CDC PUBLIC HEALTH GRAND ROUNDS

Measles – Maintaining Disease Elimination and Enhancing Vaccine Confidence



Accessible version: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJPabiGf1TE Tuesday, February 18, 2020 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (ET)



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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CDC PUBLIC HEALTH GRAND ROUNDS

Measles – Maintaining Disease Elimination and Enhancing Vaccine Confidence



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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Measles in the United States



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Characteristics of Measles

- Most contagious of the vaccine preventable diseases (R₀ = 12–16)
 Acute viral rash illness

 High fever, cough, coryza, conjunctivitis

 Incubation period: 10–14 days
- Infectious period: 4 days prior through 4 days after rash onset



Measles complications



- Diarrhea (8%)
- Otitis media (7%–9%)
- Pneumonia (1%–6%)
- Hospitalized (10%–25%)
- Encephalitis (1 per 1,000)
- Death (1–3 per 1,000)
- Subacute sclerosing panencephalitis (1 per 5,000–10,000)

Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) Vaccine

Vaccine effectiveness (VE)

- 1 dose of MMR: ~93%
- 2 doses of MMR: ~97%

Excellent safety profile over past 50 years

- Common side effects are usually mild and resolve spontaneously
- Serious adverse events are extremely rare

Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) Vaccine Recommendations

Children and adolescents need TWO doses of MMR

• First dose at 12 to 15 months of age, and second dose at 4 to 6 years of age

Most adults need only ONE dose of MMR

 Two doses are recommended for adults at HIGH RISK for exposure, including healthcare personnel, post-high school students, international travelers

Infants 6–11 months of age traveling internationally need ONE dose

High MMR coverage in the United States led to elimination of measles in 2000



*Source: National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (passive surveillance); data as of January 31, 2020; National Immunization Survey, CDC

Most measles cases in the United States are among unvaccinated people

Measles cases by vaccination status and incidence rate, United States, 2001–2019 (N=3,881)



*Source: National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (passive surveillance); data as of January 31, 2020

Majority of measles importations are among U.S residents who traveled abroad

Measles cases by residential status, United States, 2001–2019 (N=747)



*Source: National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (passive surveillance); data as of January 31, 2020

The United States has seen a recent increase in measles

Number of reported measles cases, United States, 2001–2019* (N=3,881)



¹⁶ *Source: National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (passive surveillance); data as of January 31, 2020

Global measles cases tripled in 2019



Month of onset

*Source: WHO:

https://www.who.int/immunization/monitoring_surveillance/burden/vpd/surveillance_type/active/measles_monthlydata/en/

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Wide geographic distribution of measles importations, United States, 2001–2019 (N=747)



¹⁸ *Source: National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (passive surveillance); data as of January 31, 2020

Variability in state and local MMR vaccine coverage can result in populations at risk for measles outbreaks

≥1 Dose MMR Vaccination Coverage by 24 Months, NIS-Child, U.S. 2013 to 2014 Combined Birth Years



Source: National Immunization Survey

Largest measles outbreaks occurred within undervaccinated close-knit communities

Year	State	Source (genotype)	Community	Cases	Duration (months)
2013	NYC	UK (D8)	Orthodox Jewish	59	2.9
2014	ОН	Philippines (D9)	Amish	383	4
2017	MN	Unknown (B3)	Somali	75	3.8
2014/2015	CA + 7 states	Unknown (B3)	Various	147	2.3
2018/2019	WA + 2 states	Ukraine (D8)	Ukrainian Russian Moldovan	78	2.5
2018/2019	NY, NYC + 4 states	Israel/Ukraine (D8)	Orthodox Jewish	1,114	10

Measles outbreaks in New York threatened measles elimination status in the United States

Number of reported measles cases (N=1,487), by week of rash onset, United States, September 30, 2018—October 1, 2019



Summary

Endemic measles has been eliminated in the United States since 2000

- However, measles cases continue to occur through global importations
- Most importations are U.S. travelers who are not vaccinated
- Recent epidemiology suggests larger and more sustained outbreaks compared to earlier post-elimination years
- Measles exploits pockets of undervaccination
 - Multidisciplinary local response needed to prevent measles outbreaks

The 2018–2019 Measles Epidemic in New York State: Successes and Challenges



Howard A. Zucker, M.D., J.D.

Commissioner New York State Department of Health



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

1. Measles and Public Health in New York State



New York's Leadership in Disease Prevention

- 1912: U.S. begins routine reporting of measles cases; an average of 6,000 measles-related deaths are reported each year over next decade.
- 1914: New York state's Antitoxin Laboratory designated as Division of Laboratories and Research, facilities that will later become known as Wadsworth Center.
- **1926:** Wadsworth develops nation's first system of standardized laboratory analysis for the diagnosis of human disease.
- pre-1963: Before licensing of measles vaccine, an estimated 400–500 U.S.
 residents died of measles each year.

Measles Cases in New York State, 1997–2019*





2. The 2018–2019 Outbreak



Initial Cases in the Lower Hudson

- October 1, 2018: Measles outbreak outside New York City begins in Rockland County when teenager visiting from Israel falls ill during services at local synagogue.
- October 2018: Six additional measles cases imported from Israel, including 4 people from one family who become ill at roughly the same time.
- **December 2018–April 2, 2019:** Three further measles importations bring internationally imported cases to 10 during outbreak.
- Outbreak encompasses 4 counties outside of New York City, all of which have Orthodox Jewish communities.

Measles Outbreak Overview

- October 1, 2018–October 3, 2019: A total of 406 people infected with measles in Rockland (312), Orange (57), Sullivan (19), and Westchester (18) counties.
- Most cases reported in under-vaccinated, close-knit Orthodox Jewish communities.
- October 1, 2018–October 3, 2019: county providers administered nearly 85,000 MMR vaccinations, a 77% increase from the same period during the prior year.
- October 2019: County health officials and New York State Department of Health declare outbreak concluded in all 4 counties.



Measles Outbreak Cases by County*





Rockland County as Measles Ground Zero

- 312 cases confirmed—about 1 in every 1,000 residents.
- Most cases were unvaccinated individuals.
- Nearly 30,000 doses of MMR vaccine administered during outbreak—3X rate from the same period in the prior year.



Local Heroes: Rockland County Department of Health

"In the beginning, it was a 24/7 operation. The weekends, the nights, the holidays—it didn't matter.

We lived and breathed measles. We fell asleep thinking of measles, and we woke up thinking of measles."

> - Dr. Patricia Ruppert, Rockland County Health Commissioner

Local Heroes: Refuah Health Center

- Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) that provides healthcare to many in Rockland County's Orthodox Jewish community.
- Treated the Israeli boy who was outbreak's index case.
- Doctors and nurses worked closely with department and county officials to vaccinate the unvaccinated.



3. The New York State Response

Get the Facts About Measles.



Department of Health Mobilization Strategy



- Department's Incident Management System activated from start of outbreak
- Healthcare Outreach and Communication
- Community Education and Outreach
- Preventing Spread in Schools and at Summer Camps
- New York State Legislative Action



Healthcare Outreach and Communication

- Issued advisories, held conference calls and forums
- Made detailing visits to more than 30 medical practices, urgent care centers, and hospitals
- Provided vaccine to affected counties
- Coordinated specimen lab testing at Wadsworth Center
- Distributed educational materials for patients and families
- Collaborated with Refuah FQHC in Rockland County throughout outbreak


Community Education and Outreach

Printed Educational Materials

- Developed flyers, posters, information postings at malls and highway rest stops, and articles in local publications because digital communication was deemed ineffective for reaching affected demographic.
- Ensured that printed materials were available in English and Yiddish.
- Printed and mailed 90,000 copies of booklets on measles and vaccination to households in affected ZIP codes.
- Distributed 55,000 door hangers to households in affected ZIP codes.

Meetings, Forums, and Conference Calls

- Held conference calls with women in affected communities.
- · Met with community, religious and educational leaders in affected counties.



Preventing Spread among Children

In Schools

- Unvaccinated children not admitted to schools or day care centers in outbreak areas, some for entire outbreak.
- Each school in outbreak areas required to confirm compliance weekly. Most schools audited and several fined for noncompliance.
- Rockland County denied unvaccinated children admittance to all schools near schools with measles cases.
- At peak of outbreak, Rockland denied 6,000 unvaccinated children entry to 60 schools.

At Summer Camps

- Unvaccinated campers not admitted in high-risk counties.
- Summer population in Sullivan County swells to about 300,000 (from 67,000) because of primarily Orthodox vacationers and campers from NYC.
- Despite this increase, all 300 camps in affected counties were audited.



New York State Legislative Action

- On June 13, 2019, Governor Cuomo signed legislation (S.2994A/A.2371)
 removing nonmedical exemptions from school vaccination requirements for New York state children.
- In August, the Department of Health joined the Office of Children and Family Services to issue **emergency** regulations providing physicians with clear, evidence-based guidance on determining when immunization may be detrimental to a child's health.



4. Data Analysis



Measles Outbreak Cases by Week of Rash Onset and County



Number of Measles Cases by Week of Rash Onset and County in the Hudson Valley, NYS, October 1, 2018 – August 19, 2019 (N=406)*



Rates of Vaccination

- New York state has high MMR immunization coverage overall—96% among school-age children.
- Before outbreak, vaccination coverage for children age 1–18 in 4 most affected ZIP codes was 87.3%.
- Vaccinations during outbreak primarily administered in private practices and FQHCs and public health—held clinics.
- By August 1, 2019, vaccination coverage for children age 1–18 in those ZIP codes increased to 98.3%.



Measles Outbreak Cases by Age and Vaccination Status*

Age Group	Number of MMR Doses				
	0	1	2	Unknown	Total
<6 months	17	0	0	0	17 (4%)
6-11 months	31	3	0	0	34 (8%)
1-4 years	110	14	3	7	134 (33%)
5-17 years	125	3	2	9	139 (34%)
18+ years	34	4	10	34	82 (20%)
Total	317 (78%)	24 (6%)	15 (4%)	50 (12%)	406

* 10/1/2018 – 8/19/2019; excluding NYC



Measles-Associated Complications in Outbreak

- No deaths or documented cases of encephalitis.
- 28 (7%) patients diagnosed with pneumonia.
- 28 (7%) patients hospitalized; 20 of them (71%) were children, with 6 (30%) (ranging in age from 1 day to 7 years) admitted to ICU.
- Two women who had measles while pregnant gave birth to preterm infants at 34 and 25 weeks' gestation. Both infants had congenital measles infection confirmed by measles PCR testing.



5. What We Learned



Factors Contributing to Outbreak

- Vaccine hesitancy
- Targeted anti-vaccine activity and misinformation
- Multiple importations following large outbreak in Israel
- Large gatherings
- Close-knit communities
- Large families
- Underreporting and unidentified transmission
- Families did not always seek medical care
- Lab testing limitations



Department Action on Measles

New York State Measles Watch





Critical Steps to Prevent Future Outbreaks



PARENTS: NYS School Vaccination Requirements Have Changed



- Ongoing **vigilance** regarding vaccine hesitancy
- Strong partnerships and communication channels with county health departments and local healthcare providers
- Removing nonmedical exemptions from school vaccination requirements across New York state



Outbreak All-Stars

New York State Department of Health

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2018–2019 measles outbreak: The New York City experience



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OVERVIEW

- Geographic distribution and demographic description of cases
- Complications among affected persons
- Factors that led to the outbreak
- > Twofold DOHMH response:
 - Measles virus
 - Vaccine misinformation
- Lessons learned
- Future challenges

LOCATIONS OF MEASLES OUTBREAKS

- First case had rash onset on Sept. 30, 2018
 - Unvaccinated child who returned from Israel
- Centered in two Orthodox Jewish neighborhoods in Brooklyn



MEASLES CASES BY DATE OF RASH & NEIGHBORHOOD (N=649)



Source: NYC DOHMH surveillance data, as of 9/25/19.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF CASES (N=649)

Characteristics	n (%)		
Age Category:			
<1 year	102 (16)		
1 to 4 years	277 (43)		
5 to 19 years	146 (22)		
<u>></u> 18 years	124 (19)		

VACCINATION STATUS OF CASES (N=649)

> Unvaccinated: 476 (86%)*

• Age <12 months: 100

Age <u>>12 months: 376</u>

Preventable Cases

Vaccinated: 79 (14%)*

- 1 prior MMR: 46
- 2 prior MMR: 33

Unknown vaccination history (primarily adults): 94

*% among cases with known vaccination status, as of December 20, 2019

PERSONS EXPERIENCING COMPLICATIONS

> Hospitalizations: 49 (8%)

- 20 ICU admissions
- Pneumonia: 37 (6%)
- Otitis media: 63 (10%)
- Diarrhea: 92 (14%)
- > No cases of encephalitis or deaths have occurred

WHY DID THIS OUTBREAK OCCUR?

- Low herd immunity in a densely populated, relatively closed community with large young households
 - Existing coverage low, vaccination delay until school enrollment
 - Religious exemptions have almost tripled in past 6 years
 - Citywide from 0.5% in 2012–13 to 1.5% in 2018–19
 - In Orthodox Jewish schools, from 0.7% in 2012–13 to 2.7% in 2018–19; some schools had religious exemptions as high as 28%

WHAT MADE THIS RESPONSE SO COMPLEX?

- Multiple importations (Israel, UK, Ukraine, NY, NJ)
- Multiple exposures (>20,000 exposures) and chains of transmission (>100 chains)
- Vaccine hesitancy fueled by vaccine misinformation cloaked in religious terms
- Parents not bringing children for care or providing exposure information, precluding control measures

DOHMH RESPONSE: MEASLES OUTBREAKS

Clinical
School or day care
Legal
Communication

DOHMH RESPONSE: MEASLES OUTBREAKS

CLINICAL

- Clinical and infection control consultation
- Fechnical assistance to facilities or providers serving the affected communities
- > Assist with postexposure prophylaxis for exposed persons

SCHOOL AND CHILD CARE

Exclusion of unvaccinated students with medical or religious exemptions from schools, communities with active measles cases

APRIL 9, 2019: PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY DECLARED

- Every adult and child who lives, works, or resides in Williamsburg and has not received the MMR vaccine must be vaccinated
- Exception: People who demonstrate they are immune from measles or have a valid medical exemption
- Last public health emergency ordered people to get vaccinated against smallpox ~1901



DOHMH RESPONSE: MEASLES OUTBREAKS

LEGAL

- Five parents challenged vaccination order
- On April 18, 2019, Justice Lawrence Knipel denied motion for an injunction and dismissed their challenge finding:
 - Williamsburg at "the epicenter" of "the most significant spike in incidences in the United States in many years"
 - Petitioners unable to offer better, less restrictive alternative
 - Medical objections not supported by science
- Appellate Division denied temporary restraining order on April 30, 2019, and motion for preliminary injunction on May 13, 2019

DOHMH RESPONSE: VACCINATION MISINFORMATION

COMMUNICATION

Community collaboration

- Religious leaders
 - o Met with rabbinical and community leaders, elected officials

Medical partnerships

- Jewish Orthodox Women's Medical Association and Vaccine Task Force
- Pediatric care practices
- Information disseminated through various outlets

DOHMH RESPONSE: VACCINATION MISINFORMATION

- WHO declared vaccine hesitancy as top 10 threat to global health
- Anti-vaxxers infiltrated ultra-Orthodox Jewish community
 - Robocalls and flyers conveying false information spread throughout community
 - Parents Educating and Advocating for Children's Health, an anti-vaccine organization, led efforts to intensify vaccine hesitancy

DOHMH RESPONSE: "A SLICE OF PIE"



Making PIEs Out of PEACH: MMR Edition

Bringing Current and Reliable Vaccine Information to Frum Families



VACCINE SAFETY

How Do I Know Vaccines Are Safe? Just like all drugs, vaccines undergo a lot of scrutiny before being approved. It takes many years, from the application process, all the way through all the stages of testing, to receive approval for use on humans. Once a vaccine is approved, that is not the end of the monitoring. Several organizations overse the manufacturing, and continually gather information on all vaccines to ensure safety and effectiveness.

Here are some organizations that monitor vaccine safety:

The following organizations monitor vaccine safety: the Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institutes of Health, and the Department of Defense, among others. There are surveillance systems to identify vaccine safety concerns, including: Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), Vaccine Safety Datalink (VSD), Post-Licensure Rapid Immunization Safety Monitoring (PRISM), and the Clinical Immunization Safety Assessment (CISA) Project.

Anti-Vaxx Myth: There are no safety studies or any real way to know if vaccines are safe. PIE: False. Vaccines are studied and monitored from the very beginning and go through years of safety testing in labs and clinical trials before they go to market. Once the vaccine is approved, the manufacturer tests batches of the vaccine for quality and safety before the FDA can recommend it for use. Once the vaccine goes to market, multiple agencies monitor its safety and provide additional checks. Source: HHS, 2017b

Anti-Vaxx Myth: "It is rare for a vaccine to be removed from circulation, no matter how much damage it is causing."

PIE: False. As with any drug, not all adverse effects will occur during clinical trials. Therefore, once a vaccine is made available to the public, information is continually gathered to identify problems after marketing begins. Although vaccines rarely cause long-term harm, there have been a few cases where a specific vaccine was found to be unsafe once they were already in use. In these cases, the vaccine was immediately removed from circulation. Source: HHS, 2017b; Offit, 2005; CDC, 2015

Is there any connection between autism and vaccines?

In 1998, a study by Andrew Wakefield, then a consultant gastroenterologist, was published in the Lancet, a British medical journal. He studied 12 children whose parents claimed they noticed behavioral regression and gastrointestinal symptoms after their children received the MMR vaccine . After publishing his study, Wakefield then held a press conference where he stated that the MMR vaccine was unsafe, and advocated the use of single-antigen vaccines (i.e., separating the measles, mumps, and rubella into three separate vaccines). *Source:* Dyer 2010; Wakefield, 1998

Wakefield's study, however, never concluded that MMR caused either autism or the gastrointestinal problems. To the contrary, Wakefield actually made the following statement in his study: **"We did not prove an association between measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine and the syndrome described."** He also concluded that, "A genetic predisposition to autistic-spectrum disorders is suggested by over-representation in boys and a greater concordance rate in monozygotic [identical] than in dizygotic [fraternal/non-identical] twins." *Source:* Dyer 2010; Wakefield, 1998

65 https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/a-slice-of-pie

DOHMH RESPONSE: MEDIA CAMPAIGNS



DOHMH RESPONSE: MMR VACCINE UPTAKE

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Source: NYC DOHMH Citywide Immunization Registry, data as of 9/1/2019, run on 9/3/2019

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DOHMH RESPONSE: BY NUMBERS

- > ~ 560 DOHMH staff deployed
- ~ 104,000 person-hours spent
- > 2,279 suspect cases of measles investigated
- > >3,200 diagnostic tests performed by DOHMH labs
- Agency spent \$8.4 million to end outbreak
 - Actual cost to community much greater

LESSONS LEARNED

Decades old public health victories cannot be taken for granted

More granular surveillance and immunization coverage data key to early identification of susceptible populations

> Leverage community relationships to build new alliances

FUTURE CHALLENGES

- Vaccine hesitancy requires resources for continued education in vulnerable communities
- Ongoing risk of international importation
- Implementation of state law removing religious exemptions and NYC health code changes requiring DOHMH review of all medical exemptions

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Thank You!


Strengthening Confidence in Vaccines



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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Vaccine coverage is high in the United States

Nearly 99% of U.S. children have received some vaccines by the age of 2 years

Over 94% of kindergarteners have received 2 doses of measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine (MMR) and the staterequired number of doses of diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis (DTaP) and varicella vaccines

Seither et al, MMWR, October 17, 2019 Figure adapted from Gabriele Malaspina, the Noun Project

Some children remain unprotected

≥1 Dose MMR vaccination coverage by 24 months among children born in 2015–2016



Nationwide coverage: 90.4%

Lower in children who are:

- Uninsured/underinsured
- Reside in rural area
- Live below poverty level

Pockets of low vaccination threaten communities



Source: National Immunization Survey New York State Student Identification System Sinclair D, et al. JAMA network open. 2019 Pingali S, JAMA. 2019

Characteristics of Low Vaccination Pockets



Each community is unique, with distinct factors affecting vaccination:

- Close-knit
- Isolation or insularity
- Access issues
- Distrust of public authorities
- Localized misinformation

Myths and misinformation

- Myths have always been part of the vaccine landscape
- But rapid dissemination and sophistication of misinformation present new challenges
 - Internet access
 - Social media
 - Talk radio and television
- Misinformation plays a clear role in eroding vaccine confidence and puts our programs at risk



Vaccine misinformation can be tailored for specific communities



CDC's strategic framework for strengthening vaccine confidence and preventing outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases in the United States



Protect communities

Use every tool available to find and protect communities at risk using tailored, targeted approaches

Empower families

Ensure parents are confident in decision to vaccinate by strengthening provider-parent vaccine conversations

Stop myths

Use local partners and trusted messengers, establish new partnerships to contain the spread of misinformation, and educate critical stakeholders about vaccines

Vaccinate with Confidence

Protect communities

Leverage immunization data to find and respond to communities at risk
Work with trusted local partners to reach at-risk communities before outbreaks
Ensure vaccines are available, affordable, and easy to get in every community

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Empower families

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- Expand resources for healthcare professionals to help them have effective vaccine conversations with parents
- Work with partners to start conversations before the first vaccine appointment
- Help providers foster a culture of immunization in their practices



Protect communities

Leverage immunization data to find and respond to communities at risk Work with trusted local partners to reach at-risk communities before outbreaks Ensure vaccines are available, affordable, and easy to get in every community

Empower families

- Expand resources for healthcare professionals to encourage effective vaccine conversations with parents
- Work with partners to start conversations before the first vaccine appointment
- Help providers foster a culture of immunization confidence in their practices

Stop myths

- Work with local partners and trusted messengers to improve confidence in vaccines among key, at-risk groups
- ✓ Work with social media outlets to promote trustworthy vaccine information
- ✓ Provide accurate, accessible information on vaccines to state policy makers
- Engage state and local health officials to advance effective local responses to misinformation

Here is What CDC is Doing!



Picture courtesy of AAP and SELF Magazine.

- Leverage diverse data sources to find and protect communities at risk
- Expand resources for working with communities
- Build and foster a culture of immunization in healthcare practices
- Provide technical assistance to funded partners
- Strengthen communication strategies
- Further invest in our vital partners

Partnership is key

- To truly keep Americans safe, every generation, community, and child needs to be appropriately immunized
- Together, we can protect our communities, empower families, and stop myths



Picture courtesy of AAP and SELF Magazine.

Thank you



For more information, contact CDC 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636) TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

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Upcoming Programs of Interest

March 17, 2020 Public Health Grand Rounds Laboratory Response Network

April 21, 2020 Public Health Grand Rounds Predictive Analytics and Public Health

May 19, 2020 Public Health Grand Rounds Smoking Cessation: New Insights and Future Directions