



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
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Director, Division of Disease Control

July 19, 2019

Subject: Invitation to Public Health Seminar on Opioid Epidemic and Infectious Disease Outbreaks in Philadelphia

Dear Healthcare Provider in Philadelphia,

As you know, the City of Philadelphia is experiencing a large and ongoing epidemic of people experiencing homelessness and using drugs. The Philadelphia Department of Public Health Division of Disease Control (DDC) has identified a large outbreak of Hepatitis A Virus (HAV) primarily affecting this population with rapid increases in cases beginning in May of 2019. The Department has also been observing increases in syphilis, HIV, other viral hepatitises (Hepatitis B, C), and invasive group A *Streptococcus* among these populations.

The Philadelphia Department of Public Health is hosting a one-day conference to educate the clinical community about this evolving situation and to review critical response actions when providing health services to these often hard to reach residents of our city. The seminar: **Hot Topics in Public Health, Resurgence of Vaccine Preventable Diseases and the Opioid Epidemic in Philadelphia** is Wednesday July 24 from 8:30 to 3:30 at the Science History Institute in Old City Philadelphia (315 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia PA 19106). Free continuing education credits will be available to physicians, nurses, physician assistants, and those certified in public health (CPH). Registration has been extended. To register please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SLSTKZJ>.

The Department needs your help to control these infectious diseases affecting our city. I hope that you are able to attend this seminar.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Steven Alles".

Steven Alles, MD MS
Director, Division of Disease Control
Philadelphia Department of Public Health
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