



April 30, 2008

Dear Colleagues:

Last week I wrote you to inform you that Dr. Rob Janssen will be leaving his position as Director of CDC's Divisions of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP) on May 2. Today I am writing to provide our plans for interim leadership of the division.

Filling the position of Director of DHAP is my number one priority, and every effort is being made to expedite this process. However, recruiting into such a key and senior leadership position may take some time. Until the post is permanently filled, I plan to use a rotational approach for the Acting Director of DHAP, and will draw upon the talents of two key leaders in the division. I am pleased to announce that Dr. Rich Wolitski, DHAP Deputy Director for Behavioral and Social Science, will serve as Acting Director for six months. If the position has not been filled within this period, then Ms. Janet Cleveland, DHAP Deputy for Prevention Programs, will serve as Acting Director. This approach ensures the continuity of leadership within DHAP and provides an opportunity for our Deputies to continue efforts to accelerate the work and impact of the Division.

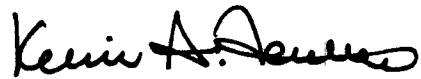
Dr. Wolitski began his career in HIV prevention research in 1986 at California State University Long Beach and joined CDC in 1995. His research has focused on understanding the individual and social determinants of HIV risk as well as the development and testing of interventions to reduce this risk. Over the past 20 years, Dr. Wolitski has played key leadership roles in a number of important HIV intervention trials. He received his PhD in community psychology from Georgia State University and his master's degree in psychology from California State University Long Beach.

Ms. Cleveland began her CDC career in 1991. She currently provides leadership, vision and direction for administering the nation's HIV/AIDS prevention programs and capacity building activities within state and local health agencies, community based organizations, and capacity building organizations that have programmatic responsibility for delivering effective HIV prevention services. She has worked in the public health field for more than 20 years, serving in various leadership positions at CDC and at state and local levels. Ms. Cleveland holds a Masters in Science degree in health education from the University of Southern Mississippi.

The next step toward finding a permanent DHAP Director is to name a search committee to help me identify and recruit exceptional candidates to this important position. I am hopeful that many highly qualified candidates will be interested in applying for the position. Until such time, please join me in welcoming Dr. Wolitski to his new role.

We look forward to your continued support of CDC's HIV prevention activities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin A. Fenton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'K' and 'F'.

Kevin Fenton MD, PhD, FFPH  
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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
[www.cdc.gov/nchhstp](http://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp)