Physician Category Day
Wednesday, June 26, 2024

07:15 - 08:00
Welcoming Remarks
CDR Debora Belsky; CDR George Pourakis; CDR Witzard Seide; LCDR Colin Smith

08:00 - 08:30
Leadership Address from the Chief Medical Officer of the USPHS Commissioned Corps
CAPT Joshua Schier

After attending this session, participants will be able to:
1. State the current state of the Medical category within the USPHS Commissioned Corps.
2. Describe two Category-specific and activities and accomplishments from the last year.
3. Identify two key Category-specific priorities for the upcoming year.

08:30 - 09:00
Addressing Disparities in Medical Officer Access to Mentoring through Two Innovative Programs
CDR Matt Karwowski; CDR Sayeedha Uddin; LCDR Michael Mank

The PPAC Mentoring and Career Development Subcommittee will discuss two innovative programs developed to address disparities in medical officer access to mentoring.

After attending this session, participants will be able to:
1. Describe disparities in medical officer access to mentoring and career development resources.
2. Describe two novel programs developed to address medical officer access to mentoring and career development resources.
3. Enumerate the quantitative impact of these programs to date.

09:00 - 10:00
ALICE and the Social Determinants of Health
Melanie Patz

This session will review ALICE, the social determinants of health, and identify opportunities to reduce ALICE population.

After attending this session, participants will be able to:
1. Recognize the scale of financial distress.
2. Describe the impact of money on health and other outcomes beyond poverty.
3. Identify two opportunities to reduce ALICE population.

10:00 - 11:00

**Building on the fly by design: how the nation prepares for an uncertain future**

*Dr. Jeffrey Freeman, MPH*

Disasters are growing more frequent, severe, and unpredictable, yet our nation lacks a sustainable model for preparedness. This talk will address the advancement of science, medical practice, and education in the pursuit of a coordinated and scalable approach to preparing for catastrophic events.

After attending this session, participants will be able to:
1. Identify that disasters are growing more frequent, severe, and unpredictable.
2. List 2 ways our nation lacks a sustainable model for preparedness.
3. Describe the advancement of science, medical practice, and education in the pursuit of a coordinated and scalable approach to preparing for catastrophic events.

11:00 - 13:00

**Exclusive Exhibit Hall Time**

13:00 - 14:00

**The role of information technology (IT) and informatics in the future of public health and your career**

*Bob Harmon, MD, MPH*

The session will cover the role of IT and informatics and how it impacts the future of public health and public health physicians in the USPHS Commissioned Corps

After attending this session, participants will be able to:
1. List critical events in the history of public health IT and informatics.
2. Describe the importance of electronic case reporting and other new IT developments in the future of public health.
3. Describe the impact of public health IT and informatics on career plans.

14:00 - 14:30

**Presentation of PPAC Awards**

*CAPT Michael Bartholomew; CDR Witzard Seide; LCDR Colin Smith*

Present PPAC Awards
14:30 - 15:45
USPHS in the American Medical Association: Reducing health disparities by shaping national health policy
CDR Kristie Clarke; CDR Elizabeth Davlantes

This presentation will describe the USPHS role in the AMA and provide examples of how our efforts have shaped the national healthcare landscape. We will also describe opportunities for USPHS officers to be involved in AMA work.

After attending this session, participants will be able to:
1. Describe the AMA’s role in state and national health policy making and understand the USPHS role in AMA leadership.
2. Recognize two examples of USPHS recommendations to the AMA that have shaped national policy.
3. Describe opportunities for officer involvement in USPHS AMA activities.

14:30 - 15:45
Improving Care for Older Adults within the Indian Health Service: PIMC Case Study
LCDR Maria Bellantoni

The Indian Health Service has recently implemented the IHS GeriScholars program, which was first piloted in 2022. The Phoenix Indian Medical Center is participating in the second cohort of the IHS GeriScholars program and will be implementing a geriatric syndrome screening program into its primary care clinic.

After attending this session, participants will be able to:
1. Describe the IHS GeriScholars program and its aims.
2. Identify two key screening tools for older adults in primary care.
3. Enumerate the successes and challenges of implementing a geriatric syndrome screening program in the primary care setting.

14:30 - 15:45
Force health surveillance in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization does not meet the needs of its users: A structured evaluation of EpiNATO-2
CDR Joanna Gaines; LCDR Adam Rowh; Robert Lindfield, OBE, MB.ChB

Disease and non-battle injuries (DNBI) cause substantial losses among military personnel. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has monitored disease and non-battle injuries among its personnel since 1996 using multiple versions of a tool now called EpiNATO-2, but the surveillance system has never been systematically evaluated. Following a request from NATO to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the objective of this study was to assess surveillance system attributes of EpiNATO-2 using CDC’s updated guidelines for evaluating public health surveillance systems.
After attending this session, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the basic structure and operation of EpiNATO-2.
2. Enumerate the key results of CDC’s evaluation of EpiNATO-2.
3. List the opportunities for improvement identified by the CDC evaluation.

15:45 - 17:15
Deployment Skills Building Session
CDR Tina Pattara-Lau; LCDR Soo Han; LCDR Vinita Puri; LCDR Caroline Schrodt
Moderator: CAPT Keren Hilger; CDR Tina Pattara-Lau

Physicians will practice skills in contact tracing, ALTS, obstetric emergency readiness, and management of substance withdrawal.

A) Protecting the Health of Our Nation: A CDC Epidemiologist’s Guide to Contact Tracing
Join us for an informative session where we delve into the critical role contact tracing plays in managing and mitigating the spread of infectious diseases. This session is designed to provide an overview of contact tracing, from its fundamental principles to innovative technological solutions. This session aims to equip you with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate the complexities of contact tracing and contribute to a healthier, safer community. Join us for an engaging discussion and leave with a deeper understanding of this critical aspect of public health.
Facilitator: LCDR Caroline Schrodt

Skill Station Objectives:
1. Clearly explain the concept of contact tracing, outlining its purpose, methods, and significance in public health, including recent real-world examples related to COVID-19 and Mpox.
2. Present various strategies and tools used in effective contact tracing.
3. Address potential challenges in contact tracing, such as privacy concerns, public compliance, resource limitations, and ethical considerations related to isolation and quarantine. Propose solutions to overcome these obstacles.

B) Advance Trauma Life Support (ATLS): Principles and Life Saving Skills
The ATLS Skills Station will establish the principles of trauma care and the “golden hour” and provide you with the practical skills and resources to be able to assess, resuscitate, and stabilize trauma victims.
Facilitator: LCDR Soo Han

Skill Station Objectives:
1. Perform Initial Assessment of trauma patients (Primary Survey, Secondary Survey).
2. Life Saving Maneuvers (Intubation, Surgical Airway, Chest decompression, Hemostasis).
3. Understand priorities in trauma management and arrange appropriately for the patient’s inter-hospital/facility transfer.

C) Obstetric Readiness in Emergency Settings
The Obstetric Readiness Category Day Skills Station will highlight the most common obstetric emergencies and provide you with hands on training and resources to safely evaluate and stabilize a pregnant person.
Facilitator: CDR Tina Pattara-Lau

Skill Station Objectives:
1. Triage an obstetric patient and perform a vaginal delivery
2. Manage complications of pregnancy including hemorrhage and hypertension (eg. pre-eclampsia)
3. Obtain resources to provide obstetric care in emergency settings (eg. deployment, medical facilities with no obstetric services)

D) No need to withdraw...Let’s play Jeopardy!
Group will be divided into 2 teams. Like regular Jeopardy, multiple categories containing questions of varying complexity/‘dollar’ amounts will be displayed on the screen (via powerpoint). Teams will take turns selecting different questions and then compete to answer them first; the team with the most points at the end of the game wins. The content of the game will encompass clinical presentations and treatments of alcohol and opioid withdrawal-targeted for resource-limited settings and non-Addiction specialists.
Facilitator: LCDR Vinita Puri

Skill Station Objectives:
1. Recognize and treat alcohol withdrawal.
2. Recognize and treat opioid withdrawal.
3. Become familiar with illness severity and risk calculators for alcohol and opioid withdrawal.

After attending this session, participants will be able to:
1. Identify 3 high yield clinical concepts in preparation for deployment.
2. Describe triage and stabilization of clinical conditions in deployment settings.
3. List 3 strategies and hands on approaches for management of clinical conditions in deployment settings.

17:15 - 17:30
Closing remarks