



DELAWARE
ACADEMY of
MEDICINE



Update
April 2019

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County Health Rankings

A Moment with the Executive Director

Each year, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, in partnership with the University of Wisconsin, issues the United States' County Health Rankings (CHR). The CHR highlight the health of our nation on a state-by-state basis, but also zero in on the health of individual counties, and show how county health relates to overall state health.

By ranking the health of nearly every county in the nation, the CHR help communities understand what influences how healthy residents are and how long they will live. These comparisons among counties provide context and demonstrate that where people live, and many other factors including race/ethnicity, can deeply impact a person's ability to live a healthy life.



The Rankings provide a snapshot of a county's health, and are used to drive conversations and action to address the health challenges and gaps highlighted in these findings.

This year, the Academy/DPHA was the lead entity for the distribution of Delaware's CHR. The 2019 CHR were focused on the intersection of housing and health, and we worked closely with the Division of Public Health to get the message out.

Leveraging the impact of the CHR around a topic with which we can all easily identify can lead to an important and elevated discussion. It is only through the collection of quantitative and qualitative data around improved health outcomes that we can truly see a full picture of the health of our state and its counties. We invite you to participate in that discussion, and make sure everyone that needs a voice at the table can speak.

[View the Delaware County Health Rankings here.](#)

Delaware Journal of Public Health

Data to Decision Making

"If we have data, let's look at data. If all we have are opinions, let's go with mine."
~ Jim Barksdale, former Netscape CEO

It can be argued that the practice of public and population health is the practice of gathering data, turning it into useful information, displaying it in understandable formats, and using the resulting understanding to develop predictive and responsive solutions that move us forward.



This issue of the Journal is dedicated to the data-gathering part of public health, and how that data is used to make decisions, create policy, and implement programs for the betterment of Delawareans.

[Read the Journal Here!](#)

The Academy in Action

The Delaware Academy of Medicine Annual Meeting!

The Academy's 89th Annual Meeting, Keynote Address, and Awards Ceremony will be held on **May 7, 2019!**

[Join us!](#)

Our keynote address will be given by David L. Heymann, MD DTM&H CBE. Dr. Heymann will discuss his career in global health and combating infectious disease. He will focus on the last remaining outposts of polio, and the importance of global polio eradication.

Dr. Heymann is Head of the Centre on Global Health Security at the UK's Royal Institute for International Affairs (Chatham House), and Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.



He has served in senior positions in the US CDC and the World Health Organization, including as WHO Assistant Director-General, and as Representative of the Director-General for polio eradication. Dr. Heymann has worked on infectious diseases worldwide, including in the smallpox eradication campaign (India); the Ebola outbreak in then-Zaire in 1976; Legionnaire's disease (Philadelphia); and leading the global response to SARS.

He received the Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 2009; is a member of the US National Academy of Medicine and the UK Academy of Medical Sciences; holds 3 honorary doctorates; and has received the highest awards from the American Public Health Association and the American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene. He is Editor in Chief of the APHA's Control of Communicable Disease Manual, the most widely used infectious disease text in the world.

We hope you will join us!

[Register here!](#)

Delaware Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment



Delaware Medical Orders For Scope Of Treatment

On April 1, 2016, the Delaware Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment (DMOST) form went live, and was available to Delawareans with terminal diagnoses.

The Academy/DPHA was tasked with implementing this program, creating a training module for physicians and other health care providers, and educating the public about the existence of the form.

At the beginning of April, the DMOST form and program was transitioned to the Delaware Quality of Life Coalition. This coalition, with the sole purpose of increasing the quality of life of all of Delaware's residents, will continue to spearhead this important program for Delawareans, and work ensure that all goals of care are honored.

[Delaware Quality of Life Coalition](#)

National News



The 2019 APHA Annual Meeting will be held in Philadelphia!

[Registration opens June 3!](#)

Call for Abstracts: Present on Behalf of the DPHA at the APHA Annual Meeting!

Public Health 3.0 builds on the past successes and provides a new focus where public health is no longer defined solely by the public health department and its traditional programs. The APHA Council of Affiliates (CoA) is seeking abstracts that describes the role of APHA Affiliates in working in the new landscape, of Public Health 3.0. Abstracts could address numerous topics including:

Enhanced and broadened approach to public health practice – e.g., examples of cross-sector collaboration/partnerships; new models of public health leadership (Chief Health Strategist Role); examples of collective action to address community challenges

Leveraging data and resources to address social, environmental, and economic conditions that affect health and health equity – e.g., examples of communities/organizations using data for decision making; initiatives that address upstream determinates of health; innovative funding models that support public health infrastructure and/or community-level engagement work

Foundational Public Health Services – e.g., exemplars of public health programs needed in every community for the public health system to work well in protecting people's health; exemplars of knowledge, skill, ability and systems infrastructure necessary to support effective and efficient governmental public health services; exemplars of innovative funding strategies for foundational public health services

Other topics that address Public Health 3.0

Abstracts are Due by May 24, 11:59pm (ET)
Poster Abstracts are due by May 24, 11:59pm (ET)

[More information, and downloadable forms](#)

Academy Spotlight

Brian W. Little, MD, PhD



Dr. Little has research interests in biomedical imaging, neuromuscular disease and slow virus diseases such as Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. He has served on several regional and national committees in medical education, and is on the editorial board of the Journal of Continuing Education in the Health Professions. Other interests include the history of medicine and health care economics.

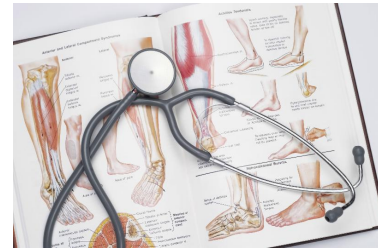
Dr. Little was Vice President of Academic Affairs and Research for Christiana Care Health Services from October, 2000 to May 2011. Prior to that, he was at the MCP-Hahnemann University School of Medicine, where he was Senior Associate Dean for Graduate and Continuing Medical Education and Affiliate Affairs

[Learn more about Dr. Little](#)

Academy History and Archives

Chair: Dr. Little

Seeing how medicine changed challenges us to see how far medicine can advance. Providers and researchers constantly propose new theories, treatments, ideas, and questions with one goal in mind – improving patient care. That is the essence of the Delaware Academy of Medicine's History and Archive Collection. It is a living testament to the medical technology, techniques, and practices used by Delaware physicians and dentists.



The Academy of Medicine Archivist assures that this historical legacy is properly preserved and maintained. Check out our collections, both [online](#) and at [Christiana Hospital](#)!

April is...

Alcohol Awareness Month
Child Abuse Protection Month
IBS Awareness Month
Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Additional Resources

Delaware Division of Public Health: [The DPH Bulletin](#)
Trust for America's Health: Wellness and Prevention Digest - [Subscribe](#)

The Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association

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