



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Public Health

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State Health Director

May 6, 2013

To: Local Health Departments  
From: Evelyn Foust, Communicable Disease Branch Head, Epidemiology Section  
Beth Rowe-West, Immunization Branch Head, Women's and Children's Health Section  
Re: **Transfer of Vaccine-Preventable Disease Responsibilities at NC DPH**

On behalf of the North Carolina Division of Public Health, we are pleased to announce that responsibility for surveillance and control of vaccine-preventable diseases at the state level will be transferred from the Immunization Branch of the Women's and Children's Health Section to the Communicable Disease Branch (CDB) of the Epidemiology Section.

**This change will become effective on Thursday, May 9, 2013.**

Beginning on May 9<sup>th</sup>, please direct all questions regarding surveillance or control of vaccine-preventable diseases to the Communicable Disease Branch epidemiologist on-call 24/7 phone line (919-733-3419) or to your CDB Technical Assistance and Training Program regional nurse consultant (see attached map).

Questions regarding vaccine administration will continue to be handled by the Immunization Branch on-call nurse (919-707-5575) or by the regional immunization nurse/program consultants. Questions regarding vaccine procurement should be directed to the Immunization Branch Help Desk at 1-877-873-6247.

This change will allow the Immunization Branch staff to focus on the increasing demands related to vaccine distribution, monitoring and accountability. It will result in all communicable disease surveillance and response activities being consolidated in the Communicable Disease Branch, which should reduce confusion for local health departments seeking state assistance with these issues.

We expect this change to result in improved service to our local health department partners. Thank you for your understanding during this period of transition, and please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

www.ncdhhs.gov • www.publichealth.nc.gov • Telephone: 919-733-3421 • Fax: 919-733-0195

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