



Monday Memo – August 10, 2015

Presentations

In late June, Elaine Gabovitch hosted a two-day summit meeting on *Considering Culture in Autism Screening and Systems of Care* leading a collaboration between the MA Act Early state team and the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP). Held at the Boston Children's Museum, 56 professionals from seven states (CT, IA, MN, MA, ME, NH, and VA) came together to brainstorm how best to educate parents from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds about healthy developmental milestones in young children and how to reduce barriers to screening and diagnosis for autism and other developmental disorders. Elaine is an Instructor in FMCH and in the Shriver Center LEND Program, as well as the CDC Act Early Ambassador to Massachusetts.

On July 16, Elaine Gabovitch presented at a Community Capacity Building poster panel session at the annual Autism CARES grantee meeting in Bethesda, MD entitled “Healthy People 2020 Roadmap for Massachusetts Children and Youth with ASD/DD: Understanding Needs and Measuring Outcomes.” Emily Lauer and Courtney Dutra of the Center for Developmental Disabilities Evaluation and Research (CDDER) at the Shriver Center are co-authors.

Professional Service

Paul L. Jeffrey, PharmD, a pharmacy director in the Office of Clinical Affairs within Commonwealth Medicine, and a Department faculty member, is one of 16 experts Governor Charlie Baker named to serve on the Massachusetts Opioid Drug Formulary Commission. The commission will assess and evaluate the most powerful opioids and develop a new formulary that will include the best options to manage pain in patients at risk for misuse or addiction. The formulary is expected to be completed by early winter, and then will be adopted as regulation by the Department of Public Health. Commission members will serve three terms.

Media

· Hugh Silk was recently featured on local WCCA TV Channel 194 on the Health Matters show covering the topic Community Water Fluoridation. The Show is a program run by the Worcester District Medical Society and this episode was hosted by Jay Broadhurst and also

included a representative from the Better Oral Health for Massachusetts Coalition. You can view the show at: <http://www.wccatv.com/video/health-matters/HEALTHMATTERS159>

· Warren Ferguson is quoted in the July/August edition of the AAMC Reporter, a publication of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), regarding the obligation of academic health science centers to train medical professionals about the health needs of inmates and ways to provide them with quality care. The story focused on the benefits of partnerships between academic medical centers and correctional facilities. In addition to his role as the Department's Vice Chair for Community Health, Warren also serves as director of academic programs for the Health and Criminal Justice Program housed within Commonwealth Medicine.