

Environmental Public Health Tracking

Michael R. Spence, MD, MPH
Quality Management
Kalispell Regional Medical Center
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■ Mission Statement

- Our mission is to improve and protect the health, well being and self reliance of all Montanans

■ Determinants of Health

- Genetics
- Social circumstances
- Environmental conditions
- Medical care

Public Health Training Program Components

- **Epidemiology**
- **Biostatistics**
- **Environmental Health**
- **Public Health Administration**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Components

- Epidemiology and Surveillance
- Maternal and Child Health
- Environmental Health and Injury Prevention
- Health Information and Statistics
- Health Promotion
 - Birth Defects
 - Chronic Diseases
- Infectious Disease
- Global Health

National Institutes of Health

- National Institute of Maternal and Child Health
- National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
- National Cancer Institute
- National Institute Mental Health
- National Institute of Environmental Health

Montana DPH Components

- Human Services is an entitlement activity and should be differentiated from the practice of public health
- Public Health and Safety Division Components
 - Provides Public Health Activities
 - Public Health Laboratory – serves as a reference
 - Has all major components except environmental health, but has an environmental laboratory
- Vital Statistics a separate division

Environmental Public Health Tracking Program

- Response to a request for proposals from the CDC Center for Environmental Health
- Primary goal to link existing public health and environmental hazard data bases to improve identification and intervention
- Establish nationwide network for interstate communications and data sharing

Montana Environmental Health Issues

- **Air Pollution**
 - Forest fires
 - Wood stoves
 - Asbestos
 - Herbicides and Pesticides
- **Water contamination**
 - Organic compounds
- **Heavy Metals**
 - Mercury, Lead, Arsenic

EPHT Program

Primary Focus

- **Intra-state Data Base Linkage**
 - Health Outcomes
 - Vital Statistics
 - Environmental Hazards
 - Global Information Systems
- **Inter-state Communication**
 - Establish Interstate Network
- **Pilot Program**
 - Arsenic in well water
 - Asthma in School Children

Program Activities

- Worked with contractor to develop interface between DPHHS and DEQ data bases.
- Maintained Liaison with DEQ
- Actively engaged communities throughout state to address local environmental health issues
- Interfaced with University of Montana
- Worked with DEQ on fire season issues
- Worked with state and ATSDR on fish hatchery PCB issue
- Multiple small projects with CDC and ATSDR in E. Helena, Libby, Missoula, Billings, Butte, and Deer Lodge
- Working with University of California on guidelines for asthma project

Much More Work Needed

- Agriculture
- Mining
- Forestry
- Industry
- Chronic Disease
- Birth Defects