One Health Intellectual Exchange Group (IEG) – Monthly Discussions

A discussion series, sponsored by the North Carolina One Health Collaborative within the North Carolina Biotechnology Center’s Intellectual Exchange Group (IEG) Program to enhance collaborations between physicians, veterinarians, researchers and other local/global/environmental health professionals by increasing public awareness of the interconnectedness of people, animals and the environment.

(This IEG session is approved by the NCVMB for 1.5 hr CE credit for Veterinarians)

Tuesday, September 4, 2012
5:45 – 7:30 p.m.

Epidemiology and Pathogens associated with Animal Bites
David Weber, MD, MPH, UNC Schools of Medicine and Public Health
and
Animal Bite-related Emergency Department Visits in North Carolina
Sarah Rhea, DVM, MPH, UNC Epidemiology PhD candidate

Meets at the North Carolina Biotechnology Center
15 T.W. Alexander Drive Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Directions: www.ncbiotech.org/directions/

Suggestion?/Ideas?/Questions? Contact Cheryl Stroud, NC OHC Chair cms7earth@gmail.com
To receive future event notices, contact Listserv Manager Liz Selisker, liz_selisker@ncsu.edu

Scroll down for Speaker Bio’s/Abstract/ Suggested Readings
For more Background and Cancellation notices visit
Dr. David Jay Weber received his Bachelor’s of Arts (B.A.) degree from Wesleyan University in 1973, his Medical Degree (M.D.) from the University of California, San Diego in 1977, a Master’s in Public Health (M.P.H.) from Harvard University in 1985, and completed his medicine residency and infectious disease fellowship at the Massachusetts General Hospital in 1985. He is Board Certified in Internal Medicine, Infectious Disease, Critical Care Medicine, and Preventive Medicine. Dr. Weber has been on the faculty of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill since 1985 where he is currently a Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics in the School of Medicine, and a Professor of Epidemiology in the School of Public Health. D. Weber serves as the Associate Chief of Staff for UNC Health Care. He also serves as the Medical Director of the Departments of Hospital Epidemiology (Infection Control), Occupational Health, and Environmental Health and Safety for the UNC Health Care System. He is an Associate Director of the North Carolina Statewide Infection Control Program (SPICE) and serves as Director of the Regulatory Core for the UNC Clinical Translational Research Award. He chairs the NC State Health Department’s TB Advisory Committee. He is currently on two working groups of the ACIP. He serves as the Associate Editor for Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology (ICHE). His research interests include the epidemiology of healthcare-associated infections, new and emerging infectious diseases (Pfisteria, nontuberculous mycobacteria, SAR-coV, norovirus, community-associated MRSA), control of drug resistant pathogens, immunization practices (especially of healthcare workers), zoonotic diseases, and epidemiology of tuberculosis.

Dr. Sarah Rhea is currently a PhD candidate in the Department of Epidemiology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a graduate research assistant at the Carolina Center for Health Informatics. After received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Purdue University in 2004, Dr. Rhea practiced small animal medicine for 3 years in Indiana. She earned a Master of Public Health degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2009. Her interests include zoonotic and vector-borne infectious disease epidemiology and veterinary public health. Dr. Rhea’s dissertation research examines the epidemiology of animal bites in North Carolina using a statewide emergency department surveillance system database and includes a case-control study of risk factors for hospitalization after a dog bite injury.

Animal bites are an important public health problem with consequences including physical and emotional trauma, pain, infection, rabies exposure, costly healthcare utilization, and, rarely, death. Directed public health interventions require an understanding of current animal bite epidemiology. A statewide system for reporting and surveillance of animal bites does not exist in North Carolina. However, emergency department (ED) visit data provide an alternative means of examining and monitoring the animal bite burden. Results of a statewide study of animal bite-related ED visits will be presented, and implications of study findings on animal bite prevention efforts in North Carolina will be discussed.
Suggested Readings