



Illinois Department of Public Health
 Lyme Disease Task Force (LDTF)
 Meeting Minutes
 June 27th, 2019 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Meeting Location(s)

Illinois Department of Public Health 535 West Jefferson Street, 5 th Floor Springfield, IL 62761	Illinois Department of Public Health 69 W. Washington Street, 35th Floor Chicago, IL 60602
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No call-in option was provided.

Lyme Disease Task Force Members in attendance

Name	Task Force Position	Attended
Dr. Ngozi Ezike	IDPH Director, Chairwoman	X
Dr. Brian Zachariah	IL Department of Financial and Professional Regulation	X
Dr. Sana Shireen Ahmed	Infectious Disease Physician; Administrator	X
Dr. Gail Reid	Infectious Disease Physician; Educator	
Dr. Roberta Van Zant	Family Medicine Physician	X
Dr. Sandy Martell	Advanced Practice RN; Administrator	X
Ms. Carla Ewing	Local Health Department Administrator	X
Dr. Nohra Mateus Pinilla	Veterinarian	X
Ms. Tonya Foster	Member of the Public	X
Ms. Holly C. Tuten, Ph.D.	Member of the Public	X
Ms. Jennifer Russell	Member of the Public	X
Ms. Linda Kehart	Member of the Public	X

IDPH Staff:

Name	Title
Dr. Jennifer Layden	Chief Medical Officer and State Epidemiologist
Molly Lamb	Deputy Director, Office of Health Protection
Heidi Clark	Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases
Judy Kauerauf	Chief, Communicable Disease Section
Samantha Debosik	Manager, Environmental Health Vectorborne Control Program
Debbie Freeman	Manager, Communicable Diseases Vectorborne Surveillance Program
April Holmes	Specialist, Environmental Health Vector Control
Jonathan Popovitch	Specialist, Communicable Diseases Vectorborne

Others in attendance

Name	Title
Rep. Daniel Swanson	Representative Illinois 74th District
Kristin DiCenso	IDNR Chief of Staff
Toni Moore	Member of the Public
David Porter	Member of the Public
Creighton Meland	Member of the Public

Agenda Item	Discussion	Actions
1. Call to Order	Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.	
2. Welcome	<p>Dr. Ezike took attendance.</p> <p>Dr. Ezike briefly went through the agenda items for the meeting and inquired if there was a motion to add to the Agenda. No motion was made.</p> <p>Dr. Ezike states that there will be a 15-minute period for public comments. Public comments will be limited to 2 minutes per comment.</p>	
3. Lyme Disease Data	<p>Dr. Jennifer Layden, Chief Medical Officer and State Epidemiologist, provided a presentation on Lyme Disease (LD). Topics covered included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is LD • General symptoms of LD • LD Diagnosis • Treatment of acute LD • Post-LD Symptoms • LD Cases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reviewed case definitions for probable and confirmed cases ○ Maps and graphs of LD at National and State Level • IDPH’s role in LD human cases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Surveillance of acute clinical cases ○ Education and Awareness to Local Health Departments (LHD), physicians, and the public 	
4. Prevention and Educational Efforts	<p>Samantha Debosik, Vector Control Program Manager, provided a presentation on the Division of Environmental Health’s role in LD. Topics covered include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background of vector control in Illinois • Tick surveillance methods 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Known Illinois populations of <i>Ixodes scapularis</i> (deer ticks, black legged ticks) vs. CDC’s distribution map • Fiscal Year 2018 Tick Surveillance Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Intergovernmental Agreement with University of Illinois <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Partnership with I-TICK (Illinois Tick Inventory Collaboration Network) ▪ Building Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS) Medical Entomology Laboratory’s capacity for pathogen testing ▪ Education provided to LHDs for tick surveillance ○ Provided signage and educational materials to Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to display at state parks • CDC’s <i>Ixodes scapularis</i> surveillance guidance • Future Directions of IDPH Vector Control Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Determine presence of tick populations at the county level ○ Conduct targeted tick collections ○ Collect and test ticks for pathogens of public health importance 	
5. Bylaws	<p>Dr. Ezike lead discussion of bylaws.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Holly Tuten requested that if composition of the task force can be changed, she recommends adding either a Medical Entomologist or a Vector Ecologist • Dr. Ezike stated that composition cannot be changed, but an entomologist/vector ecologist could be a member of the public. • Dr. Tuten made a motion to vote on bylaws with the discussed revisions before the close of the meeting. • Jennifer Russel seconded the motion. • All members of the task force agreed 	<p>Section 2.1: Clarify that “at least” one physician should be from each category</p> <p>Section 2.2: revise team to term</p> <p>Section 3.3: Remove Plumbing Code Advisory Council</p> <p>Section 4.2: Clarification was requested on the IDPH Liaison</p> <p>Section 6.6: Revise to state chairperson instead of liaison. Ensure 3 and 5 are not duplicate statements</p>

Agenda Item	Discussion	Actions
		<p>Throughout: Consistency between liaison, chairperson, and director</p> <p>Throughout: Consistency between referencing the group as a task force vs. committee</p> <p>Throughout: Consistency on the abbreviation of Lyme Disease Task Force</p> <p>Action by: Jonathan Popovitch Due by: July 31, 2019</p>
6. Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative Daniel Swanson stated his appreciation to Dr. Ezike for taking the time to chair this task force. He also stated his appreciation for the task force members and stressed that a great group of individuals was assembled. • Creighton Meland stated that education is needed for physicians. The problem with LD testing is false negatives, not false positives as indicated in Dr. Layden’s presentation. There are western blot bands excluded from the current LD testing. LD is underreported. Recommendations should not be taken from the CDC or the Infectious Disease Society of American, but instead should come from the International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society. 	
7. Open Discussion	<p>Dr. Roberta Van Zant asked what the next steps of the Task Force are.</p> <p>Tonya Foster stated that she has been battling LD and two coinfections for three years. Ms. Foster states that there is not a lot of support for LD in the medical community of Illinois. Functional medicine professionals have provided support for her. The medical community in Illinois has a lack of sensitivity to the emotional support of those suffering LD. There is a lack of “Lyme Literate” doctors in Illinois. Ms. Foster recommended the book “Bite Me” by Ally Hilfiger to enlighten people on the emotional toll of LD. She has connected to the Global Lyme Alliance and they are doing fantastic things for those suffering from LD.</p>	<p>IDPH to provide specificity and sensitivity of the two-tiered LD testing process.</p> <p>Action by: Debbie Freeman/Dr. Layden Due by: January 2020</p> <p>Provide LD Task Force the University of Georgia’s publication on the Companion Animal Parasite Council through Jonathan</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Point of Order by Dr. Tuten: She is the Illinois Ambassador for the Global Lyme Alliance and they would be interested in educating physicians. <p>Ms. Linda Kehart stated she is an LD advocate and her daughter is suffering from LD. She stated she has worked on a list of future goals and accountability needs for LD and that list has been provided to Rep. Swanson. She can provide the list to the LD Task Force if requested.</p> <p>Dr. Van Zant stated she is excited about the tick and pathogen surveillance, however, how is the medical community being educated about the vectors and potential pathogens. There are many physicians in Illinois that state LD is not in this state. The task force needs to discuss how to educate the medical community.</p> <p>Dr. Mateus-Pinilla discussed utilizing continuing education courses for medical professionals to educate on tickborne disease issues.</p> <p>Dr. Van Zant stressed the need for data driven information to educate not only medical doctors, but also nurse practitioners and physician assistants. She sees a need for a subcommittee. She also questions the specificity and sensitivity of the two-tiered LD testing. There are undiagnosed individuals in Illinois.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Point of Order: Dr. Tuten states that they have found <i>Borrelia miyamotoi</i> in ticks in northern Illinois. This is very similar to LD but doesn't have the erythema migrans (EM) rash. It also does not show up on LD testing. She states that education will be something that continues to need updated in coming years as we learn more information about the ticks in Illinois. <p>Dr. Ezike summarized that all healthcare providers should be educated on tickborne diseases in general and LD specifically.</p> <p>Ms. Jennifer Russel states that the reason we are all here is because of her daughter Lauryn. It has been a 7-year journey to start this task force. Her daughter was</p>	<p>Action by: Dr. Holly Tuten Due by: July 25, 2019</p>

Agenda Item	Discussion	Actions
	<p>also told there was no LD in Illinois. Stated that LD may require multiple re-tests to get a positive LD test result.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Point of Order: Dr. Tuten agreed that the LD test may come back negative if administered too soon after a tick bite. She mentioned the need for a decision tree for physicians. Some tickborne diseases require immediate treatment, especially for children, where others may need to wait for confirmation testing. She also suggests involving veterinarians in the subcommittee. <p>Dr. Mateus-Pinilla stated that she has conducted a lot of capture and testing of animals, but there is not a lot of value in that right now. The vet community can build on surveillance efforts by providing information on where the pathogen has been found.</p> <p>Dr. Tuten stated that animal testing data is not gold standard according to CDC.</p> <p>Dr. Mateus-Pinilla stated that it would indicate places to focus tick surveillance, like human exposure data.</p> <p>Ms. Russell states that the Companion Animal Parasite Council can serve as a resource for locations of LD.</p> <p>Dr. Tuten stated that a University of Georgia Publication examined data from the Companion Animal Parasite Council to determine its effectiveness as a risk analysis tool for humans. Publication indicates it is a possible resource.</p> <p>Dr. Sandy Martel states that they have formalized a contract between their local health department, veterinarians, and medical community to share data on diseases such as LD.</p> <p>Dr. Ezike inquired if there should be one subcommittee for education to both veterinarians and medical professionals or two subcommittees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group decided to follow CDC's One Health concept that recognizes that the health of people is connected to the health of animals and the environment. 	

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8. Subcommittee Formation	<p>Dr. Sandy Martell made a motion to form a subcommittee following CDC's One Health concept.</p> <p>Dr. Tuten seconded the motion.</p> <p>Dr. Tuten and Dr. Martell will co-chair the subcommittee.</p> <p>Subcommittee Members: Dr. Sana Shireen Ahmed, Tonya Foster, Dr. Van Zant, Jennifer Russell</p> <p>Dr. Ezike requested Dr. Layden to attend the subcommittee meetings as well.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subcommittee to meet and report back to task force on a plan to educate medical community following the CDC's One Health approach. <p>Action by: Education Subcommittee Due by: January 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task force contact information sent to group <p>Action by: Jonathan Popovitch Action by: July 31, 2019</p>
9. Adjourn	<p>Next Meeting will be in January 2020</p> <p>Dr. Van Zant made motion to adjourn the meeting</p> <p>Dr. Tuten seconded the motion.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.</p>	

These meeting minutes were compiled in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120 et seq.

Minutes approved by LDTF: 1/23/2020