The Academy in 2019

From the President & Executive Director

Omar Khan, MD, MHS, FAAFP
President

Timothy Gibbs, MPH, NPM-C
Executive Director

From all of us at the Academy/DPHA, Happy New Year, and welcome to 2019!

While many organizations compose a “look back” - in the rear view mirror, so to speak - we prefer the view through the front. At this time of year, and with the changing pace of healthcare and population health, we want to remain agile and committed to responding to upcoming themes of interest.

Our view forward is optimistic: a year of change, and also of opportunity to better serve our mission - the health of the public through your great work. We present a brief look at the view forward of events and focus areas to which we will apply our energy and resources this year. As always, we welcome your thoughts and input to help us drive forward!

Upcoming 2019 events include (but are not limited to)

- Frank M. and Robert R. Hoopes Medical/Dental Lecture – Dental Forensics
  - Tuesday, January 8, 2019, CLICK HERE for details

- Medical, Dental, and Public Health Lecture Series at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, University of Delaware – Wilmington Campus
  - Tuesdays from February 11 to May 17, 2019.
  - UD Osher student membership required

- County Health Rankings release for the State of Delaware
  - Late March, date to be determined, details to follow
- 2019 Delaware Mini Medical School
  - Thursday evenings in March/April – final dates to be determined.

- Hypertension Symposium
  - May 2, 2010

- 89th Annual Meeting of the Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association
  - May 7, 2019, Deerfield Country Club
  - Keynote Speaker: David L. Heymann, MD
    - Dr Heymann is the former World Health Organization (WHO) Assistant Director-General for Health Security and Environment and the representative of the Director-General for Polio eradication; he is a Professor in the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Head of the Centre on Global Health Security, Royal Institute of International Affairs (UK)

- John Scholz Stroke Education Conference
  - October 3, 2019

**Upcoming Delaware Journal of Public Health Issues:**
From Data to Decision Making
Communicable Disease
LGBTQ Health
Chronic Kidney Disease / Hypertension
Disabilities and Public Health / Disaster Preparedness

We wish you a healthy, productive 2019!

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**Delaware Journal of Public Health**

**Community Engaged Research**

Not so long ago, communities were to be ‘studied’ and perhaps ‘worked with’. We have fortunately entered an era where partnership with communities is much better understood and articulated. Community Engaged Research, CER (or sometimes CEnR) for short, considers and elevates the power of bringing – even welcoming community partners into the traditional research process.

While CER is not the right fit for all research, it can be a powerful tool to better understand what is occurring in the social environment and with individual patients, with a view to determining better outcomes. In turn, CER can be an effective mechanism to cycle results back into the community with whom the research is being jointly investigated.

This issue is focused on CER, and the Academy/DPHA has been a proud partner in a CER partnership focused on Chronic Kidney Disease in Delaware. Through that partnership, we learned about what mattered to patients, and we developed a deeper level of compassion and understanding that traditional research might not have engendered.

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**The Academy in Action**
Academy Holiday Brunch

On December 1, the past presidents of the Academy/DPHA and its current board came together to enjoy an update on the Academy/DPHA over brunch. Some of the past presidents that attended the brunch were Dr. William Duncan, Dr. Anthony Cucuzzella, Dr. Joseph Kuhn, Dr. Joseph Kestner, Jr., and Dr. Arun Malhotra.

Dr. Kestner was recognized at the brunch for his completion of 50 years of medical service to Delaware.

Ltg. William Herbert Duncan, MD

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Dr. Duncan on December 19, 2018. Dr. Duncan was a graduate of West Point ('52) and served in the Army during the Korean War. Upon his return, he attended medical school at Temple University ('59). He served in the Pennsylvania National Guard, and directed the Delaware National Guard's 116th MASH hospital.

Dr. Duncan served as President of the Delaware Academy of Medicine from 1976 - 1977. He will be missed.

Ltq William Herbert Duncan, MD (DE NG Ret)

National News

APHA 2018: Annual Meeting

"Creating the Healthiest Nation: Health Equity Now"

Delaware was well represented at the APHA Annual Meeting in San Diego (November 10 - 14) with several Delaware authors presenting and submitting papers and posters.
My Experiences at the 2018 APHA Meeting

Debora Mukaz

This year, thanks to travel scholarships by the Delaware Public Health Association (DPHA) and the University of Delaware Department of Medical and Molecular Sciences, I was able to participate in the 2018 American Public Health Association (APHA) Meeting and moderate several oral sessions on immigrant and refugee health and social determinants of health. The APHA meeting is the largest gathering on public health in the United States, and brings together thousands of health professionals, researchers and policymakers.

Session panelists worked in an array of fields including academia, policy expertise, and the financial sector. I personally moderated a session on refugees and immigrants, in which panelists discussed barriers and enablers promoting or impeding health within the communities. A theme that stuck with me was the intersection of governmental policymaking and health difficulties faced by migrant communities, even when they asked for basic rights such as food security. The second oral session I moderated looked at organization and community-centered approaches to address the social determinants of health. It was amazing to understand how the financial sector, healthcare system and local governments cooperated to address issues such as walkability, health equity or even adequate housing. I truly appreciated looking at health as an entire system that went beyond the physical.

As I am moving towards the end of my doctoral learning, I felt it was important to become more involved with the larger scientific community. Chairing APHA sessions gave me a much needed experience that I believe will serve me as I work towards my future career. Additionally, it gave me the opportunity to discover and be inspired by amazing work that is being done in public health and beyond.

Outside of moderating, I was able to participate in some of the activities at the meeting where I connected with other researchers in and out my field, who might potentially become collaborators or mentors. Furthermore, through the dinner organized by the DPHA, I got acquainted with the larger DPHA family, which ignited my desire to be more involved with the public health arena in Delaware.
This month’s issue includes information about:
- Environmental Health Services for Kids
- Public Health Rallies Call for Health Equity
- Public Perceptions of Homicide & Suicide Frequency
- Corporal Punishment Tied to Teen Fighting
- Pneumonia & Diarrhea Deaths Among Vulnerable Children

Academy Spotlight

**Joseph Napoli, MD, DDS**

Dr. Napoli is a pediatric plastic surgery specialist in Wilmington, DE. He graduated from the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1987. Dr. Napoli has completed residencies in General Surgery, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, and Plastic/Reconstructive Surgery. He has completed a fellowship in Craniofacial Pediatric Plastic Surgery at the Royal Children’s Hospital, Australia, in 2002. He is board certified by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and the American Board of Plastic Surgery.

Learn more about Dr. Napoli

Have You Had Your Flu Shot?

Flu season is in full swing, and there is still time to get your flu shot!

[Delaware Flu Clinics](#)

The DPH Bulletin

From the Delaware Division of Public Health: WINTER IS HERE!

[Click to Read the Bulletin](#)

January is...

- Cervical Health Awareness Month
- National Birth Defects Prevention Month
- National Glaucoma Awareness Month
- National Stalking Awareness Month
- Thyroid Awareness Month
- National Winter Sports Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Month

Learn More
The Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association

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