



Hot on the Hill

Inside this issue:

CDC Releases Statement on Sodium Reduction	2
Cultural Competency Training Improves Awareness for African American Diabetes Patients	3
Annual Report Shows Overall Cancer Rates are Declining	3
Updates from the States	4

President Obama Releases FY 2011 Budget



On Tuesday, February 2, President Obama released his FY2011 Budget to Congress. The president's budget serves as blueprint for Congress; in March, the House Budget Committee will begin drafting their nonbinding budget resolution. For an interactive graphic on the budget process, please visit: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/politics/interactives/budget101/>

The \$3.8 trillion budget includes \$13.98 billion in discretionary spending for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, a decrease of \$32 million from FY2010. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention would receive about \$100 million more in FY2011, including \$20 million for a "Big Cities Initiative" to target chronic disease in up to 10 large cities, \$10 million for a new Health Prevention Corp to support state and local health departments, \$421 million to support the new Center for Tobacco Products at the FDA, and \$17 million boost for the Section 317 child immunization program. For more information on the FY2011 Budget, please see: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2011/assets/health.pdf>

For more information on the CDC's budget, please see: http://www.cdc.gov/fmo/topic/Budget%20Information/appropriations_budget_form_pdf/FY2011_CDC_CJ_Final.pdf

Senate Passes Health Care Reform Bill; Outcome Uncertain

On December 24, the Senate approved, 60-39, the [Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act](#) (H.R. 3590). The bill now must be merged with the [Affordable Health Care for America Act](#) (H.R. 3962), which the House passed in November.

Provisions related to prevention of chronic disease are contained in Title IV of the Senate bill (p. 1114), including \$7 billion over five years to establish a Prevention and Public Health Fund (Section 4002); the House-passed version contained \$15.4 billion over five years for an analogous Prevention and Wellness Trust (Section 3111).

For more information on the health care reform legislation, please see the [Kaiser Family Foundation's two-page summaries](#) of the bill's major provisions and/or the [Commonwealth Fund's paper](#) detailing

health insurance exchanges.

However, the future of the legislation is uncertain following the election of Sen. Scott Brown (R-MA). With Sen. Scott's election, Democrats lack the 60 votes needed to pass a cloture motion to end debate on the bill and proceed to a vote. Potential options for moving ahead include: the House voting on the Senate-passed version of the bill with no further amendments; using budget reconciliation to move some of the tax and revenue provisions of separately; or starting anew with a more narrowly focused bill. For more information on the budget reconciliation process, please see these reports from the Congress research service: [The Budget Reconciliation Process: House and Senate Procedures](#) and [The Budget Reconciliation Process: The Senate's "Byrd Rule."](#)

Get Involved!

- Stay up to date by reading your local paper or visiting a national news outlet webpage
- Visit your Member of Congress and let them know about your work as a health education specialist and SOPHE's work nationally
- Encourage others to join SOPHE and participate in SOPHE advocacy events and activities

"The majority of Americans are consuming about twice the recommended limit of sodium each day, and not by choice..."

*- Thomas R. Frieden,
Director, CDC*

CDC Releases Statement on Sodium Reduction in Manufactured and Restaurant Food

On January 11, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) voiced their support for efforts to reduce the sodium content of manufactured and restaurant foods. According to CDC research, the majority of adults in the U.S. should consume no more than 1,500 mg. of sodium daily – the equivalent of about two-thirds of a teaspoon of table salt (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5811a2.htm>).

"The data are clear," said Dr. Thomas R. Frieden, director of the CDC. "The majority of Americans are consuming about twice the recommended limit of sodium, each day, and not by choice. Achieving substantial reductions in sodium levels by incremental

decreases in sodium content across the food supply can save many lives while maintaining good taste."



Decreasing sodium consumption reduces blood pressure and reduces the risk of stroke, heart disease and other serious health problems.

Additionally, CDC commissioned a study from the Institute of Medicine that will outline strategies to reduce sodium consumption to levels recommended by the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*.

<http://www.iom.edu/Activities/Nutrition/ReduceSodiumStrat.aspx>

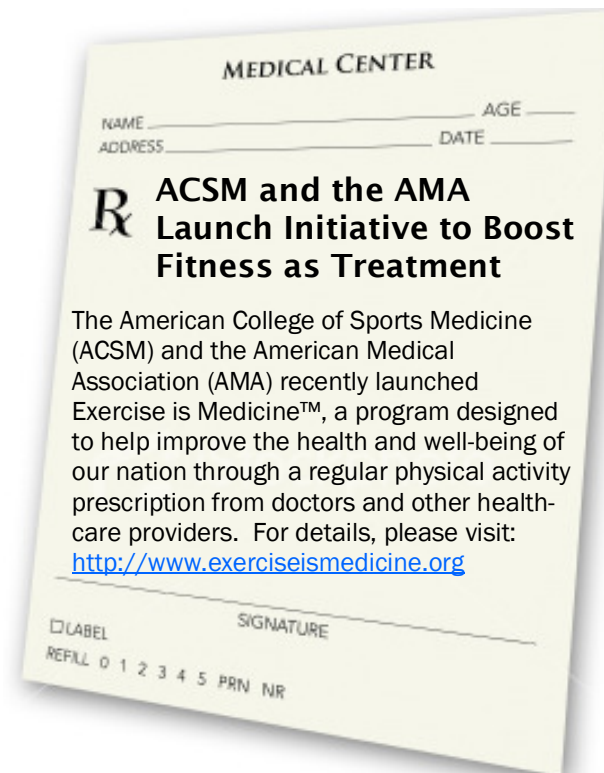
World AIDS Day



December 1 was [World AIDS Day](#). The journal *Health Affairs* devoted its November/December issue to the economic, political, scientific and ethical challenges facing world policymakers in their response to HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention. In addition, the journal is offering six free policy briefs on HIV/AIDS. The briefs discuss policy recommendations concerning prevention, funding, research, and other key HIV/AIDS-related topics. To view the briefs, visit: <http://content.healthaffairs.org/cgi/content/full/28/6/DC2>

CDC Releases Latest Stats of Preterm Birth

The CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report released a report on preterm birth in the United States and Selected European Countries on December 25. Compared with 18 European countries, the United States had the highest percentage of preterm births (12.4 percent) in 2004. Except for Austria (11.4 percent), the other countries had levels of 8.9% or less. Ireland had the lowest percentage (5.5 percent), followed by Finland (5.6 percent) and Greece (6.0 percent), each less than half the U.S. percentage. Because preterm infants are at greater risk for death than term infants, countries with a higher percentage of preterm births tend to have higher infant mortality rates. To view the report, visit: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5850a6.htm?s_cid=mm5850a6_x.



New Data on Obesity from the CDC

According to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention the obesity rate has held steady for the past five years. The new data are based on health surveys involving height and weight measurements of 5,700 adults and 4,000 children. The results show 68 percent of adults are overweight, with African Americans having the highest rates of obesity, followed by Hispanics and Whites. About one-third of children aged 2 to 19 were overweight, with the percentage of extremely obese children steadily increasing.



For more information please visit: <http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/abstract/303/3/235> (adult rates) and <http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/abstract/303/3/242> (children and adolescents).

Cultural Competency Training Improves Awareness for African American Diabetes Patients

A January article in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* found that cultural competency training improved physicians' awareness of racial and ethnic disparities but patients' outcomes (measured by hemoglobin A1C and low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol levels) did not improve. The journal recommends that future studies focus on methods to build on this increased clinician

awareness, possibly through programs that engage patients and the community in more effective management of diabetes and incorporate the skills of other allied health professionals, including nurses, pharmacists, and nutritionists.

To read the full article, visit: <http://www.annals.org/content/152/1/40.abstract>

Annual Report to the Nation on the Status of Cancer Shows Overall Rates are Still on the Decline

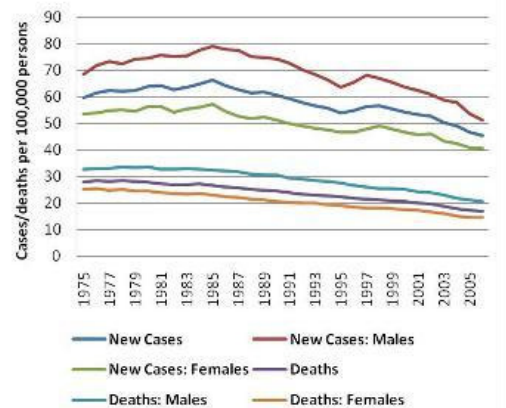
In December 2009, the American Cancer Society, the CDC, the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR) published their annual report that provides updated information regarding cancer occurrence and trends in the United States.

According to the report, rates of new diagnoses and rates of death from all cancers combined declined significantly in the most recent time period for men and women overall and for most racial and ethnic populations in the United States.

The drops are driven largely by declines in rates of new cases and rates of death for the three most common cancers in men (lung, prostate, and colorectal cancers) and for two of the three leading cancers in women (breast and colorectal cancer). New diagnoses for all types of cancer combined in the United States decreased, on average, almost 1 percent per year from 1999 to 2006. Cancer deaths decreased 1.6 percent per year from 2001 to 2006. To view the full report, go to:

<http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/123206036/abstract>

Colorectal Cancer Incidence and Mortality 1975-2006



Updates from the States

SOPHE is pleased to present the latest updates from the states on chronic disease prevention and health promotion policy from our 2009 Health Promotion Policy Experts (HPPEs)!

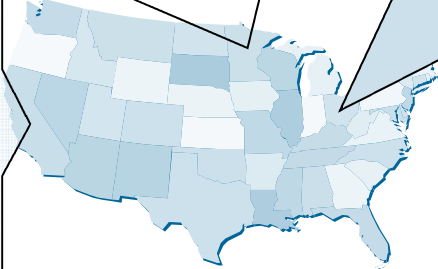
Minnesota

The Minnesota Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) has been in place for over four months. This is part of a larger health reform effort in our state. SHIP is specifically intended to address the burden of chronic disease, by focusing on policy changes that can effectively address the issues of tobacco use and obesity. The local public health department (Dakota County) where SOPHE HPPE, Patrick Stieg works is one of the recipients of state funding to implement these interventions in our communities. Nearly every community and tribal health department in the state has received funding and is geared up to conduct this work...

California

California State continues to struggle fiscally, and Governor Schwarzenegger has returned from Washington D.C. after making a special request for federal funding. He reported that he's confident California will receive special allocations. House Speaker Pelosi stated that any such action by the Federal Government will likely benefit all states, not just California.

State lawmakers will also be revisiting the creation of a single-payer healthcare plan for California in the form of SB 810 (Leno). Governor Schwarzenegger has vetoed two previous versions of the bill...



Ohio

OHIP Designated as Authorized Non-Profit Entity for Statewide HIE

The state's 2010-11 biennial budget allocates \$8 million in non-GRF funds to the Ohio Department of Insurance to support efforts in health information technology. Governor Strickland designated the non-profit Ohio Health Information Partnership (OHIP), a unique public-private collaboration, as the entity to lead the implementation and support of health information technology throughout Ohio. The Department of Insurance will work together with OHIP to oversee the use of this money and the application for federal resources...

The Board of Directors for Legacy(SM) announced it will take the case to preserve tobacco funds in Ohio to the Supreme Court of Ohio after a ruling on December 31 that reversed a lower court's order permanently enjoining the State from dissolving the endowment of the Ohio Tobacco Prevention Foundation (OTPF). The Supreme Court of Ohio will be asked to expedite the case to prevent tobacco settlement funds from being used for general purposes in the state budget...

To read more updates from our HPPEs in these states and others, visit:

<http://www.sophe.org/chronicdiseasepolicy/update.asp>



Save these Dates!

13th Annual Health Education Advocacy Summit

March 6-8, 2010
Washington Court Hotel
Washington, DC
For details, visit:
<http://www.healtheducationadvocate.org/>

SOPHE-PRC 2010 Joint Conference

Advocate, Communicate, & Translate to Enhance Research & Practice
April 7-9, 2010
Sheraton Atlanta Hotel
Atlanta, GA
For details, visit:
www.sophe.org/midyearmeeting

18th Annual NALBOH Conference Call for Presentations

Journey to the Future: Facing Public Health Challenges Today for a Healthier Tomorrow
August 5-7, 2010
Omaha, NE
For details, visit:
http://www.nalboh.org/NALBOH_Conference.htm

SOPHE 61th Annual Meeting

Healthy People 2020: Scaling New Heights
November 4-6, 2010
Denver Marriott City Center Hotel
Denver, CO
For details, visit: www.sophe.org/meetings



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