

**The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)** invites residents and medical students to participate in an **elective in Public Health and Preventive Medicine**. The DOHMH is a dynamic environment where elective participants can experience a large local health department tackling urban public health issues.

Elective participants receive a broad overview of DOHMH responsibilities and functions through field visits, meetings and lectures. They will observe the clinician/health department partnership in order to better serve their patients and communities.

The elective provides a unique opportunity to work on a project with DOHMH professionals. By participating in the day-to-day work of the DOHMH, the trainee—whether future clinician or public health specialist—will experience a variety of measures employed to promote wellness and prevent illness in individuals, groups, and the population as a whole.

### What kinds of elective projects have been conducted?

- Outbreak investigations
- Perinatal Hepatitis B case management
- World Trade Center-related parental PTSD
- Epidemiology of infrequent smokers
- Facilitation of inpatient smoking cessation
- Anti-vaccination websites – strategies to refute them
- Health of women prisoners at Rikers Island
- EHR data on hypertension and its control
- Inner-city fatherhood initiative
- Using lab data to monitor quality of HIV care
- Alcohol advertising and outcome disparities
- Community gardener survey
- Randomized controlled trial of BP self-monitoring
- Tobacco Use in South Asian communities
- “By My Side” birth support and Text4Baby Programs
- Tobacco cessation in the psychiatric population
- West Nile Virus clinical database analysis

### What kinds of activities are available?

- Field visits:
  - Restaurant inspection
  - Lead poisoning investigation
  - Day care center inspection
  - Newborn home visits
- Grand Rounds
- Journal Club
- DOHMH seminars
- Board of Health meetings
- Meetings with community coalitions
- Meetings with DOHMH staff

**Residents** should be enrolled in an ACGME-accredited residency program. Residents training in programs outside the United States may also apply.

**Medical students** should be enrolled in an accredited medical school. It is helpful to have completed a basic medical school epidemiology course.

**Elective participants** are responsible for housing and financial support; stipends are not available to assist with these expenses. Credit for the elective should be arranged by the participant through his or her residency or school.

### **The DOHMH Public Health/Preventive Medicine Residency Program**

trains physicians to specialize  
in these fields.

For more information, visit [http://home2.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/ph\\_mrp/phmrp.shtml](http://home2.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/ph_mrp/phmrp.shtml) or see reverse for contact information.

## PUBLIC HEALTH IN NEW YORK CITY

*On September 11, 2001 and during the weeks that followed, hundreds of thousands of workers, volunteers and area residents were exposed to dust from the collapse of the World Trade Center (WTC) towers. These persons are at increased risk for persistent respiratory symptoms, asthma and post-traumatic stress disorder.*

**Action:** In August, 2011, the New York City Health Department launched the third major survey of 70,000 individuals enrolled in the WTC Health Registry. As the most comprehensive post-disaster health registry in the United States, the WTC Health Registry provides important information to guide clinical services for this population.

*As of 2009, more than one in five New York City public school children is obese, putting them at risk for diabetes, heart disease and early mortality. Sugar-sweetened beverages such as soda or sweetened tea contribute more than 100 empty calories to*

**Action:** In December, 2009, the New York City Health Department launched a hard-hitting advertisement campaign including subway print advertisements, television commercials and a YouTube™ video asking “How many empty calories are you pouring on the pounds?” These graphics and print advertisements educate the public about adverse health effects of sugar-sweetened beverage consumption.

*Preventable conditions cause hundreds of thousands of cases of illness and thousands of deaths in New York City each year. Health disparities persist among racial, ethnic, socioeconomic and geographic subpopulations.*

**Action:** Take Care New York 2012, a comprehensive health policy, was launched to set an Action Plan for individuals and families, health care providers, community organizers, businesses, and government policymakers. This evidence-based agenda provides guidance for implementing public policies and improving neighborhood conditions, and focuses on children's health and on reducing health disparities. The Health Department utilizes media campaigns, partner networks, educational materials and tools for health care providers. Progress is measured by collecting data on health indicators.

To schedule an elective, e-mail:

[healthrp@health.nyc.gov](mailto:healthrp@health.nyc.gov)

or contact:

**Public Health / Preventive Medicine  
Residency Program  
NYC DOHMH  
42-09 28<sup>th</sup> Street, CN 65  
Long Island City, NY 11101  
Tel.: 347-396-2914  
Fax: 347-396-2891**



## Elective in Public Health and Preventive Medicine

## for Residents and Medical Students

THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
and MENTAL HYGIENE**



Michael R. Bloomberg  
Mayor

Thomas Farley, MD, MPH  
Commissioner