

Program Element #23: Emerging Infections Program (EIP) (OHSU Only)

- 1. Purpose of Emerging Infections Program.** The Emerging Infections Program (EIP) is a population-based network of CDC and state health departments working with collaborators (local health departments, public health laboratories, clinical laboratories, infection-control practitioners, healthcare providers, academic institutions and other federal agencies) to assess the public-health impact of emerging infections and to evaluate methods for their prevention and control.

- 2. Staffing Requirements.** Grantee assures Department that Dr. John Townes, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Oregon Health and Sciences University (OHSU):
 - a. Is assigned to assist DHS EIP planners in conducting the projects;
 - b. Is available for amounts of time that are sufficient to ensure continuation Emerging Infection Studies;
 - c. Monitors the administration of the Emerging Infection Studies;
 - d. Supervises Grantee staff persons, interns and physicians performing work associated with Emerging Infection Studies;
 - e. Designs the protocols for Emerging Infection Studies,
 - f. Coordinates the activities associated with Emerging Infection Studies, as set forth herein, and
 - g. Develops and delivers related education and training, as set forth herein.

- 3. Emerging Infection Studies.** Use and retention by Grantee of Department disbursements of financial assistance provided under this Financial Assistance Grant Agreement (the “Agreement”) for Emerging Infection Studies are conditioned upon Grantee conducting the Emerging Infection Studies in accordance with the operational requirements and procedures and reporting requirements set forth herein.
 - a. Continuing EIP Study Project.**

Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus Study. Grantee must establish and maintain the operation of the Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) Study for enhancing the capacity for early detection, reporting, and prevention of MRSA among physicians, medical care providers, and Local Public Health Authorities (LPHA) in Oregon.

 - (1.) Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus Study Requirements.** Grantee affirms to DHS that Grantee possesses the operational capacity to maintain the administrative and operational capacity to conduct MRSA Study activities in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

(2.) Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus Study Procedures. Grantee must observe the following procedures in conducting the Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) Study:

- (a.)** Grantee must conduct MRSA Study activities in accordance with the practices and protocols established by Department for Continuing EIP Study projects.
- (b.)** Grantee must conduct surveillance of incidents of infection with invasive MRSA among residents of the Metropolitan Portland area in accordance with investigative and research protocols established by Grantee for this purpose.
- (c.)** Grantee must ensure that a qualified public health nurse collects, compiles and submits data to Grantee concerning the incidence of infection with MRSA from hospital laboratories located in the Metropolitan Portland area.
- (d.)** Grantee must establish and maintain the technical and laboratory capacity to collect MRSA bacterial isolates from Metropolitan Portland area hospitals for potential additional analysis and testing.
- (e.)** Grantee must provide data obtained through the MRSA Study Project to DHS in a form acceptable to DHS, and in accordance with a schedule that is mutually agreeable to DHS and Grantee. The MRSA Study Project data provided by Grantee to DHS will be entered into DHS EIP surveillance databases.
- (f.)** Upon request by DHS, Grantee must conduct analysis of parts, or all, of the MRSA data contained in DHS surveillance database. DHS will determine the purpose, procedures and content of analysis in consultation with Grantee. The quality of the analysis conducted by Grantee must satisfy CDC and DHS standards for quality, accuracy and statistical significance.
- (g.)** If the MRSA Study is deemed “research” by the DHS, Grantee must ensure that requirements of relevant Institutional Review Boards for the protection of human subjects involved in the MRSA Study are met.
- (h.)** Grantee must maintain confidentiality of patient records in accordance with DHS standards.

b. Contingency EIP Study Projects. Grantee acknowledges and agrees that:

- (1.)** Department may require the conduct of Contingency EIP Study Projects of emerging infectious diseases from time to time over the term of this Agreement, subject to the mutual consent of Department and Grantee and in accordance with a duly executed amendment to this Agreement.
- (2.)** Department designations of a Contingency EIP Study Project may be made in instances in which the numbers of, or the geographic concentration of, Oregonians who have been diagnosed with, or who present symptoms of, an emerging infectious disease, or in instances in which there is a reasonable risk of Oregonians developing an emerging infectious disease, cause the Department Acute and Communicable Disease Prevention

Manager to designate a Contingency EIP Study Project on a rapid-response, contingency basis.

Note: The following subsections c.(1.) thru c.(3.) of Section 3. "Emerging Infection Studies" sets forth the process by which DHS identifies a potential emerging infectious disease and by which DHS designates Contingency EIP Study Projects.

c. DHS Designation of Contingency EIP Study Project.

- (1.) Reporting to DHS of Potential Emerging Infection Situation.** DHS receives reporting of potential epidemic occurrences from physicians and medical service provider organizations such as the following:
 - (a.)** Oregon Health and Sciences University (OHSU)
 - (b.)** Local Public Health Authorities, in accordance with DHS Communicable Disease Investigative Guidelines, available at <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/publichealth/lhd/index.cfm>.
 - (c.)** Hospital staff, physicians or other certified health professionals.
 - (d.)** Disease control reporting systems in Oregon, such as the Health Alert Network (HAN).
 - (e.)** Other formal and informal means by which DHS is informed of an emerging infection situation.
- (2.) Determination by DHS of Contingency EIP Study Project.** DHS retains the authority to designate a Contingency EIP Study Project that is required to protect the public health interests of Oregonians. This designation authority resides with DHS to allow DHS to respond quickly to emerging infectious diseases that have the potential to become epidemics.
- (3.) Initiation and Implementation of Contingency EIP Study Project**
 - (a.)** Following designation of Contingency EIP Study Project by DHS Acute and Communicable Disease Prevention Manager, Grantee must provide Contingency EIP Study Project services to DHS designed to prevent or control the potential communicable disease situation.
 - (b.)** Dr. Townes must review existing and available data on the potential communicable disease situation.
 - (c.)** Dr. Townes must confer with the public health officials and other experts whom Grantee, using professional judgment, determines are necessary to consult.
 - (d.)** Dr. Townes must participate, upon request by DHS, in CDC consultations directed toward designing Contingency EIP Study Project protocols.

- (e.) Dr. Townes must design an epidemiological study to investigate the potential communicable disease situation, if, in the professional judgment of Grantee, an epidemiological study is required.
- (f.) Dr. Townes must conduct or monitor, as necessary, data collection pertaining to the potential communicable disease situation.
- (g.) Dr. Townes must conduct or monitor, as necessary, data compilation, analysis and interpretation pertaining to the potential communicable disease situation.
- (h.) Dr. Townes must develop a written report pertaining to the potential communicable disease situation and submit the report in a timely manner to Department.
- (i.) DHS and Grantee may agree, pursuant to future Grant agreements, if such agreements are executed by DHS and Grantee, to establish Contingency EIP Study Project as Continuing EIP Study Projects, in instances in which DHS and Grantee agree that continuation of the Contingency EIP Study Project serves the public health interests of Oregonians.
- (j.) If the Contingency EIP Study is deemed “research” by the DHS, Grantee must ensure that requirements of relevant Institutional Review Boards for the protection of human subjects involved in the Contingency EIP Study are met.
- (k.) Grantee must maintain confidentiality of patient records in accordance with DHS standards.

4. Reporting Obligations and Periodic Reporting Requirements. In addition to the reporting obligations set forth in Exhibit D, section 8., of this Grant, Grantee shall provide written progress updates in accordance with a schedule that DHS determines in consultation with Grantee. Grantee shall submit the written progress updates as follows:

- a. Quarterly progress reporting, using a form approved for this use by DHS, on Continuing EIP Study Projects.
- b. Periodically, as determined by DHS in consultation with Grantee, progress reports for Contingency EIP Special Projects.