

**Esther Debra Chernak, MD, MPH, FACP**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Work Address: Division of Environmental and Occupational Health  
Nesbitt Hall, 3215 Market Street, Room 615  
Dornsife School of Public Health, Drexel University  
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Ambulatory Health Services  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
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Philadelphia, PA 19146  
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[Esther.chernak@phila.gov](mailto:Esther.chernak@phila.gov)

**EDUCATION/POST GRADUATE TRAINING**

College/University Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey  
A.B. in Comparative Literature, September 1979 – June 1982

Medical School UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
Piscataway, New Jersey  
M.D., September 1982 – June 1986

Internship Department of Internal Medicine, Michael Reese Hospital  
Chicago, Illinois  
July 1986 – June 1987

Residency: Department of Internal Medicine, Michael Reese Hospital  
Chicago, Illinois  
July 1987 – June 1989

Fellowship Infectious Diseases, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 1989– June 1991

Other Masters Degree in Public Health and General Preventive Medicine  
Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
July 1997 – June 2002

Epidemiology in Action Course  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and  
Emory University, Rollins School of Public Health, Atlanta, Georgia  
November 1995

**MEDICAL LICENSURE**

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (MD-043645-E)

**BOARD CERTIFICATION**

Diplomate in Infectious Disease, 1992, 2002, 2012, American Board of Internal Medicine (#125632)  
Diplomate in Internal Medicine, 1989, American Board of Internal Medicine (#125632)  
Diplomate, 1987, National Board of Medical Examiners (#322405)

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**PRESENT POSITIONS**

- June 2016 – present Associate Professor, Department of Medicine  
Drexel University College of Medicine  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Course Director, “Frontiers” (population health, health systems science content for medical students in pre-clinical years)
- July 2010 – present Associate Research Professor, Environmental and Occupational Health  
Director of the Center of Public Health Readiness and Communication  
Director, MD/MPH Program (2016-present)  
Advisor for Joint Degree Programs (2016-present)  
Dornsife School of Public Health, Drexel University  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- September 2009 – present Medical Specialist, Infectious Diseases  
Division of Ambulatory Health Services  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

- July 1991– May 1994 Director of Clinical HIV Services  
Division of Ambulatory Health Services  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- October 1994 – August 1997 Medical Specialist – Public Health Physician  
Acute Communicable Disease Control Program  
Division of Disease Control  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- November 1997 – April 1998 Contractor, Yoh Scientific, for Merck & Company  
Report Evaluation and Safety Surveillance  
Worldwide Product Safety and Epidemiology  
Merck Research Laboratories, Merck & Co., Inc.  
West Point, Pennsylvania
- January 1998 – December 2002 Staff Physician, Public Health Infectious Diseases Clinics  
Montgomery County Department of Health  
Abington, Pennsylvania and Norristown, Pennsylvania
- September 1999 – January 2000 Consultant/Manuscript Preparation  
Adult Vaccines, Biologicals Research Division  
SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals  
Collegeville, Pennsylvania
- December 1999 – Sept 2008 Medical Specialist - Public Health Physician  
Acute Communicable Disease Control Program  
Program Manager, Bioterrorism Preparedness Program  
Division of Disease Control  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- September 2000 – June 2001 Medical Director (part-time position)

March 2018

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Montgomery County Health Department  
 Montgomery County Human Services Center  
 Norristown, Pennsylvania

October 2007 – July 2009      Program Manager and Medical Director  
 Acute Communicable Disease Control Program  
 Division of Disease Control  
 Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Adjunct Academic and Staff Appointments:**

1991–1999      Adjunct Assistant Professor  
 Infectious Diseases Section, Department of Medicine  
 University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine  
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1998 – 2002      Consultant in Infectious Diseases  
 Abington Memorial Hospital  
 Abington, Pennsylvania

April 2010 – July 2010      Adjunct Assistant Professor  
 Drexel University School of Public Health  
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2010 – present      Associate Member of Medical Staff  
 Methodist Hospital  
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**COMMITTEE AND ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS, BOARD MEMBERSHIPS**

1991–1994      Member, Formulary Committee  
 Ambulatory Health Services  
 Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1991–1994      Co-Chair, Clinical Care Subcommittee  
 Planning and Evaluation Committee  
 The Philadelphia AIDS Consortium  
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1992–1997      Member, Committee on the Protection of Human Subjects  
 (Institutional Review Board)  
 Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1992– 1997      Board Member, Philadelphia FIGHT (Field Initiating Group for HIV Trials)  
 Community Research Initiative of Philadelphia  
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1992 –1994      Board Member, Circle of Care  
 Pediatric AIDS Demonstration Grant Project  
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1992– 1994      Member, District Health Centers Task Force  
 City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health

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- 1993 –1994 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Board Member, The Philadelphia AIDS Consortium  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (Regional HIV Planning Council)
- 1993 –1994 Member, Planning and Evaluation Committee  
The Philadelphia AIDS Consortium  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 1995 –2002 Member, Professional Advisory Board  
Visiting Nurse Association of Greater Philadelphia  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2001– 2006 Public Health Subcommittee Chair (2001-2005) and Member  
Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Counterterrorism Task Force and Delaware  
Valley Regional Bioterrorism Working Group
- 2006 – 2007 Member, Philadelphia Emergency Preparedness Review Committee (convened by  
Mayor Street to assess City of Philadelphia’s preparedness for emergencies)  
Public Health and Hospitals Sub-committee
- 2007 – present Advisory Board, Disaster Medicine and Management Program  
Philadelphia University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2007 –2009 Member, Infection Control Committee  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2008 –2009 Founding Member, Philadelphia *Ad-hoc* Task Force to Address Hepatitis B Infection  
in Asian-Pacific Islanders  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2008 – 2014 Member, Advisory Committee to Joint State Government Commission to Update  
Pennsylvania’s Public Health Law (authorized by 2007 Pennsylvania Senate  
Resolution No. 194), Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- 2009 – present Community Member, Childrens Hospital of Philadelphia  
Infection Prevention and Control Committee of the Medical Staff  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2012– 2015 Member, Admissions Committee  
Dornsife School of Public Health, Drexel University  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2011– present Member, Statewide Advisory Committee for Preparedness  
Pennsylvania Department of Health
- 2012– present Member, Stakeholder Group, Community Health Resilience Initiative  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- 2013 – present Member, Drexel School of Public Health Emergency Preparedness Committee and  
Drexel University Closed Point of Dispensing Planning Committee  
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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- 2014 – 2015            Member, Search Committees for Chairs of Departments of Health Management and Policy and Environmental and Occupational Health  
Dornsife School of Public Health, Drexel University  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2014 – 2016            MPH Curriculum Revision Task Force and Core Curriculum Revision Workgroup  
Dornsife School of Public Health, Drexel University  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2016- present        Member, Executive Committee of the Faculty (ECF)  
Dornsife School of Public Health, Drexel University  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

- 1989                    Housestaff Teacher of the Year (Jordan J. Cohen Award)  
Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago, Illinois
- 2003                    Art Blackshaw Award for Courage (Contributions to Terrorism Preparedness)  
Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA
- 2005                    Award for Outstanding Services to the Citizens of the Southeast Region of Pennsylvania and the Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Anti-Terrorism Task Force
- 2005                    Delta Omega Society, Alumni inductee to the Alpha Omicron Chapter at the Medical College of Wisconsin, inducted May 20, 2005 (National Honorary Public Health Society, recognition of efforts in public health and preventive medicine)
- 2017                    Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching  
Dornsife School of Public Health, Drexel University
- 2018                    Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching  
Drexel University College of Medicine

### **PROFESSIONAL AND SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS**

- Infectious Disease Society of America (Member, 1991-present)  
American College of Physicians (Member, 1987-present; Elected to Fellowship in March 2010)  
American Public Health Association (Member, 1994-present)  
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (Member, 2003 - 2013)  
College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Fellow (Elected April 2014), and member of the Section on Public Health and Preventive Medicine (1996-present)

### **EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES**

- Editorial Advisory Board Member, History of Vaccines website project  
College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 2009-present

Director, National Resource Center on Advancing Emergency Preparedness for Culturally Diverse Communities (diversitypreparedness.org - web-based clearinghouse for resources related to emergency preparedness for culturally diverse communities), operated by Dornsife School of Public Health  
Drexel University, 2010-present

### **Publication Review:**

- Annals of Internal Medicine (*ad hoc* reviewer – recognized for outstanding reviews 2010 - 2017)

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Pediatrics (*ad hoc* reviewer)  
 Health Equity (*ad hoc* reviewer)  
 Clinical Infectious Diseases (*ad hoc* reviewer)  
 International Journal of Infectious Diseases (*ad hoc* reviewer)

**INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS**

“Clinical Care and HIV Disease,” presentation to The Philadelphia AIDS Consortium (Regional Ryan White HIV Planning Council), September 30, 1992.

Testimony at Philadelphia City Council Hearings addressing HIV, Tuberculosis, and Sexually Transmitted Diseases, on behalf of Philadelphia Department of Public Health. “HIV Clinical Services provided by the Department of Public Health,” May 5, 1993.

“Early Intervention Demonstration Project in North Philadelphia,” presentation to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention External Review Committee for CTRPN HIV/AIDS Programs (Counseling, Testing, Referral, and Partner Notification), Atlanta, Georgia, June 21, 1993.

“Comprehensive Care for Women with HIV-Infection - A Model of Service Delivery,” Plenary Session presentation to Pediatric Demonstration Project Grantees, (Ryan White Title IV), HRSA-Bureau of Maternal Child Health, Baltimore, Maryland, November 10, 1993.

“Cryptosporidiosis in Philadelphia,” Northeast Regional Epidemiology Conference, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, October 24, 1996.

“Infectious Diseases and their Control in Child Care Centers,” Delaware Valley Association for Education of Young Children Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 26, 1996 (lecture also given to same conference March 16, 1997).

“Response to Terrorism in Philadelphia – Health Department Experience in the Fall of 2002,” American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, November 11, 2002, Philadelphia, PA.

“Coordinating the Medical Response – Integrating Medical Facilities with Other Response Agencies,” Senior Leaders Homeland Security Summit, Federal Emergency Management Agency Region III, Philadelphia, PA, November 12, 2002.

“Public Health Emergency Preparedness,” and “Pandemic Preparedness,” presentations at 2006 US Environmental Protection Agency Region III Emergency Prevention and Hazmat Spills Conference, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, December 6, 2006.

“Pandemic Influenza Preparedness,” presentation for conference organized by Nuclear Regulatory Commission, December 12 2006, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania.

Public Health and Emergency Preparedness, presentation to the National Youth Leadership Foundation, July 22, 2007, Villanova, Pennsylvania.

“Pandemic Influenza Preparedness – Considerations for American Red Cross Blood Centers,” Invited presentation for national meeting of American Red Cross Blood Center Directors, Washington DC, August 1, 2007.

“Preparing for Public Health Emergencies – Public Health and Clinical Partnership,” Advance Practice Nursing Annual Conference, hosted by Childrens Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 2, 2008.

“Seasonal and Pandemic Influenza Readiness,” presentation to Philadelphia Chapter of Pennsylvania Occupational Health Nurses, Norristown, Pennsylvania, September 25, 2008.

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“Public Health Preparedness and Special Populations,” presentation at Vulnerable Populations and Emergency Preparedness Forum, Sponsored by Drexel University and Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management, October 10, 2008, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

“Terrorism Preparedness and the Local Health Department – Ready for What?” Invited presentation for American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, November 9, 2009, Philadelphia, PA.

“Lessons Learned from US Postal Service Medication Delivery Exercise – Philadelphia, PA 2007.” Invited presentation for CBRN Medical Countermeasure Regional End User Roundtable, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Philadelphia, PA, September 30, 2010.

“Public Health Emergencies - Preparing Vulnerable Populations,” Invited presentation for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Webinar: Outreach to Vulnerable Populations for Emergency Preparedness. October 28, 2010.

“Disaster Communications for Human Service Agencies,” Invited presentation for the Southeastern Pennsylvania chapter of the American Red Cross Resilience Readiness Academy, educational program for human service agencies, March 15, 2012 and April 11, 2013; Philadelphia, PA.

“What Do We Talk About When We Talk About Community Resilience?” Invited keynote address for the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials conference for state public health preparedness program directors, September 25, 2012.

“Integrating Community Pediatricians into Disaster Preparedness,” Invited presentation for Institute of Medicine Workshop, Preparedness, Response and Recovery Considerations for Children and Families, June 10, 2013.

“The Pennsylvania Public Health Risk Assessment Tool – Integrating Planning for At-Risk Populations,” Invited presentation at Social Vulnerabilities Workshop for Emergency Managers, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, July 11, 2013.

“Integrating Human Service Agencies into Disaster Preparedness – Challenges and Promises. Recommendations from White Paper” Invited presentation for Southeastern Pennsylvania Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster Regional Planning Symposium for Human Service Agencies, Arcadia University, Glenside, Pennsylvania, June 6, 2014.

“Integrating Pediatric Providers into Disaster Preparedness Planning in Pennsylvania,” Invited presentation to Association of State and Territorial Health Officials webinar-based meeting of state public health preparedness program directors, December 3, 2013; similar presentation also given National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health webinar series and meeting of FEMA Region 3 Children and Disasters Workgroup, June 19, 2014.

“Integrating Primary Care Physicians into Disaster Preparedness: Preparing Individuals with Special Health Care Needs,” Webinar presentation to US Department of Homeland Security Community Health Resilience Stakeholder Group, Geriatric Disaster Resilience Subgroup, Office of Health Affairs, November 13, 2014.

“Integrating Community Pediatric Practices into Disaster Preparedness in Pennsylvania.” Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Grand Rounds Presentation, Atlanta, Georgia, March 17, 2015.

“Managing Healthcare Risks in the Era of Emerging Infections.” Presentation for the Pennsylvania Area Society of Healthcare Risk Management Annual Meeting, Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania, April 23, 2015.

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“Introduction to Bio-Pathogens,” Presentation for Confronting the Global Threat: Bioterrorism Conference, Pennsylvania Governor’s Office of Homeland Security, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, October 22, 2015.

Public Health Emergency Risk Assessment, webinar presentation for Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, Public Health Preparedness Directors, June 9, 2016.

### **TEACHING ACTIVITIES**

#### **Courses, Student Advising and Mentorships:**

Served as community preceptor at Philadelphia Department of Public Health for Temple University Internal Medicine Resident Susan Franzel-Levine, MD, MPH, 1996; Public Health Rotation during Internal Medicine residency, winner of Kass Award from Infectious Diseases Society of America for survey of Philadelphia clinical laboratories re: drug-resistance and *Streptococcus pneumoniae*.

Served as community preceptor at Philadelphia Department of Public Health for Drexel University Public Health Student (Nilani Jayatilaka, MPH), 2003 – Community-based Masters Project Advisor. Project was capacity assessment of emergency preparedness capabilities of Federal Health Centers in Philadelphia.

Field Supervisor for CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service Officers (EIS) assigned to Philadelphia Department of Public Health Division of Disease Control; 2002-2004, 2005–2007, 2007-2009.

Field Supervisor for CDC Career Epidemiology Field Officers (CEFO) assigned to the Philadelphia Department of Public Health Division of Disease Control; 2003-2009.

Advisor for MPH and MD/MPH students in community based practicum and master’s projects in public health, and for students in Opening Doors program, Drexel University School of Public Health, 2010-present.

Graduate courses for MPH degree: Overview of Global Health; Public Health Preparedness; Microbes and Public Health Practice, Infectious Diseases in Health Care Environment (courses in new Graduate Minor in Infectious Disease Prevention and Control); Environmental and Occupational Health (introductory course for all Masters students in public health); Drexel University School of Public Health, 2009-present.

Preceptor for “Professionalism Formation,” course for 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical students, Drexel University College of Medicine, 2012-2017.

Course Director for “Frontiers” course, Drexel University College of Medicine – interdisciplinary course in population health topics, including epidemiology and biostatistics, health policy, informatics, patient safety, quality improvement, public health for preclinical medical students (years 1 and 2); 2017-present

#### **Lectures, Seminars, Grand Rounds for Medical Audiences:**

“Clinical Management of HIV Disease,” “Overview of HIV-related Opportunistic Infections and their Clinical Management,” “Diagnosis and Clinical Tests for HIV Infection,” lectures for The Pennsylvania AIDS Education and Training Center, Hahnemann University (HRSA-sponsored Regional AIDS Education Center), 1992-1995.

“Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome,” Grand Rounds Presentation, Methodist Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, October 31, 1995.

“Communicable Diseases Surveillance,” lecture for Community and Preventive Medicine Course, Department of Family Medicine, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, January 16, 1996.

“Cryptosporidiosis - Clinical Overview and Public Health Considerations,” lecture to Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Ambulatory Health Services clinical staff, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, February 23, 1996. Lecture also given to Public Health Interest Group, Allegheny University School of Medicine, Philadelphia,



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Pennsylvania, September 25, 1996, and for Community and Preventive Medicine course, Allegheny University School of Medicine, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, February 21, 1997.

“Hepatitis A: Epidemiology and Guidelines for Prevention,” lecture to Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Ambulatory Health Services clinical staff, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, January 24, 1997.

“Careers in Epidemiology and Public Health,” presentation for students at the Allegheny University School of Public Health, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 16, 1997.

“Epidemics and Outbreak Investigations,” lecture for students at Allegheny University School of Public Health, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 16, 1997.

“Investigation of Infectious Disease Outbreaks,” Principles of Epidemiology Course, Masters Program in Microbiology, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 9, 1999.

“Public Health Emergency and Bioterrorism Preparedness,” “Overview of Bioterrorism Agents and Treatments,” “Bioterrorism Response Planning in Philadelphia,” “Overview of Philadelphia Biological Response Plan,” presentations at several hospital Grand Rounds: Jeanes Hospital, Philadelphia, PA - September 2000; Albert Einstein Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA - October 2000 and November 2001; University of Pennsylvania Health System, Philadelphia, PA - October 2001; Pennsylvania Hospital - February 2002. Lecture also given at meeting of Philadelphia area hospital Chief Medical Officers and Chiefs of Medical Staff, October 2001 (hosted by University of Pennsylvania), at symposia for hospital-based providers, Hospital Subcommittee of the Philadelphia Local Emergency Planning Committee, April 2000; and in Biological and Chemical Weapons preparedness course for healthcare providers sponsored by Thomas Jefferson University School of Nursing, November 2000 and 2002.

“Syndromic Surveillance,” presentation for hospital providers in forums sponsored by Delaware Valley Healthcare Council and Drexel University National Center for Biomedical Preparedness, Chester-Crozier Medical Center, April 25, 2002, and St. Mary’s Medical Center, May 13, 2002.

“Smallpox Vaccination,” presentation for City of Philadelphia Medical Evaluation Unit, April 2003; presentations at Philadelphia hospitals and City of Philadelphia Medical Evaluation Unit and Ambulatory Clinics, Spring 2003.

“Public Health Emergency Preparedness,” “Seasonal Influenza Readiness,” “Pandemic Influenza Preparedness,” presentations for Nursing Program, Drexel University February 28, 2006; for Mental Health Professionals, February 25, 2006 at conference sponsored by PA Department of Public Welfare and Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, and presentations for various medical audiences at Philadelphia area hospitals, 2006 – 2008.

“Point of Dispensing (POD) Operations – Training for POD Leadership and Management,” series of trainings provided to Philadelphia Department of Public Health staff, March 16, May 25, September 28, and November 16, 2006.

“Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Roles for Volunteers,” presentations for Philadelphia Medical Reserve Corps volunteers, quarterly trainings 2007 – 2008.

“The Role of Federal Community Health Centers in Public Health Emergencies,” training for Federal Health Center Leadership, August 2, 2007, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

“Selected Topics in Infectious Diseases,” presentation to Philadelphia School District Nurses, October 27, 2006 and September 6, 2007; and to Charter School Nurses, August 21, 2008.

“Diagnosis and Management of Methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* Infections,” lecture to Philadelphia Department of Public Health Ambulatory Health Services Clinical Staff, January 25, 2008.

“Selected Topics in Infectious Diseases,” “Communicable Disease Surveillance and the Public Health Partnership with the Medical Community,” and presentations related to other communicable disease topics for various medical audiences in healthcare facilities in Philadelphia area (e.g., regional University Student Health Service agencies; St. Christopher’s Hospital Emergency Department, Infection Control and Clinical Laboratory staff), 2007 – 2009.

“Viral Hepatitis Overview,” Lecture for Annual Sexually Transmitted Diseases Course, Philadelphia Department of Public Health Sexually Transmitted Disease Control Program, Philadelphia, PA, 2010 and 2011.

“Medical Care of New Immigrants and Refugees,” Lecture for clinical staff of Ambulatory Health Services, Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA April 22, 2011.

“HIV Testing Update,” Lecture for clinical staff of Ambulatory Health Services, Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA, July 27, 2012.

“Building Community Resilience – the Role of the Community Pediatrician,” Grand Rounds lecture, St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 22, 2013

“Public Health Emergency Preparedness,” lecture for multiple audiences, including Dornsife School of Public Health and College of Medicine, Drexel University; University of Pennsylvania Occupational Health Residency Program, 2013 – present.

“Ebola Virus Disease – 2014,” Lecture for clinical staff of Ambulatory Health Services, Philadelphia Department of Public Health, October 24, 2014.

HIV Treatment and Testing Update for Primary Care Physicians, Philadelphia Department of Public Health Division of Ambulatory Health Services, April 22, 2016

Climate Change and Health Impacts, Seminar Series for Drexel University Medical Students, May 2018; sponsored by Climate and Urban Systems Partnership (CUSP), Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Training Activities, Exercises and Lectures for Non-Medical Audiences:**

Regional Bioterrorism Tabletop Exercise, developed and presented for Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Counter-terrorism Task Force, June 5, 2002.

“Biological Terrorism: Information for Philadelphia’s First Responders,” video presentation for Philadelphia Police and Fire Departments, in conjunction with Urban Cableworks of Philadelphia, January 2003 (wrote, narrated and produced 30 minute video).

“Smallpox Vaccination,” presentation for Federal Bureau of Investigation, Philadelphia office, March 2003.

“SARS Update,” presentation for City of Philadelphia Emergency Medical System (EMS), Philadelphia Fire Department, June 2003.

“Public Health Epidemiology for Law Enforcement,” lecture for Forensic Epidemiology Course sponsored by US Attorney’s Office, Eastern Pennsylvania, Conshohocken, PA, September 2003.

“Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Tabletop Emergency Response Exercise – Biological Contamination of Water Supply,” sponsored by Philadelphia Water Department and American Waterworks Association, Philadelphia, PA, October 2003.

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“Public Health and Bioterrorism Preparedness,” presentations for National Youth Leadership Foundation, June 27, July 11, and July 25, 2007, Villanova, Pennsylvania.

“Pandemic Influenza Preparedness,” Lecture given on multiple occasions between 2006 – 2008, including the forums for leaders in the Faith-based community sponsored by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Red Cross, conferences sponsored by the Philadelphia Federal Executive Board, conferences in June 2006 and December 2007 sponsored by PJM Interconnection (for disaster planners in electrical utilities in the eastern and central United States); the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in December 2007, university safety directors and various government agencies and business forums).

“Overview of Hepatitis A, B and C Infections,” presentation at Women Organized Against Rape for Asian/Pacific Islander Community leaders, July 10, 2008.

“Management and Prevention of MRSA Infections,” presentation to Philadelphia School District Athletic Directors, October 8, 2008.

Public Health Presentation at Forum for Public Health Legal Issues – Overview for Judges, Convened by Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts, State College, Pennsylvania, May 14, 2009.

“Travel in the Developing World,” lecture presentation at the Philadelphia Free Library, July 18, 2013.

Emergency Preparedness Tabletop Exercise for Pennsylvania Department of Health Interagency Working Group for Child Health in Disasters, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, May 22, 2014.

“Ebola Virus Disease Update,” Lecture given on multiple occasions between October – December 2014, including Drexel University International Café, Drexel University Community Teach-In Forum, Public Lecture at Philadelphia Free Library.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness Tabletop Exercise for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Stakeholders, Pennsylvania Pharmacy Association Mid-Year Meeting, Harrisburg, PA; January 29, 2016.

### **Conferences and Educational Programs**

Philadelphia Department of Public Health Annual Public Health Update for Healthcare Providers - Public Health Preparedness and Emerging Issues, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Organized 5 annual conferences for audience of 200-250 attendees, June 2005 – June 2009.

Current Trends in Terrorism – Preparing for Medical Consequences of Explosives, June 9, 2006, Philadelphia. Organized conference for 125 medical professionals and first responders.

Infectious Disease Update for Clinicians in Philadelphia Department of Public Health Ambulatory Health Services, Inservices for public health physicians and nurses - January 26, 2006 and January 25, 2008. Conference organizer, speaker.

Seasonal and Pandemic Influenza Readiness - Long Term Care Facilities, November 14, 2008, Philadelphia. Organized conference for 100 medical directors and administrators of long term care institutions (included presentation on epidemiological trends in seasonal influenza).

Research Integrity Issues, Vaccines and Emergency Preparedness – Conference sponsored by Office of Research Integrity, US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), September 12, 2011, Philadelphia, PA. Conference co-planner and organizer.

National Vaccine Program Office Regional Stakeholder Meeting, Mid-Atlantic Region (3) – Meeting to provide input on National Vaccine Plan Implementation Strategies, September 13, 2011, sponsored by the

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National Vaccine Program Office, US Department of Health and Human Services. Conference co-planner and facilitator.

Public Health Preparedness Seminar Series for the Public Health Workforce in Southeastern Pennsylvania, in collaboration with the Drexel University Public Health Training Center. Developed series of bimonthly lectures and seminars via videoconference, webinar, and on-site forums for public health agency staff and partners in government and health care organizations, January 2012 – 2015. Series planner, speaker.

Emergency and Disaster Preparedness for Pediatric Practices – Conference for Pennsylvania Medical Home Initiative, October 18, 2013, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania (collaboration with the American Academy of Pediatrics, Pennsylvania Chapter). Conference planning committee, speaker.

Southeastern Pennsylvania Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster Regional Planning Symposium for Human Service Agencies, Glenside, Pennsylvania, June 6, 2014. Leadership and planning forum for social service organizations in disaster preparedness. Conference coordinator and speaker.

“Emergency Preparedness and Primary Care Medical Practices” Series of six webinars sponsored by Drexel University School of Public Health and PA Department of Health, in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Medical Society and Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians, January 2015; available at <https://www.pamedsoc.org/learn-lead/topics/emergency-preparedness>. Series organizer and speaker.

Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication for Health Professionals – Workshop series with archived videos and virtual tabletop exercise. Sponsored by Pennsylvania Department of Health, November 2015 through Spring 2016.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

### **Publications/Journals**

**Chernak ED**, Dubin G, Henry D, Naides SJ, Hodinka RL, MacGregor RR, Friedman HM. Infection due to parvovirus B19 in patients infected with human immunodeficiency virus. *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 1995;20:170-173.

Dubin G, **Chernak ED**, Friedman HM. Letter. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. 1996;22:199-200.  
Sikand VK, Halsey N, Krause PJ, Sood SK, Geller R, Van Hoecke C, Buscarino C, Parenti D. Safety and immunogenicity of a recombinant *Borrelia burgdorferi* outer surface protein A vaccine against lyme disease in healthy children and adolescents: a randomized controlled trial. *Pediatrics* 2001; 108:123-128. (drafted manuscript for SmithKline Beecham).

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Outbreaks of *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 infections among children associated with farm visits – Pennsylvania and Washington, 2000. *MMWR Morbidity Mortality Weekly Report*. 2001;50(15) 293-7. (contributed to report).

“Public Health Dispatch – Outbreak of Listeriosis – Northeastern United States, 2002.” *MMWR*. 2002. 51(42): 950-1. (contributed to report).

“Severe *Clostridium difficile*-associated disease in populations previously at low risk – four states, 2005.” *MMWR* 2005. 54(47);1201-1205. **E Chernak**, CC Johnson, Philadelphia Department of Public Health; A Weltman, Pennsylvania Department of Health; LC McDonald, Lwigg, G Killgore, A Thompson, Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion, National Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); M LeMaille-Williams, E Tan, FM Lewis, EIS Officers, CDC.

Sami L. Gottlieb, E. Claire Newbern, Patricia M. Griffin, Lewis M. Graves, R. Michael Hoekstra, Nicole L. Baker, Susan B. Hunter, Kristin G. Holt, Fred Ramsey, Marcus Head, Priscilla Levine,

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Geraldine Johnson, Dianna Schoonmaker-Bopp, Vasudha Reddy, Laura Kornstein, Michal Gerwel, Johnson Nsubuga, Leslie Edwards, Shelley Stonecipher, Sharon Hurd, Deri Austin, Michelle A. Jefferson, Suzanne D. Young, Kelley Hise, **Esther D. Chernak**, Jeremy Sobel, and the Listeriosis Outbreak Working Group. Multistate outbreak of listeriosis linked to turkey deli meat and subsequent changes in US regulatory policy. *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 2006; 42: 29 – 36.

Lewis FMT, **Chernak E**, Goldman E, Li Y, Karem K, Damon IK, et al. Ocular vaccinia infection in laboratory worker, Philadelphia, 2004. *Emerg Infect Dis* [serial on the Internet]. 2006 Jan . Available from <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/vol12no01/05-1126.htm>.

Agocs M, Fitzgerald S, Alles S, Sale GJ, Spain V, Jasper E, Grace TL, **Chernak E**. Field testing a head-of-household method to dispense antibiotics. *Biosecurity and Bioterrorism* 2007;5(3):255-267.

Uscher-Pines L, **Chernak E**, Alles S, Links J. College and university planning for pandemic influenza: a survey of Philadelphia schools. *Biosecurity and Bioterrorism* 2007;5(3):249-254.

Sinclair JR, Newton A, Hinshaw K, Fraser G, Ross P, **Chernak E**, et al. Tularemia in a park, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania [letter]. *Emerg Infect Dis* [serial on the Internet]. 2008 September. Available from <http://www.cdc.gov/EID/content/14/9/1482.htm>.

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E. Chernak, MD, MPH, FACP

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Schaben CP, **Chernak E**, Johnson CC, Levenson RL. Infection Control Practitioner Satisfaction with a Public Health Surveillance Web Site: Experience in Philadelphia, PA during the 2000 Republican National Convention. 129th American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, October 2001, Atlanta, Georgia. (abstract)

E. Newbern, S. Gottlieb, **E. Chernak**, C. Johnson, J. Sobel, P. Griffin. Factors associated with death among listeriosis patients in northeastern states, 2002. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Epidemic Investigator Service Annual Conference, April 2003, Atlanta, GA. (abstract)

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S. Fitzgerald, M. Agocs, **E. Chernak**. Field Testing a Head of household Model to Dispense Antibiotics, Public Health Preparedness Summit 2007, Washington DC (abstract)

J. Garrow, S. Alles, C. Johnson, **E. Chernak**. Emergency Preparedness for Health Commissioners, Public Health Preparedness Summit 2009, San Diego, CA (abstract)

M. Napier, C. Newbern, L. Ma, **E. Chernak**, R. Madera, C. Johnson. Epidemiology of Reported Pertussis in Philadelphia, 2000-2008: A Closer Look at Infant Morbidity. 47th Annual Meeting of the Infectious Disease Society of America, October 2009, Philadelphia, PA. (abstract)

E. Chernak, MD, MPH, FACP

Lynch, P. Ross, **E. Chernak**, A. Patel. Influenza Prevention and Control in Long-Term Care Facilities – Philadelphia, 2008. 137<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, November 2009, Philadelphia, PA (abstract)

Patel A.,Burke C., **Chernak E**, Lewis F, Nguyen M, Madera R, Newbern C, Johnson C. Epidemiology of Infant Salmonellosis, Philadelphia, PA – 2008-2010, 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Infectious Disease Society of America, October 2010, Vancouver, Canada (abstract)

**E. Chernak**. Planning and Budgeting for Public Health Emergencies. In: Levy B. editor, Mastering Public Health – Essential Skills for Effective Practice. Oxford University Press. 2012. (book chapter)

**E. Chernak**, T. Hipper. Integrating Community Pediatricians into Emergency Preparedness Planning. Workshop Presentation at National Association of County and City Health Officials PublicHealth Emergency Preparedness Summit, March 2013, Atlanta, GA (abstract, oral presentation)

R. Peters, H. Kricun, T. Hipper, **E. Chernak**. Public Health Risk Assessment Tool to Assess Threats and Their Impact on At-Risk Populations. Workshop Presentation at National Association of County and City Health Officials PublicHealth Emergency Preparedness Summit, March 2013, Atlanta, GA (abstract, oral presentation)

H. Kricun, R. Peters, T. Hipper, **E. Chernak**. Planning Aid for Public Health Emergencies. National Association of County and City Health Officials PublicHealth Emergency Preparedness Summit, March 2013, Atlanta, GA (abstract, poster)

A Orr, T. Hipper, H. Kricun, Y. Michaels, **E. Chernak**. Integrating Human Service Agencies into Emergency Preparedness – Results of a Survey of Agencies in Southeastern Pennsylvania. National Association of County and City Health Officials PublicHealth Emergency Preparedness Summit, March 2013, Atlanta, GA (abstract, poster)

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**E. Chernak**. Developing Guidance for Responder Safety in Public Health Emergencies: Protecting Public Health Professionals. National Association of County and City Health Officials Public Health Preparedness Summit, April 2014, Atlanta, GA (abstract, poster)

T Hipper, S Needle, S Yungans, A Wishner, **E Chernak**. Risk Communication and Disaster Preparedness – The Role of Community Pediatric Practices in Conveying Emergency Public Information to Children and Families. National Association of County and City Health Officials Public Health Preparedness Summit, April 2014, Atlanta, GA (abstract, poster)

J Nash, T Hipper, **E Chernak**. Working with Urgent Care Centers in Pennsylvania - New Partners in Community Preparedness for Public Health Emergencies. Presented at 2015 Public Health Preparedness Summit, Atlanta, GA (abstract, poster)

T. Hipper, J Nash, J Purtle, R Fields, **E Chernak**. The Practice of Syndromic Surveillance for Health Situational Awareness in the United States: Findings from a Case Study Analysis. Public Health Preparedness Summit, April 2016, Dallas, Texas (abstract, poster)

**GRANTS**

- 1992-1994 Family-Centered HIV Care Program, Strawberry Mansion Health Center, Philadelphia Department of Public Health, supported through the Circle of Care, Ryan White Title IV, HRSA  
Role: Project Director/Principal Investigator
- 1993-1994 HIV Early Intervention Program in West Philadelphia, Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Ryan White Title IIIb, HRSA  
Role: Project Director
- 1993-1994 HIV Early Intervention Demonstration Project in North Philadelphia, Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Role: Project Director
- 2005 – 2006 CDC Health Alert Network Grant Award to Philadelphia Department of Public Health (H75/CCH324930-01)/CC Johnson, Principal Investigator  
Role: Project Director
- 2000 – 2003 Metropolitan Medical Response System, Biological Preparedness Department of Health and Human Services, UPHS Region III Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, Philadelphia Office Emergency Management  
Role: Public Health Coordinator for Biological Response Plan
- 2004 – 2009 CDC Public Health Preparedness Cooperative Agreement /Pandemic Preparedness, Contract with Pennsylvania Department of Health  
Role: Project Manager, 2004-2008
- 2007 – 2009 CDC Cooperative Agreement with Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Enhanced Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) for Infectious Diseases (PA 99032, Philadelphia Department of Public Health, C. Johnson Principal Investigator).  
Role: Public Health Physician/Project oversight, 2007-2009
- 2007 – 2009 CDC Cooperative Agreement with Philadelphia Department of Public Health Adult Viral Hepatitis Coordination Grant  
Role: Project Manager
- 2011-2016 Pennsylvania Department of Health Contract with Drexel University Public Health Risk Assessment and Community Preparedness Projects for the Philadelphia Metropolitan Area and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Role: Principal Investigator
- 2012 – 2013 Integrating Human Service Agencies into Emergency Preparedness Planning and Response Grant from the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania, January 2012 – June 2013  
Role: Principal Investigator
- 2013-2013 Ethical Issues Related to Vaccine Mandates in Healthcare Professionals (white paper) Grant from National Vaccine Program Office (PI: Yudell) US Department of Health and Human Services, January 2013-July 2013  
Role: Co-Investigator
- 2014 – 2016 Impact of Public Health Laws on Electronic Disease Surveillance Grant from Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (PI: Buehler/Purtle)  
Role: Co-Investigator



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- 2016-2019      Effective Communications in Public Health Emergencies – Developing Community Centered Tools for People with Special Health Care Needs  
Center for Disease Control and Prevention, BAA 2016-N-17770  
Role: Principal Investigator
- 2018            Climate and Urban Systems Partnership (CUSP) – collaboration with Physicians for Social Responsibility and Philadelphia academic health centers, Philadelphia Chapter; grant for educational program development  
Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Role: Lead, Drexel University
- 2018            Public Health Risk Assessment Analysis Project for Southeastern Pennsylvania Region and 5 SE PA counties; sponsored by Chester County Health Department  
Role: Principal Investigator