

## **CCLHO Communicable Disease Control and Prevention Committee**

The Communicable Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP) Committee meets bi-monthly in person and by teleconference, typically on the third Thursday of the month from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, and communicates between meetings via e-mail as necessary.

Membership includes Health Officers or their designees from about 20 counties as well as representatives from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), multiple CCLHO affiliates and the Health Officers Association of California (HOAC). Any interested Health Officer or their designee is welcome to join the CDCP Committee.

The CCLHO Policy Platform states that “Local communicable disease control surveillance and reporting activities are the backbone of the state’s communicable disease control efforts. Without an effective local reporting and surveillance system, control of communicable diseases is not possible in California. CCLHO supports efforts to obtain adequate resources for every local health jurisdiction to monitor the health of its community. . . . Local health departments should have real time electronic access to health information, including patient data, to permit assessment of health trends in the community and to facilitate case management in cases of public health significance. Local health departments must respond quickly to disease outbreaks, both natural and intentional; assure that necessary interventions are implemented; communicate effectively with the public; and assist in the development and evaluation of prevention measures, research strategies, and policy options.”

To implement the policy platform, the CCLHO CDCP Committee:

- Works with its many affiliates [including: the California Association of Communicable Disease Controllers (CACDC); the California Association of Public Health Laboratory Directors (CAPHLD); the California Conference of Local AIDS Directors (CCLAD); the California Sexually Transmitted Disease Controllers Association (CSTDCA); the California Tuberculosis Controllers Association (CTCA); and the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California (MVCAC)] as well as with the CDCP Committee’s state partners, including the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHSA), CDPH, and the California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation (CDCR), to address issues of concern to Health Officers with respect to communicable disease control and prevention and to develop and implement statewide approaches and solutions.
- Addresses the implications to local public health of important national initiatives, policies, and recommendations from such Agencies and Organizations as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), and the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE).
- Identifies the need for legislation that supports CCLHO goals and objectives in communicable disease control and prevention.
- Advises CDPH and other appropriate organizations.

Examples of the types of projects and issues the CDCP Committee works on include:

- Review and propose changes in the California Code of Regulations, Title 17, regarding the reporting and list of notifiable communicable diseases.
- Develop revised guidelines for Health Officers for rabies control protocols and procedures based on risk.
- Review and make recommendations on the guidance for release of information on epidemics and outbreaks.
- Develop approaches to reverse the trend of increasing use of personal belief exemptions for opting-out of vaccinations.
- Review and make recommendations on the use of TB screening and testing for school children and teachers.
- Promote the implementation of electronic reporting of notifiable diseases and laboratory results for communicable disease agents.