the stories published during the year in the newsletter. Here they are:

“There are no Republican or Democratic thermometers”

Richard Somerville, Scripps Institution of Oceanography climate scientist, speaking at a Congressional hearing seeking to make a point that scientific validity has nothing to do with political viewpoints.

“Freedom to wallow in poverty is not among those freedoms most cherished.”

Michael Marmot, commenting in the Yale School of Public Health Magazine on the nature and causes of health disparities

“Advancing justice in health by reducing health disparities is the “acid test” of the value of epidemiology to health.”

Rodolfo Saracci,

Statement included in a book review.

“The major factors that brought health to mankind were epidemiology, sanitation, vaccination, refrigeration, and screen windows.”

Former Governor Richard Lamm of Colorado as quoted by Jon Samet in an address on Big Epidemiology at the NIH

“It is very important for the public to understand that the greatest strength of epidemiology is also its greatest weakness”.

Jan Vanderbroucke, Leiden University Medical Center and the Royal Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Netherlands commenting in an interview about the Public Epidemiology Library in The Epidemiology Monitor

“The work of epidemiology is related to unanswered questions, but also to unquestioned answers.”

Patricia Buffler, University of California epidemiologist speaking at the North American Congress of Epidemiology in Montreal in June 2011

“As our world continues to generate unimaginable amounts of data, more data lead to more correlations, and more correlations can lead to more discoveries.”

Hans Rosling, Professor of International Health at the Karolinska Institute, who gave the Pumphandle Lecture of the John Snow Society at the London School Of Hygiene

“Health and disease are the good and bad effects of where you are in the hierarchy, mediated by the effects of chronic stress.”

Michael Marmot speaking in an interview with the Public Broadcasting Service in the US

“Its methods may be scientific, but its objectives are often thoroughly human.”

Alex Broadbent, University of Johannesburg philosopher commenting on epidemiology in The Epi Monitor

“Epidemiology is in large part a collection of methods for finding things out on the basis of scant evidence, and this by its nature is difficult.”

Alex Broadbent, University of Johannesburg philosopher commenting on epidemiology in The Epi Monitor

Greater Than 4500 Reports From The National Academies and The Institute of Medicine Now Available For Free Download

The National Academies Press announced last year that it was making more than 4,500 reports from the National Academies, the Institute of Medicine, and the National Research Council available for pdf download on its website free of charge. Readers can view the catalog of publications at www.nap.edu.

Some of the recent publications which may be of particular interest to epidemiologists include the following reports.

Adverse Effects of Vaccines: Evidence and Causality

Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Institute of Medicine (2011, approx. 800 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21944-2; available from NAP).

Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans and Agent Orange Exposure

Board on the Health of Select Populations, Institute of Medicine (2011, 158 pp.; ISBN 0-309-162475; available from NAP).

Child and Adolescent Health and Health Care Quality: Measuring What Matters

Board on Children, Youth, and Families, Board on Health Care Services, Institute of Medicine (2011, 320 pp.; ISBN 0-309-186234; available from NAP).

Climate Change, the Indoor Environment, and Health

Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Institute of Medicine (2011, 320 pp.; ISBN 0-309-20941-2; available from NAP).

Clinical Preventive Services for Women: Closing the Gaps

Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Institute of Medicine (2011, approx. 250 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21538-2; available from NAP).

Examining Core Elements of International Research Collaboration

– Summary of a Workshop

Division on Policy and Global Affairs, National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine (2011, 128 pp.; ISBN 0-309-216400; available from NAP).

Facilitating Innovation in the Federal Statistical System – Summary of a Workshop

Committee on National Statistics, Division on Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (2011, 80 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21461-0; available from NAP).

For the Public's Health: Revitalizing Law and Policy to Meet New Challenges

Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Institute of Medicine (2011, approx. 154 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21648-6; available from NAP).

The Future of Federal Household Surveys – A Workshop Summary

Committee on National Statistics, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (2011, 120 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21497-1; available from NAP).

How Communities Can Use Risk Assessment Results: Making Ends Meet – A Summary of the June 3, 2010 Workshop of the Disasters Roundtable

Disasters Roundtable, Division on Earth and Life Studies (2011, 10 pp; available only online from NAP).

Improving Health in the United States: The Role of Health Impact Assessment

Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology, Division on Earth and Life Studies (2011, 208 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21883-7; available from NAP).

Incorporating Occupational Information in Electronic Health Records – Letter Report

Board on Health Sciences Policy, Institute of Medicine (2011, 84 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21743-1; available from NAP).

Learning What Works: Infrastructure Required for Comparative Effectiveness Research – Workshop Summary

Roundtable on Value and Science-Driven Health Care, Institute of Medicine (2011, 588 pp.; ISBN 0-309-12068-3; available from NAP).

Legal Strategies in Childhood Obesity Prevention – Workshop Summary

Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine (2011, 104 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21019-4; available from NAP).

Leveraging Food Technology for Obesity Prevention and Reduction Effort – Workshop Summary

Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine (2011, 118 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21261-8; available from NAP).

Medical Devices and the Public's Health: The FDA 510(k) Clearance Process at 35 Years

Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Institute of Medicine (2011, approx. 280 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21242-1; available from NAP).

A Nationwide Framework for Surveillance of Cardiovascular and Chronic Lung Diseases

Institute of Medicine (2011, 260 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21216-2; available from NAP).

Patients Charting the Course: Citizen Engagement in the Learning Health System – Workshop Summary

Roundtable on Value and Science-Driven Health Care, Institute of Medicine (2011, 338 pp.; ISBN 0-309-14993-2; available from NAP).

Perspectives on Essential Health Benefits – Workshop Report

Board on Health Care Services, Institute of Medicine (2011, approx. 194 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21543-9; available from NAP).

Preventing Violence Against Women and Children – Workshop Summary

Board on Global Health, Institute of Medicine (2011, 236 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21151-4; available from NAP).

Public Engagement and Clinical Trials: New Models and Disruptive Technologies – Workshop Summary

Board on Health Sciences Policy, Institute of Medicine (2011, approx. 116 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21929-9; available from NAP).

Public Health Effectiveness of the FDA 510(k) Clearance Process: Measuring Postmarket Performance and Other Select Topics – Workshop Report

Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Institute of Medicine (2011, 132 pp.; ISBN 0-309-16206-8; available from NAP).

State and Local Policy Initiatives to Reduce Health Disparities – Workshop Summary

Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Institute of Medicine (2011, 138 pp.; ISBN 0-30918745-1; available from NAP).

Sustainability and the U.S. EPA

Science and Technology for Sustainability Program, Division on Policy and Global Affairs (2011, 286 pp.; ISBN 0-309-21252-9; available from NAP).

Veterans and Agent Orange: Update 2010

Board on the Health of Select Populations, Institute of Medicine (2011, approx. 800 pp.; ISBN 0-30921447-5; available from NAP).

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Sample Epidemiology Job Opportunities

Location	Position	Employer	Contact
Wisconsin	Assoc Dir – Clin Effectiveness Rsch	Medical College of Wisconsin	jpanepin@mcw.edu
Michigan	Sr. Faculty – Cancer Epidemiology	University of Michigan	lfeld@umich.edu
Texas	Mgr III – Senior Epidemiologist	Texas Cancer Registry	Melanie.Williams@dshs.state.tx.us
Virginia	TT Faculty – Epidemiology	VCU Medical Center	epi@vcu.edu
Virginia	Prof – Cancer Epidemiology	Virginia Commonwealth University	epi@vcu.edu
New York	Biostatistician	Albert Einstein College of Medicine	http://www.Click2Apply.net/hjsr4rr
Minnesota	Dir of Population Health	Mayo Clinic	schilbe.jennifer@mayo.edu
Texas	Fellowship – Comparative Effect.	UTMB – Sealy Ctr on Aging	baschill@utmb.edu
Georgia	Faculty – Environmental Health	Emory University	rthom10@emory.edu
Texas	Regional Dean – Brownsville	UT – Health Sciences Branch	nesh.aqrawi@uth.tmc.edu
New Jersey	TT Faculty – Epidemiology	UMDNJ	karmazif@umdnj.edu
Montreal	Assoc Prof – Reproductive Epi	McGill University	anna-maria.henderson@mcgill.ca
Alaska	Medical Epidemiologist	CDC – Artic Investigations	zwa8@cdc.gov
Wisconsin	Epidemiologist – Masters Prepared	Marshfield Clinic	bach.bethany@marshfieldclinic.org
Wisconsin	Ctr. Research Administrator	Marshfield Clinic	bach.bethany@marshfieldclinic.org
Wisconsin	Clinical Epidemiologist	Marshfield Clinic	bach.bethany@marshfieldclinic.org
Germany	Sr. Scientist / Statistician	DKFZ	www.dkfz.de
Germany	Statistician – Cancer Research	DKFZ	www.dkfz.de
Minnesota	Health Disparities Researcher	Mayo Clinic	warner.david@mayo.edu
Iowa	Faculty – Injury Epidemiology	University of Iowa	Brenda-schropp@uiowa.edu
Illinois	Post-Doc Fellow – Cancer Epi	University of Chicago	epijobs@health.bsd.uchicago.edu
S. Carolina	Professor & Founding Chair	Medical University of SC	martinc@musc.edu
California	Prof – Dept of Epidemiology	UC Irvine – School of Medicine	https://recruit.ap.uci.edu/apply
Washington	Post-Doc Fellowship	Group Health Research Institute	www.ghc.org/careers
New York	Post-Doc Fellow Cancer Epi	Albert Einstein College of Medicine	thomas.rohan@einstein.yu.edu
Iowa	TT Faculty – Genetic Epi	University of Iowa	trudy-burns@uiowa.edu

For full details on these and other job openings: <http://epimonitor.net/JobBank.htm>



The University of Michigan School of Public Health Senior Faculty Position in Cancer Epidemiology

The University of Michigan School of Public Health invites applications for a senior, tenure-track faculty position in Cancer Epidemiology who will also serve as Associate Director for the Cancer Prevention and Control Program of the UM's Comprehensive Cancer Center. The Associate Director for Cancer Prevention and Control works within the UM Cancer Center to oversee two programs - Biomedical Prevention and Socio-Behavioral Prevention - that include over 60 faculty members from 20 departments across campus. Successful applicants will be expected to develop a nationally-recognized Cancer Epidemiology Program within our Department of Epidemiology which is home to over 30 highly interdisciplinary, internationally-recognized researchers in a broad range of epidemiologic disciplines. The Department has a large and highly successful training program at both the masters and doctoral level. The University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center also provides exceptional resources for investigators in cancer epidemiology, including exceptional core facilities and multiple NCI-funded SPORE grants. Cancer epidemiologists with additional expertise in genetics, social epidemiology, bioinformatics, infectious diseases, or nutrition are particularly encouraged to apply. Applicants should have a PhD or MD and advanced training in cancer epidemiology or a related field.

To apply, please provide: a statement of current and future research plans, teaching philosophy and experience, complete curriculum vitae, and names of three potential referees. Send to: Cancer Epidemiology Search Committee, Department of Epidemiology, 1415 Washington Heights, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2029 or electronically to lfeld@umich.edu. Review of applications will begin February 15, 2012 and continue until a suitable candidate is identified. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply and the University is supportive of the needs of dual career couples. The University of Michigan is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.



SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH
University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey

Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor of Epidemiology

The Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ), invites applications for tenure-track faculty positions at the rank of Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor. The faculty member being recruited is expected to develop and sustain a vigorous, extramurally funded research program. The faculty member is also expected to teach graduate level course and mentor graduate students pursuing an MPH, PhD, or DrPH degree, with a concentration in epidemiology. Applicants with specific interest in cancer, cardiovascular, nutritional, perinatal, environmental, disparity in care, molecular, and/or genetic epidemiology are encouraged to apply. Applicants' area(s) of research interest will complement and enhance the wide range of expertise currently possessed by the faculty at UMDNJ-School of Public Health (www.sph.umdj.edu), the Cancer Institute of New Jersey (www.cinj.org), the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (www.rwjms.umdj.edu), the Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute (www.eohsi.rutgers.edu), and Rutgers University (www.rutgers.edu), all located on the New Brunswick/Piscataway campuses of UMDNJ and Rutgers University. The successful candidate will have excellent opportunities to collaborate with faculty members from all these schools and institutes. An attractive package will be available, including competitive salary and start-up funds. The successful applicant should have academic experience commensurate with the level of appointment, and in particular have a demonstrated record of peer-reviewed publications and a track record of extramural grants or the *potential* to successfully obtain extramural grants.

Applications will be received and reviewed until the position is filled. Applicants should send their current curriculum vitae, a statement of research and teaching goals, and contact information for three references to: **Ms. Irene Karmazsin, Coordinator, Faculty/Staff Affairs, UMDNJ-School of Public Health, 683 Hoes Lane W; Room 327, Piscataway, NJ 08854 or Email (Preferred): karmazif@umdj.edu**. The UMDNJ is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V and a member of the University Health System of New Jersey. The UMDNJ-School of Public Health is sponsored by the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in cooperation with Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey and New Jersey Institute of Technology.



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
CENTER FOR CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY & PREVENTION
 COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER AND
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STUDIES
 Website: <http://ccep.uchicago.edu>

Postdoctoral Position in Genomic and Environmental Epidemiology of Cancer

We seek candidates for a postdoctoral position in the areas of Genetic, Molecular, Environmental, and Cancer Epidemiology. Applicants should have a doctoral degree in epidemiology or a related field. The general focus will be on understanding the interplay between genomic factors, environmental exposures, and molecular phenotypes, and determining their roles in cancer and other complex diseases. Strong statistical and programming skills are essential. A detailed description can be found at <http://health.bsd.uchicago.edu/Employment/26>. Please send a CV, a statement of research goals, and names of three references to Dr. Brandon Pierce at epijobs@health.bsd.uchicago.edu.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
 Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

The University of Maryland-College Park, School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics invites applicants for an Assistant/Associate Professor (tenure track) in epidemiology. Research areas of particular interest to the department include, but are not limited to, social and behavioral factors in health and epidemiology of cardiovascular disease, cancer, infectious diseases (such as HIV/AIDS), and obesity. Special emphasis on diet/nutrition, physical activity, and application of epidemiologic methods to develop and evaluate disease prevention and health promotion interventions for translational research is desirable. We offer an MPH degree in epidemiology and in biostatistics, and a PhD in epidemiology. Successful candidates must have a doctorate in epidemiology, an active research program, the ability to teach intermediate or advanced graduate level epidemiology courses and mentor graduate students. Effective interpersonal, communication, and collaborative skills are essential. This is a 12-month tenure-track appointment with up to 75% state funding. Salary is competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience. Appointments may begin as early as August 2012. The University of Maryland is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. Review of applications will begin February 6, 2012 and continue until the position is filled. For more application information go to: <https://jobs.umd.edu> specifying faculty position 115612.

FACULTY POSITION IN CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY Division of Preventive Medicine Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard Medical School

The Division of Preventive Medicine, Department of Medicine, at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School seeks an Assistant or Associate Professor level scientist in cancer epidemiology. Applicants should have a PhD, ScD, or MD degree, training in epidemiologic methods, and several years of relevant experience. Opportunities exist for collaboration with an active research group and access to data from several large-scale cohorts. Preference will be given to individuals who have demonstrated the ability to obtain grant support for their research. Applicants should have well documented commitment to cancer-related epidemiologic research. Academic rank at Harvard Medical School is to be determined in accordance with the successful candidate's experience, teaching, and scholarship. Please send CV, a description of research goals and accomplishments, a summary of current and past grant support, names and contact information for at least three references, and representative reprints of 3-5 original reports to:

JoAnn E. Manson, MD, DrPH
 Chair, Cancer Epidemiology Search Committee
 Division of Preventive Medicine
 Brigham and Women's Hospital
 Harvard Medical School
 900 Commonwealth Avenue, 3rd fl
 Boston, MA 02215-1204

Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard Medical School Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employers are actively committed to increasing the diversity of our faculty: women and members of under-represented minority groups are therefore strongly encouraged to apply.



Comprehensive Applied Epidemiology, Public Health Surveillance, and Epi Info Courses



Directed by:
 Philip S. Brachman, MD and David Kleinbaum, PhD

Epidemiology in Action: Intermediate Analytic Methods Course June 4 - 15, 2012 (tentative dates)

This course includes measures of association, normal and binomial distributions, confounding, statistical tests, stratification, logistic regression, models and computers as used in epidemiology. Prerequisite: Basic Epi course.

Epi Info 7: Developing Public Health Systems Course

June 21- 23(basic level) and
 June 25 - 27, 2012 (intermediate - advance level)

These courses are for practitioners of epidemiology & computing, who wish to develop software applications using Epi Info 7.

Epidemiology in Action

June 11 - 22, 2012

This basic epidemiology course is directed at public health professionals and includes discussions of applied epidemiology and biostatistics, public health surveillance, field investigations, basic Epi-Info training, and selected prevalent diseases. Epidemiologic case studies are worked on in the classroom.

Public Health Surveillance

May 7 - 11, 2012

This course is a comprehensive study on public health surveillance and includes discussions of the history and planning considerations, data sources and collection, analysis and interpretation, communication, evaluation, ethical and legal issues, state and local issues, and other public health surveillance issues.

Contact: Pia Valeriano, MBA, Program Manager
 Phone 404-727-3485; Email: pvaleri@emory.edu
 Website: <http://www.sph.emory.edu/EPICOURSES>



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Arctic Investigations Program (AIP), announces the availability of a position for a Medical Epidemiologist based in Anchorage, Alaska.

AIP's mission is to prevent morbidity and mortality from infectious diseases in the Arctic and sub-Arctic, with special focus on diseases of high incidence and concern among the indigenous peoples. Priority activities include prevention of diseases caused by *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Haemophilus influenzae*, *Helicobacter pylori*, groups A and B *Streptococcus*, *Neisseria meningitidis*, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), as well as the control of viral hepatitis and foodborne botulism. Ongoing, laboratory-based surveillance for *S. pneumoniae*, *H. influenzae*, and *H. pylori* creates opportunities to explore the impact of vaccination policies and to describe the emergence of antimicrobial resistance or new clonal types in these organisms.

Research activities take place in both urban and rural Alaska, with opportunities to travel to Alaska Native communities where lifestyles are still very traditional. AIP is part of the campus of the Alaska Native Medical Center and has a staff of 35 with laboratories for microbiology and molecular diagnostics and a 500,000+ specimen bank for supporting epidemiology studies. The epidemiology staff consists of four full-time and two part-time medical epidemiologists plus four research nurses. Two statisticians with extensive experience assist the epidemiology group with project development and analysis of field studies.

The duties of the position:

- Independently designs, initiates, coordinates, conducts and directs epidemiologic research, to include writing protocols and the collection, management and analysis of data related to such activities;
- Independently designs and manages surveillance systems for diseases of public health importance, including continuous ongoing surveillance as well as specialized short-term surveillance;
- No supervisory responsibility; however, may serve as the project manager for one or more specialty programs or research projects; ensures timely accomplishment of project tasks/program objectives; designs and writes program plans; provides instruction and direction to project personnel;
- Conducts, manages and leads on-site epidemiologic investigations of public health problems, including acute outbreaks and clusters of illness in domestic and international settings and provides recommendations for prevention and control;
- Maintains and enhances specialized expertise and in-depth knowledge of particular subject matters, serving as a domestic and international consultant to health professional providing advice and technical assistance as appropriate in the diagnosis, management, prevention, control, and treatment of specific diseases/conditions;
- Responsible for disseminating scientific and public health information through writing, editing and submitting reports and articles to scientific publications, and the presentation of seminars, conference, lectures in a variety of training, educational and scientific settings including national and international scientific meetings.

Contact Michael Bruce, MD, MPH, at zwa8@cdc.gov or 907-729-3416 for additional information. Also, go to <http://www.usajobs.gov> and type in "Medical Officer" and "Alaska" (Job announcement number: HHS-OHR-EO-12-575306).

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Data Analysis Workshop II
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Survival Analysis

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Biostatistics Analysis of Epidemiologic Data II:
Poisson and Conditional Logistic Regression
Analysis

Biostatistics Analysis of Epidemiologic Data III:
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Molecular Biology for Genetic Epidemiology
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Gene Expression Data Analysis

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Public Health Dimensions of Global
Tuberculosis Control

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Advanced Issues of HIV/AIDS

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410-955-7158
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Email: akhan@jhsph.edu
www.jhsph.edu/summerepi



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*Course offerings and faculty are subject to change. Proficiency in English language is required.

8th Annual NICHD-IHDCYH Summer Institute in Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology

The Division of Epidemiology, Statistics and Prevention Research of the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health & Human Development (NICHD) and CIHR's Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health (IHDCYH) are pleased to announce their 8th annual Summer Institute in Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology. The Institute will be held from July 22-27, 2012, at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. We invite applications from doctoral students, and clinical fellows enrolled in a graduate research degree program, who are planning to pursue a research career in reproductive or perinatal epidemiology. The Summer Institute is open to participants from the US, Canada, and low- and middle-income countries. The week-long Summer Institute will provide substantive and methodologic training in human fecundity and fertility, pregnancy complications, maternal health, and fetal and infant outcomes, as well as promising new methodological approaches for studying these issues. A combined didactic and case-based curriculum will be offered by faculty affiliated with NICHD and IHDCYH.

Up to 20 qualified students will be selected. Participants will be awarded a stipend of up to \$1,500 USD to cover travel expenses; in addition, lodging and meals will be covered by NICHD and IHDCYH. Eligible students and fellows are invited to submit a brief (2-page) cover letter stating their professional status and goals with regard to reproductive and perinatal epidemiology, curriculum vitae (maximum of 2 pages), and two letters of support. All documents must be received by **April 16th, 2012**. Applications will be reviewed by an Institute faculty committee with regards to: 1) personal statement of professional research interests and career plans; 2) evidence of graduate-level training in epidemiology and biostatistics; and 3) letters of support. Unsuccessful applicants for the 2011 Summer Institute can resubmit their letters of support (if still applicable). Priority will be given to students/fellows with demonstrated excellence in this field, including practical research experience and peer-reviewed publications. Selections will be made by **May 16th, 2012**.

For more information on the 8th Annual NICHD-IHDCYH Summer Institute in Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology, please visit the IHDCYH website at: <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/35611.html>

All applications must be submitted electronically to Sarah De La Rue (CIHR-IHDCYH) by **April 16th, 2012**.
Email: IHDCYH-IDSEA@cihr-irsc.gc.ca; Telephone: 416-586-4800 x 6671

DHHS and NIH are Equal Opportunity Employers.





NRSA T32 Postdoctoral Fellowship

Interdisciplinary Women's Reproductive Health

The University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, TX is accepting applications for one postdoctoral fellow interested in pursuing an academic career in women's health research. This 2-year NIH funded fellowship provides formal and informal training in theory and methods as well as practical experience in conducting clinical research. Program faculty include national experts in statistics, epidemiology, and women's health who can offer many opportunities to participate in data analysis, manuscript preparation, and grant writing in a collaborative environment.

Who may apply: Applicants who have completed a MD, PhD, or equivalent degree in a discipline related to women's health. Must be US citizen, non-citizen national or permanent resident and able to commit full time effort to the program for 2 years.

To apply, send 1) a personal statement including career goals, a brief description of proposed research, and how this training will help achieve your career goals; 2) a current CV; and 3) 3 letters of reference to:

Abbey Berenson, MD, MMS at abberens@utmb.edu or Dan Freeman, PhD at dfreeman@utmb.edu



Tenure-Track Assistant Professor in Women's Health

The Center for Interdisciplinary Research in Women's Health at UTMB invites applications for a tenure-track position at the assistant professor level. Applicants in all areas of research related to women's health will be considered. Candidates with doctoral level degrees in epidemiology, statistics, public health, demography, sociology, and related fields are invited to apply. UTMB has strong research programs in reproductive health, contraception, aging, infectious disease, adolescent health and preventative medicine, among others. A strong publication record and experience with grant writing is preferred.

The successful candidate will be provided with a competitive salary and benefits package and given a minimum of 85% protected time for research. They will also be given the opportunity and assistance to establish and maintain an independent, externally funded research program.

Applicants should have a PhD, MD, or equivalent degree, a record of conducting research in women's health, and no more than 6 years of research experience following their degree.

Send electronic curriculum vitae, statement of research interests and goals, and the names of three references to:

Abbey Berenson, MD, MMS
The University of Texas Medical Branch
301 University Blvd.
Galveston, TX 77555-0587
abberens@utmb.edu

UTMB is an equal opportunity affirmative action institution that proudly values diversity.

Candidates of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

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Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2029 USA
734.764.5454 phone
734.764.5521 fax
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- 14 - UMDMJ / Professor Epidemiology
- 15 - U Chicago / Post-Doc Epidemiology
- 15 - U MD / Professor - Epidemiology
- 15 - HMS / Faculty - Cancer Epidemiology
- 15 - CDC & Emory/ Short Courses
- 16 - CDC / Medical Epidemiologist - Alaska
- 17 - Johns Hopkins / Summer Epi Program
- 17 - / Conference
- 18 - UTMB / Multiple Openings
- 19 - U Mich / Summer Epidemiology Program
- 20 - CDC / Epi-Info Software

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