



**Norwalk Board of Health  
February 27, 2018  
8:00 AM  
Library  
Monthly Meeting  
Minutes**

Call to order at 8:36 AM

Present: **Board of Health** –Janet Karpiak, M.D., Kenneth Lalime, RPH (phone), Theresa Quell, PhD, RN; **Staff** – Pam Bates, IAP Coordinator, Tom Closter, Environmental Director, Deanna D’Amore, Director of Health, Megan DiMeglio Project Coordinator, Darleen Hoffler, Clinical Supervisor, Alfred Kao, Laboratory Director, David Reed, M.D., Medical Director

**Approval of the November 28, 2017 meeting minutes** – Mr. Lalime moved and Dr. Karpiak seconded a motion to approve the minutes. The minutes passed unanimously.

**Flu Updates**

Ms. D’Amore gave an update on the health department flu clinics and the number of vaccines given. Ms. D’Amore mentioned with the increased activity around this year’s flu season and a request from the State Health Department the health department offered an additional flu clinic on a Thursday evening in late January. The health department vaccinated 84 people that evening. Volunteers were also utilized from our Emergency Response Team (ERT). The health department also holds weekly walk in hours for flu shots throughout the fall and winter. Staff in our Preventable Disease division reached out to area pediatric practices to check on their flu vaccine inventory and to remind offices that they could send their patients to the health department. To date the health department has given 1,117 flu shots, which includes 387 given to children age 6 months - 18 years. Mr. Lalime asked if the health department has a way of knowing how many people in the Norwalk community have received their flu shot. Ms. D’Amore said that data isn’t available. Dr. Karpiak said she is seeing more patients receive the vaccine this year at the Norwalk Community Health Center and that the vaccine supply has been good this year.

**Body Care & Body Art - Microblading**

Ms. D’Amore presented a new popular cosmetic procedure that is being offered in salons. Mr. Closter explained that microblading is a semi-permanent process similar to tattooing performed on eyebrows. Mr. Closter also mentioned the health department has requested guidance on this

new procedure from the State Health Department and they referred the decision back to locals. Mr. Closter spoke with Dr. Reed the Medical Director for the health department. They discussed and reviewed microblading and have determined this procedure should be treated the same as tattooing. A person requesting to perform this procedure must be licensed by the State as a Tattoo Technician, received training on blood borne pathogens, Hepatitis and be overseen by a physician. Ms. D'Amore stated they have reviewed the Body Care & Body Art ordinance and don't need to update it because microblading falls under the definition of tattooing. The health department will update the Technical Standards to include microblading.

### **Laboratory Policies Manual**

Ms. D'Amore presented the Laboratory Policies Manual for review and approval from the Board. Mr. Kao explained this Laboratory Policies Manual goes over everything that is required to hold a license for the clinical testing conducted in the Norwalk Health Department Laboratory. Once approved by the Board of Health, this manual will be sent to the State Health Department as requested during the site visit. Dr. Quell moved and Dr. Karpiak seconded a motion to approve the Laboratory Policies Manual. The Laboratory Policies Manual passed unanimously.

### **Travel & Adult Vaccines –Shingrix**

Ms. D'Amore presented a new vaccine for Board approval. Shingrix is recommended for the prevention of herpes zoster. Ms. Hoffler explained Shingrix is preferred over zoster vaccine live (ZVL) for the prevention of herpes zoster and related complications. Ms. Hoffler also mentioned people have been calling to see if we are offering this vaccine. This vaccine will be offered during our Travel and Adult vaccine clinic for a fee of \$155.00 per dose. This is a two dose series of vaccines. David Reed, MD, Medical Director reviewed this vaccine prior to the Board meeting and recommended that the Board approve offering this vaccine.

### **Immunization Action Plan Program**

Ms. DiMeglio presented the Immunization Action Plan Program (IAP) immunization rates. Ms. DiMeglio presented a map of the State and Norwalk's catchment area which includes Norwalk, New Canaan, Wilton, Westport, and Weston. She explained that the IAP program and the Coordinator Pam Bates track all children born in those towns through the tracking system called Connecticut Immunization Registry and Tracking System (CIRTS). The IAP program tracks all immunizations for children from birth to age two.

Ms. DiMeglio presented the State wide birth cohort from 2010-2014. The Up-to-Date By Age Two schedule consist of 4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 HIB, 3 Hepatitis B, 1 Varicella, 4 PCV – valid doses only. For the last birth cohort as of 2014, the State is at 87% which is above the 85% goal. Norwalk IAP 2014 birth cohort rate is 94%. Ms. DiMeglio presented a graph showing the Norwalk IAP rates over time from 2010-2014.

Ms. DiMeglio also presented rates for Norwalk Hospital Opt-Out Rate for CIRTS Enrollment. She mentioned between 2015-2016 the CIRTS enrollment form was changed and a box was removed that made it very easy for parents to opt-out. The State has now made it that every child born in Connecticut is enrolled unless the parents send a letter to the State requesting their child be removed. Ms. DiMeglio presented Norwalk Hospital Hepatitis (Hep) B Birth dose rates. During this past year a policy was developed at the hospital around the Hep B birth dose. This

change has made a huge improvement to their rate of Hep B doses given within the first 12 hours of a child's birth. Along with the policy change at the hospital, Norwalk's IAP program has done an in-service on the maternity floor with staff educating them on the importance of the Hep B dose.

### **Operating Budget**

Ms. D'Amore provided an update on the operating budget request and recommendations.

### **Other Business**

Ms. D'Amore informed the Board that Health Education Associate Kaitlin Latham had been asked to present at the Connecticut Bike/Walk Summit. Ms. Latham will be a featured speaker and was asked to present on the success of the NorWALKer program, from the very beginning of the program to where it is today, focusing on the importance of community coalitions in making a program like this successful. The Connecticut Bike/Walk Summit is on April 6, 2018 in Hartford, CT.

Ms. Latham also submitted an abstract to New England Bike/Walk Summit and was chosen to present a poster on the success of its NorWALKer program, drawing attention to Norwalk's model of promoting opportunities for physical activity through community involvement. The New England Bike/Walk Summit is April 26 – 27, 2018 in Boston, MA.

Adjourn at 9:23 AM