

Appendix B — Changes and Key Improvements

As of December 2003, CDC has reported on 98 of 147 targets in CDC's FY 2003 Performance Report and has achieved or exceeded more than 83% of these targets. CDC has achieved or exceeded more than 78% of its performance targets for which data is available (133 of the 171 targets) in CDC's FY 2002 Performance Report. CDC has achieved, or exceeded, targets set for 176 of the 217 performance measures in CDC's FY 2001 Performance Report. Only 39 targets were unmet, and data is outstanding for 2 of the performance measures contained in the plan. Measures with outstanding data will be reported on as soon as results become available.

Numbers tell only part of CDC's performance story. In an on-going effort to improve our performance plan and report, we have significantly revised our plan. In FY 2005, CDC plans to address key priorities in prevention and preparedness, while capitalizing on 21st century science and technology to achieve public health goals. In our prevention activities, we will continue our keen focus on closing the gap in health status among racial and ethnic minorities. CDC will enhance domestic and global preparedness by strengthening our nation's public health information systems, strengthening our capacity to diminish global threats to health, and increase our ability to detect terrorism.

In FY 2003, CDC achieved or exceeded a variety of goals in each of the identity theme areas.

I. Theme Areas

1. Excellence in Science

- In March 2003, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) published a report describing the spectrum of microbial threats to national and global health, factors affecting their emergence or resurgence, and measures needed to address them effectively. The report, *Microbial Threats to Health: Emergence, Detection, and Response*, clearly indicates the need for increased capacity of the United States to detect and respond to national and global microbial threats, both naturally occurring and intentionally inflicted, and provides recommendations for specific public health actions to meet these needs. The emergence of SARS, a previously unrecognized microbial threat, has provided a strong reminder of the threat posed by emerging infectious diseases. CDC continues to show progress in addressing threats from infectious diseases, which remain a leading cause of death worldwide. Coordinators were placed in 50 health departments nationwide to coordinate hepatitis C activities among health department programs. Surveillance for influenza was enhanced nationally to increase the likelihood of early detection of an influenza pandemic and maintain effective tracking of its spread. CDC increased the number of domestic laboratories using PulseNet for the early identification of and response to foodborne disease outbreaks. Actively reducing the rapid rise of vancomycin resistant pathogens associated with nosocomial infections in hospitals; and are continuing to reduce the use of antibiotics prescribed for a sole diagnosis of the common cold through education campaigns targeted to all levels of healthcare providers.
- In January, The Journal of the American Medical Association published CDC's first prevalence rates of autism. Understanding the magnitude and determining trends in autism and other developmental disabilities will position us to find the causes of these conditions and implement programs to prevent them.

- The United States has seen dramatic reductions in perinatal AIDS rates in the past decade. In 2001, approximately 100 children were diagnosed with AIDS, down from 954 in 1992. These declines reflect the success of widespread implementation of PHS recommendations for routine counseling and voluntary HIV testing of pregnant women and the use of zidovudine (AZT) by infected women during pregnancy and delivery and for treatment of the infant after birth. Declines may also reflect advances in treatment for those children who have been infected, forestalling progression to AIDS. Revised guidelines were published in 2001.
- The diabetes control programs (DCP) – funded in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and 8 U.S. territories and Freely Associated States of the Pacific– identify high-risk populations, improve the quality of care, involve communities in controlling diabetes, and increase access to care with measurable success. For example of a 2-year period the New York DCP reduced hospitalization rates by 35% and decreased lower extremity amputations rates by 39%. In Michigan a long-standing DCP has produced a 45% lower rate of hospitalizations, a 31% lower rate of lower-extremity amputations, and a 27% lower death rate for participants.
- The prevalence of current smoking among youth (grades 9-12) decreased from 36.4% in 1997 to 27.5% in 2001. Success in reducing the youth smoking rate is attributed to restrictions on the tobacco industry, increased state funding for tobacco control programs, technical assistance from the federal government to determine effective tobacco-control strategies, and coordination of tobacco-control efforts among public agencies and non-governmental organizations.
- Through September 2001, the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP) has provided 3.6 million screening tests to over 1.4 million women. The program has diagnosed 12,000 breast cancers, 48,170 precancerous lesions, and over 800 cases of invasive cervical cancer.
- Because most fire-related deaths and injuries occur while residents are asleep effective detection and alerting systems are essential. Indeed a working smoke alarm can reduce the risk of death by about 50%. In nearly three years CDC's 16-state smoke alarm installation/education program has installed over 116,000 smoke alarms in homes. This program has been credited with saving potentially 346 lives.

2. Excellence in Systems and Service

- In FY 2003, CDC continues to expand the information on the amount and types of environmental chemicals that affect people's health. CDC can now measure the presence of approximately 200 such substances including metals, pesticides, dioxins, and others in blood and urine. To communicate these findings to the public, CDC issued the first a *National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals* in FY 2001. This report provides the public an assessment of the U.S. population's exposure to environmental chemicals that may cause cancer, birth defects, and respiratory diseases, and other illnesses. Information from this report will also aid in monitoring the effectiveness of programs designed to reduce exposures. The second edition of the *Report* will be released in January 2003.
- The National Program of Cancer Registries includes 45 states, the District of Columbia and 3 U.S. territories and Freely Associated States of the Pacific representing 96% of the U.S. population. CDC helps states and organizations use cancer surveillance data to describe the disease burden, evaluate cancer control activities, and identify populations at high risk for certain

cancers. For example, from 1988 through 1999, the California Cancer Registry conducted a special study of cancer incidence among members of the United Farmworkers of America (UFW), a largely Hispanic farmworker labor union. Results showed that the risk of leukemia, stomach, cervical, and uterine cancers was elevated in California farmworkers. UFW members also experienced later stage of disease at diagnosis than other California Hispanics for most major cancer sites, but not for breast cancer. Additional research into the potential causes of this increased risk for certain cancers is planned, including a study of farmworkers' exposure to pesticides.

- CDC translates occupational research finding into various media for workers, employers, policy makers, and practitioners. CDC distributes >1 million paper copies of documents annually and also makes information available through the NIOSH website. In FY 2002, NIOSH received 10,704 requests for information via the web, 117,500 requests via telephone, and 4,587 requests via mail. To increase its information dissemination efforts to the growing number of Hispanic laborers within the U.S. workforce, NIOSH launched a Spanish version of its website in FY 2002. After its launch in December 2001, the website received 253 requests for information via the web and 157 requests via telephone during FY 2002.
- CDC documented a 31% reduction in the rate of birth defects of the spine and a 16% reduction in the rate of birth defects of the brain following fortification of the U.S. food supply with the B vitamin folic acid. CDC provided further evidence of the dramatic prevention impact of the vitamin, including a 62% reduction in a common birth defect of the abdominal wall for women who used multivitamins containing folic acid before and during early pregnancy, as well as a 50% decrease in the rate of imperforate anus from a folic acid intervention in China. In FY 2003, CDC published findings that women with diabetes who take multivitamins before and during early pregnancy had a lower risk of having a child with diabetes-associated birth defects such as heart defects and central nervous system defects. To make sure that we maximize the prevention impact of folic acid, CDC is also studying whether taking it can reduce risk for women with diabetes, who are known to be at increased risk of having a child with certain birth defects.
- CDC established the Autism Information Center to educate researchers, public health practitioners, parents, policymakers, and the general public about autism and related disorders. The Web-based resource also includes information on autism-related activities conducted or sponsored by CDC and other federal agencies, resources for families and researchers, and activities to help children use the Internet to learn about autism.

3. Excellence in Strategy

- CDC is collaborating with Danish researchers to use Denmark's unique public health infrastructure to investigate important public health issues for which comparable data do not exist in the United States, including certain issues related to cerebral palsy, fetal alcohol effects, hearing loss, and autism. A recent example is a study recently conducted in response to concerns that exposure to childhood vaccines causes autism—the study results strongly indicated no association between exposure to the MMR vaccine and autism. Future plans of the collaboration include assessing whether intrauterine infection in pregnancy increases risk for cerebral palsy and autism, and evaluating prenatal alcohol exposure as the cause for a broad spectrum of developmental disabilities and conditions.

- Through the Global AIDS Program, CDC is working with experts from U.S. and international agencies such as HRSA, NIH, USAID, CAREC, UNAIDS, WHO, and UNICEF to help ministries of health in Africa, Asia, and Latin America address the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS. In FY 2005, CDC continues to develop programs in 25 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, CDC will play a key role in implementing the President's International Mother and Child HIV Prevention Initiative. With funds requested in 2004 and 2005, CDC and USAID plans to work in 14 countries to prevent mother to child transmission of HIV and provide care and treatment to infected mothers to prolong their health and improve family life.
- Through the Special Olympics Healthy Athletes initiative, CDC is partnering with Special Olympics to address health challenges and disparities faced by Special Olympics athletes and other people with mental retardation. The initiative provides quality health services in the areas of oral health, secondary conditions, mental health, nutrition, physical activity, vision, and hearing to address disparities and improve health and well-being among people with mental retardation.
- As long as polio transmission occurs anywhere in the world, it remains a threat to American children. CDC continues to collaborate with many partners including WHO, Rotary International, USAID, the Task Force for Child Survival and Development, UNICEF, and other international agencies to bolster polio eradication efforts by providing scientific assistance and financial support. This collaboration is unique among public health initiatives for the unprecedented level of partnership. This global initiative is on target for certification of polio eradication by 2005. Global polio incidence has declined more than 99% from 1988 to 2001, about 250,000 lives have been saved and 4 million cases of childhood paralysis have been avoided, and the number of polio-endemic countries dropped from 125 to only 7 at the end of 2002. In FY 2001, a 25% price hike by polio vaccine manufacturers of oral polio vaccine (OPV) from 7.2 cents per dose to 9.0 cents per dose decreased CDC's purchasing capacity (through UNICEF) from a projected 625 million doses in FY 2001 to an actual 590 million doses. In FY 2002, CDC exceeded its target by purchasing 694 million doses of OPV.
- CDC is partnering with the Christopher and Dana Reeve Paralysis Resource Center to provide a library and website with educational materials, referral services, and self-help guidance to those living with paralysis. In its first year of receiving funding from CDC, the center funded more than 60 community programs to improve quality of life for people living with paralysis.
- CDC is partnering with local Muscular Dystrophy Association clinics, Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy and other parent advocacy groups, neurologists, orthopedic surgeons, and others to develop the infrastructure for determining the incidence of muscular dystrophy and evaluating the impact of various treatment options on the health and well-being of people living with the condition.

II. High Priority Initiatives in the FY 2005 Plan

Several high-priority, critical initiatives are included in CDC's 2005 Annual Performance Plan. These initiatives include support for the President's Management Agenda, the Secretary's Budget Priorities, and CDC's Workforce Restructuring and Delaying Plan.

CDC's work in support of the Secretary's Budget Priorities includes the following:

1. Preventing Disease/Illness and Promoting Positive Lifestyles

CDC's highest prevention priority is to respond forcefully to the twin epidemics of obesity and diabetes. 2001 saw the release of two landmark, gold standard studies on the prevention of type 2 diabetes in high-risk adults. Both studies show—for the first time—that type 2 diabetes *can be prevented* in very high-risk adults—those defined as “pre-diabetic.”

2. Responding to BT and other Public Health Emergencies

CDC will improve its own ability to respond, while also working through its cooperative agreement program to bolster the ability of state and local public health agencies to respond to all terrorism hazards. Research will build our knowledge base.

3. Closing the Health Disparities Gap

CDC supports prevention research, program development and analysis and evaluation to improve the health status of minorities and reduce health disparities. CDC provides leadership, coordination, assessment and evaluation for minority health initiatives, policy initiatives targeting improving the health of ethnic populations and Executive Branch activities.

4. Expanding the Department's Efforts in International Health

CDC will reduce serious global health threats associated with living in an increasingly interconnected world. By working with our global health partners to build public health capacity worldwide, CDC plays a vital role in assisting other nations - an important part of protecting our nation's health and safety.

5. Modernizing IT and Establishing an HHS Health Architecture

CDC is committed to advancing public health through science and technology. In FY 2005, CDC priorities in this area include building the Public Health Information Network and supporting improved health statistics and geographic information systems.

6. Strengthening Management

The Program Support section of CDC's Performance Plan represents management activities that cross-cut the entire organization. Activities and priorities of the Human Resources, Information Technology, and Financial Management Offices are all captured in the Program Support section of CDC's Performance Plan.