



CDC Connection: For the Advisory Committee to the Director

New Issues and Alerts

Peanut Butter *Salmonella* Outbreak update—nine people have died, and 691 cases in 46 states have been confirmed as a result of the multistate *Salmonella* outbreak linked to a food processor in Georgia; however, the number of new cases has declined substantially. ([March 20 US News and World Report](#); [March 17 final CDC Web update](#)) ■ **Blumenthal to serve as HHS' IT Coordinator**—President Obama has tapped David Blumenthal to become the national coordinator for health information technology at HHS with the task of using technology to modernize and standardize the paper-dominated health-care system. ([March 20 Reuters](#); [March 20 Modernhealthcare.com](#)) ■ **U.S. TB Rates at All-Time Low**—Tuberculosis cases reached an all-time low rate of 4.2 cases per 100,000 people in 2008, but Hispanics, blacks, and Asians were 7.5, 8.1 and 23.4 times higher, respectively, than among whites in 2008. ([March 19 US News and World Report Health Day](#); [March 20 MMWR](#)) ■ **CDC Injury Research Agenda 2009-2018 Released**—Injury is the leading cause of death in the United States in the first four decades of life, and the [CDC Injury Research Agenda](#) outlines research priorities to prevent injuries and minimize their consequences. ([March 11 CDC in the News](#)) ■ **Diabetes Incidence Continues to Rise**—About 24 million people have diabetes—an increase of more than 3 million over the last three years—18 million of whom have been diagnosed and about 6 million who are undiagnosed. ([March 23 CDC Features: Diabetes Trends](#)) ■ **Nominees for Two Key Health-Related Posts**—President Obama named Kathleen Sebelius to be Secretary of Health and Human Services and Nancy-Ann DeParle as Director of the White House Office for Health Reform. ([Transcript of March 2 announcement from Washington Post](#); [March 2 MSNBC](#)) ■ **President Obama Cites High Cost of Health Care**—At a White House fiscal responsibility summit, the President said “Putting America on a sustainable fiscal course will require addressing health care,” adding, “Many of you said what I believe, that the biggest source of our deficits is the rising cost of health care.” ([Feb 24 Kaiser Daily Health Policy Report](#)) ■ **CBO's Take on Prevention Programs “Misses the Point” of Health Reform**—Disease prevention and health promotion programs provide good value to the health care system, but the Congressional Budget Office has largely overlooked this fact in assessing potential health reforms, according to a white paper released by [Partnership for Prevention](#). ([Feb 25 PR Newswire](#))

Director's Highlights

CDC Budget Grows by 3.7% for FY 2009—CDC will be receiving approximately \$6.6 billion in funding for FY 2009; that amount is an increase of \$239 million or 3.7% from CDC's FY 2008 budget. ([March 10 Research America](#)) ■ **CDC's Haddix Tapped for Federal Coordinating Council for Comparative Effectiveness Research**—CDC's Chief Policy Officer, Anne Haddix, PhD, was named as a member of the 15-person [Federal Coordinating Council for Comparative Effectiveness Research](#), formed to oversee and manage \$1.1 billion in research funds allocated through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. ([March 19 Yahoo News](#); [March 20 Modernhealthcare.com](#)) ■ **Economic Stimulus Package**—CDC's Economic Stimulus Response Team is developing proposals for how CDC can invest economic stimulus dollars and work with its partners during this process. ([Feb 26 Economic Stimulus: CDC Moves Forward, CDC Web Site](#))



Selected CDC Strategic Intent

Healthiest Nation—The [Alliance to Make US Healthiest](#) has redesigned its Web site to add new features, content, and messages. Latest membership numbers are 219 organizational members and 843 individual members. ([About CDC](#); [Alliance to Make US Healthiest](#))

Pandemic Flu and Bioterrorism—Drug-resistant flu poses challenges for physicians, and CDC researchers have noted that 98% of flu samples from the H1N1 strain are now resistant to Roche AG's Tamiflu (generic name is oseltamivir). ([March 23 USA Today](#); [Jan 13 CDC press release](#))

Advisory Committee to the Director Updates

The next Advisory Committee to the Director meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2009, at CDC in Atlanta. An agenda and prereads are being prepared for Advisory Committee to the Director members.

Our Members

Eduardo Sanchez announced that Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas is now licensed as a sponsor of Bridges to Excellence, a program that promotes quality management of patients with chronic diseases. ([March 23 PR Newswire](#)) ■ **Thomas Nelson** published a commentary on the proposed national service legislation (the proposed G.I.V.E. Act in the House and the Serve America Act in the Senate) to encourage Americans to serve their communities. ([March 18 Washington Times](#)) ■ **Mary Kelly** is now Executive Vice President, Merchandising and Category Management, Shoppers, Drug Mart in Toronto. ([LinkedIn](#)) ■ Congratulations to **Nisha Botchwey** on the birth of her son, Nicolas Chairis Botchwey, on January 26, 2009. ■ **Larry Brilliant**, who was the executive director of nonprofit Google.org, has stepped down to become Google's chief philanthropy evangelist. ([Feb 21 Cnet News Cutting Edge](#))

FYI: Resources

- [CDC Health E-Stats](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/hestats.htm) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/hestats.htm>)
- [CDC Health-e-Cards](http://www2a.cdc.gov/ecards/) (URL: <http://www2a.cdc.gov/ecards/>)
- [Advisory Committee to the Director](http://www.cdc.gov/about/advisory/advCharter.htm) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/about/advisory/advCharter.htm>)
- [White House Agenda for Health Care](http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/health_care/) (URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/health_care/)

