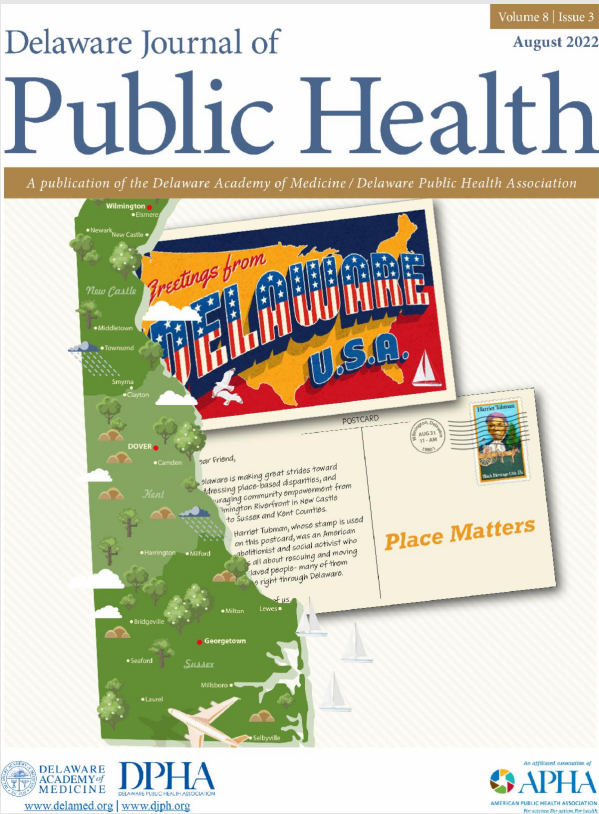


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## Delaware Journal of Public Health August Issue PLACE MATTERS



The August 2022 edition of the Delaware Journal of Public Health is [online](#)! This edition is titled "Place Matters." Health matters and, as always, intersects with every other aspect of society. One of the most important aspects is place and thus, "Place Matters." In public health we know this to be a truth, yet the concept of "place" can be difficult to understand and even more difficult to manage. So what is "place?"

Place happens at the intersection of the natural and built environment, as they intersect with social, economic, and political factors. This is to say, it is difficult to look at one aspect of place without observing and assessing the influence of the other factors. Case in point: any place along a body of water or a river – an attribute shared by much of Delaware.

"Place Matters" aligns planning and public health as partners along with institutions like higher education and our State's healthcare institutions. It also aims to engage every community member in a conversation which prompts us to think about the deep implications of where something is, and how it can lead to healthy lifestyles, safe neighborhoods, navigable environments, high-quality education and gainful employment. Place is thus a proxy for everything else, and as always, it all matters to health.

[Read more here](#), or at <https://djph.org>

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## Academy/DPHA Events

### APA Delaware 2022 Fall Conference



The Delaware Chapter of APA and Academy/DPHA are partnering again and looking forward to our next big event, scheduled for October 5 and 6, 2022. [Detailed Session Information](#), including descriptions and bios, is now available and will continue to be updated as the conference quickly approaches.

[Register Online!](#)

Robert O. Y. Warren, MD Memorial Seminar



53<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL  
**Robert O. Y. Warren, MD  
Memorial Seminar**  
*Virtual Conference*  
Wednesday, November 9, 2022



American Academy  
of Pediatrics  
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™  
Delaware Chapter



DELAWARE  
ACADEMY OF  
MEDICINE  
**DPHA**  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

**Registration Deadline: October 26, 2022**  
The conference registration fee is \$70. Register online at [PedsUniversity.org](https://PedsUniversity.org).

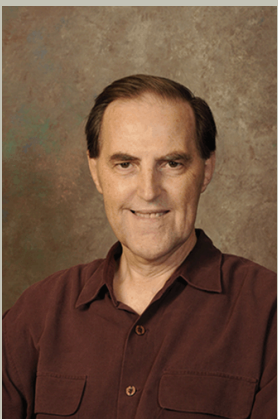
2022 John Scholz Stroke Education Conference

**Saturday, October 22, 2022**  
**8:00 am - 12:40 pm**

Join the Delaware Academy of Medicine/Delaware Public Health Association and the Delaware Stroke Initiative for the 21st Annual John Scholz Stroke Education Conference!

This year's event is being curated as a hybrid event. In-person attendees will join us at the Ammon Center Auditorium at Christiana Hospital. Virtual guests will be able to join via zoom.

[Learn More and Register Here](#)



SAVE THE DATE! 12/12/2022  
Combined Communicable Disease Summit  
and PrEP Conference

2022 Communicable Disease Summit  
and PrEP Conference

12/12/2022

one day, one conference:  
a range of topics and prevention strategies

**Monday, December 12, 2022**  
**Virtual Conference**

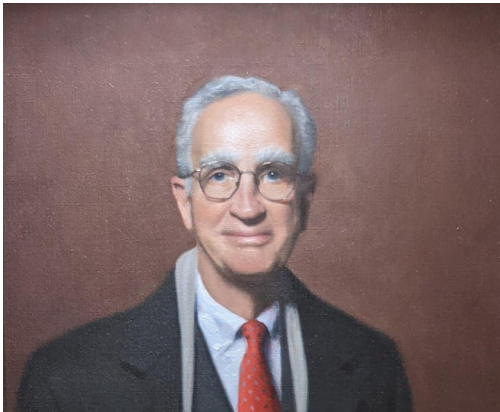
In Memoriam

Robert B. Flinn, M.D.

Robert Barr Flinn, M.D. died at age 91 in Greenville, Delaware, on September 2, 2022, of metastatic melanoma. He was born in Wilmington, Delaware in 1931 to Elizabeth Waters Flinn and Lewis Barr Flinn, M.D. After attending Friends School, he graduated from Princeton University in 1952 and received his medical degree from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 1956.

[Continue to the complete obituary](#)

To view the oral history recording of Dr. Flinn, please [click here](#).



# American Public Health Association

## All Hands on Deck: Working Across Disciplines to Support Abortion

By Kelley Dennings, Center for Biological Diversity, on behalf of APHA, Sexual and Reproductive Health Section

The Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) section of APHA is horrified but not surprised by the recent SCOTUS decision to overturn Roe v. Wade. State lawmakers have been limiting access to abortion for years.

As APHA Executive Director Dr. Georges Benjamin [stated in a release](#) following the decision, APHA recognizes abortion as a right and a fundamental component of healthcare. As public health professionals we need to work to mitigate the harms that come with the fall of Roe v. Wade, just as we act in response to other public health crises.

According to a [new article](#) in *Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health* written by SRH section members, there are three things public health departments can do to help mitigate these harms:

1. In states where abortion is illegal, public health professionals should use local data to estimate how many pregnant people will be forced to continue a pregnancy. They should also increase public health capacity to care for the pregnant people, children, and families in the areas of highest need.
2. Public health professionals should provide resources on where and how to obtain an abortion for those requesting it; anticipate more self-managed abortions; and work to ensure these abortions are not criminalized in our areas.
3. In states like Delaware, where abortion remains legal, public health professionals should support and [strengthen the existing abortion care delivery system and facilitate access to abortion](#). APHA has also [called on state and local governments](#) to allow health departments to continue engaging in activities related to abortion.

Additionally, legal experts [note](#) that cities in states that make abortion illegal can provide abortion care prosecution protection or possibly even provide abortion care directly. They recommend progressive local prosecutors use their discretion to decline bringing legal proceedings against medical staff, public health professionals or patients in these cases.

Also, staff working for government-owned hospitals or clinics should talk with their legal and administrative departments about how to document miscarriages, ectopic pregnancies, and other conditions that are likely to be scrutinized. The Big Cities Health Coalition recently [released a statement](#) pledging to combat all attempted criminalization of medical professionals who provide these services and pledged to work together to combat misinformation.

As the activist and poet Audre Lorde said, “There is no such thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single-issue lives.” We know from the [social determinants of health](#) that health equity is affected by healthcare access as well as education, economic stability, our environment, and our social and community ties. [Research](#) shows that denying people abortion has adverse impacts on the health and well-being of pregnant people, children and families.

Our section works to learn from and lift the values of the abortion justice framework in ensuring abortion access for all. We strive to reframe abortion within the public health context. Please visit the [Reproductive and Sexual Health section](#) of the APHA website for social media shareables, news releases, and these recent policy statements adopted by APHA on abortion:

- [Improving the Role of Health Departments in Activities Related to Abortion](#)
- [Recommendations for Pregnancy Counseling and Abortion Referrals](#)
- [Restricted Access to Abortion Violates Human Rights, Precludes Reproductive Justice, and Demands Public Health Intervention](#)
- [Renouncing the Adoption or Misapplication of Laws to recognize Fetuses as Independent of Pregnant Women](#)
- [Decriminalization of and Support for Self-Managed Abortion](#)

As the [APHA statement from Dr. Benjamin noted](#), “States must take action to make the procedure legal for patients who seek it and abortion providers who offer the essential health care service. Further, states should fund and equip their public health departments to help people obtain comprehensive reproductive health services consistent with public health values and frameworks.”

One way to support states in this endeavor is to recommend that President Biden’s Department of Health and Human Services declare this time a [public health emergency](#). This would ensure abortion clinics seeing a higher demand would receive support, federal funding could pay for travel expenses to receive an abortion out-of-state, registered nurses could perform abortions, doctors could practice outside their geographical jurisdiction, and patients could participate in other states’ Medicaid programs.

We call on all public health professionals to review the policy statements above and reach out to our task force chairs with any questions. Join us today in defense of bodily autonomy.

## Additional Resources

Delaware Division of Public Health - [The DPH Bulletin](#)  
Trust for America's Health: Wellness and Prevention Digest - [Subscribe](#)  
Johns Hopkins Infectious Diseases COVID-19 Grand Rounds - [View Schedule](#)

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