

**Monthly Meeting
Minutes
April 14, 2009
8:00 AM
Library**

Call to order at 8:05 AM

Present: Board of Health – John McNamara, MD, Sheldon Miller, and Theresa Quell, PhD, RN, & Edward Tracey, MD

Staff – Tim Callahan, Director of Health, David Reed MD, Medical Director, Patricia Carey, APRN and Rhonda Collins, MPH

Minutes of March 10, 2009 Monthly Meeting and March 31, 2009 Special Meeting–amend March 10, 2009 minutes to include Dr. Tracey as an attendee. Motion to approve by Dr. Tracey, seconded by Dr. McNamara, passed unanimously

TB Control Program

Patricia Carey, APRN Provided an Overview of the Tuberculosis Control Program. The difference between Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI) and Tuberculosis Disease (Active TB) was reviewed.

The health department offers ppd testing weekly. Evaluation and treatment of LTBI is also offered. The difficulty in getting patients to complete the recommended nine months of treatment was discussed.

Quanteferon testing was discussed as a positive development, which should reduce the number of people being treated for Latent TB as it eliminates the false positive results often obtained with PPD testing.

The health department performs case management of patients with Active TB. This includes contact investigations, patient education and DOT (Directly Observed Therapy). Immigrant and refugee follow up requirements were reviewed. Statistics show that the NHD is at or above the state average for evaluating patients referred by the CDC.

Finally the huge problem of undocumented residents who require tb treatment (both active and latent) was discussed. Approximately 90% of patients followed in Ct for active TB are foreign born. This number is expected to increase.

Lyme Disease 2009: Tick Me Off conference

Rhonda Collins, Health Educator provided an update on the conference, which is set for April 22, 2009 at Norwalk Hospital Perkin Auditorium. As of April 8, 2009 there were 62 registrants. The capacity of the auditorium is 225. The objective of this conference is to provide health workers information on Lyme disease treatment and prevention so that they might pass this information on to children and parents. In essence the intent is to train the trainers. Speakers include Kirby Stafford from the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, Mark Ditmar, MD pediatrician and Jennifer Reid, Health Educator.

Day Laborer Health Fair

The Day Laborer Health Fair went off as scheduled on April 2, 2009 from 7:00 to 9:00 AM in the DeFlorio's Variety Store parking lot on Ely Avenue. Participants included the Health Department, the Brien McMahon High School Center for Youth, Americares, Norwalk Hospital Dental Clinic, Norwalk Community Health Center, the Family and Children's Agency and the Norwalk Police Department. In excess of 100 people, predominantly males, participated. Services included blood pressure, blood glucose, and dental screenings, HIV tests, tetanus vaccinations, and distribution of tick removal kits. Dr Reed provided blood pressure checks and diagnosed and referred people to Americares for various ailments. Plans to offer this service several times each year are being developed.

Fees

Mr. Callahan presented the proposed fee schedule was presented to the Common Council's Health Welfare and Public Safety Committee. The Committee voted to move the item to the Common Council for consideration at their April 14, 2009 meeting.

Adjourn 9:10 AM

