

Success Story

Erie County



Chris Collins
County Executive

Anthony J. Billittier IV, M.D., FACEP
Commissioner of Health

Department of Health

ECDOH employees selected to serve as expert panel members

Gale R. Burstein, MD, MPH and Scott J. Zimmerman, DrPH, MPH of the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) have been selected by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to serve as expert panel members to develop national guidelines for sexually transmitted infections laboratory diagnosis and treatment. Dr. Burstein will provide expert medical consultation on screening and treatment options for the sexually transmitted infections most affecting adolescents, such as *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, and others. Dr. Zimmerman will share his expertise regarding the laboratory diagnosis of *chlamydia*, *gonorrhea*, and *syphilis* infections. Both have been selected to work with a handful of experts chosen from various academic centers and public health departments from across the United States. These guidelines are considered the national standard for sexually transmitted infections laboratory diagnosis and treatment. CDC plans to publish the guidelines in 2009/2010 and disseminate these best practice documents nationwide to medical and public health professionals. Dr. Burstein currently serves as the ECDOH Medical Director of Epidemiology and Surveillance and Dr. Zimmerman maintains the role of Director of ECDOH Laboratories and serves as Director of the Division of Public Health Laboratories, Epidemiology, and Environmental Health.

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