

Quick Reads



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Public health conference

It was a pleasure to visit with public health colleagues at the [2018 Iowa Governor's Conference on Public Health](#). A special thank you to IDPH staff who presented at the conference, including Angie Doyle-Scar, Maggie Ferguson, Kevin Gabbert, Joy Harris, Catherine Lillehoj, Kevin Officer, Erin Olson, Kemi Oni, Analisa Pearson, Kimberly Piper, Sara Taylor-Watts, Deborah Thompson, Monica Wilke-Brown, Dr. Patricia Quinlisk and Toby Yak.

Pictures of the conference are included in this edition of Quick Reads.

Second medical cannabidiol manufacturer RFP

This week, IDPH posted an [RFP](#) for a second medical cannabidiol manufacturer. Interested parties must notify their intent to apply by 4:00 p.m. on May 16, 2018. Formal applications are due May 31, 2018, and the department will announce its intended licensee June 29, 2018.



Process flowchart created during the Professional Licensure bureau's quality improvement project.

Quality improvement success story

Social workers obtaining independent licensure must practice under supervision for a required amount of time. Before this can begin, they must submit a supervision plan for approval to the Social Work Board and must submit summary reports once it's completed.

[Professional Licensure Bureau](#) staff and the chairperson for the Board of Social Work evaluated the processes of reviewing and approving the plans and reports. Their goal was to streamline administrative processes to gain efficiencies for licensees, the members of [Board of Social Work](#) and Professional Licensure staff.

The team created a flowchart of the process identifying opportunities for improvement. These included requesting licensees submit their supervision reports in a packet format instead of by piecemeal, creating fillable forms for licensees, creating a webpage for the public and licensees, collaborating with stakeholders to educate on the supervision process, and develop training documents for Professional Licensure staff.

The team plans to launch its solutions in May, continuing to review and evaluate progress.



IDPH spotlight: Planning Services



Nathan Wilson

The [Bureau of Planning Services](#) supports the entire department and its boards in a variety of ways on a daily basis. The bureau encompasses Human Resources, Quality Improvement, Administrative Rules, Strategic Planning, Healthy Iowans, Accreditation, Modernization, Certificate of Need, Workforce Development and Performance Management.

Bureau Chief Nathan Wilson has been with IDPH for 11 months, previously working with the Iowa Department of Transportation. He oversees the 14 staff members in the bureau.

Nathan and bureau staff recently completed a quality improvement initiative to improve the processing of new, transferring and exiting department employees.

Nathan and wife Jamie have two sons: Abram, who is 3 years old and the most recent addition, Corwin, who is just 2 months old.

According to the Census Bureau, the Story County town of Colo boasts 852 residents. Nathan has been one of them for 27 of his 31 years.

Legislative update

Governor Reynolds has signed the FY18 deappropriations bill, [SF 2117](#). As passed by the legislature, IDPH received a \$662,871 budget reduction for FY18. The [IDPH appropriations reduction plan](#) has been approved by the Department of Management.

Congrats and kudos

Congratulations to the [IDPH HIV Prevention program](#) and the University of Iowa. Their collaborative [Iowa TelePrEP](#) initiative won the [American Academy of HIV Medicine \(AAHIVM\)/Institute for Technology in Health Care](#) award for innovative use of technology in HIV prevention and care.

Kudos to [Cerro Gordo County Public Health](#), which has officially received [PHAB](#) accreditation.

Congrats to Mike Pentella, current interim director of the [State Hygienic Lab](#), who has accepted the director's position, effective June 1, 2018.

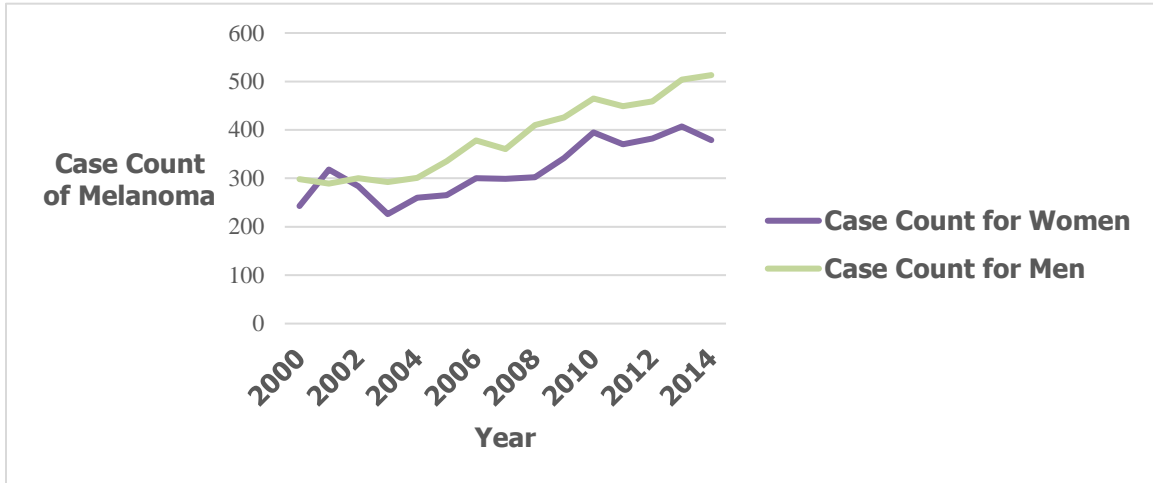


Scenes from the 2018 Iowa Governor's Conference on Public Health

Monthly data snapshot

Data are essential to the practice of public health. Each month, Quick Reads highlights selected tidbits to help create awareness of IDPH data and epidemiology.

Iowa Melanoma Skin Cancer



Source: State Health Registry of Iowa, 2000-2014

As Iowans look forward to warmer weather, they will likely spend more time outdoors and in the sun. This increased ultraviolet radiation exposure (UV), along with exposure to artificial UV radiation, can increase a person's risk of developing melanoma skin cancer. Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the U.S. Data from the IDPH Tracking Portal show that melanoma of the skin has increased for both men and women from a case count of 298 cases and 243 cases in 2000, to 513 cases and 379 cases in 2014 (the most recent year data is available).

Data on melanoma, as well as other types of cancer, are available on the [IDPH Tracking Portal](#). Please [email](#) the department questions or comments about this or other IDPH data.

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To contribute a news item or smart practice, please write to Polly Carver-Kimm at Polly.Carver-Kimm@idph.iowa.gov.

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