



Quick Reads

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Progress reported in Healthy Iowans goals

A preliminary analysis of objectives or measures of progress in [Healthy Iowans: Iowa's Health Improvement Plan 2012-2016](#) shows 66 percent of them have been achieved (18 measures) or are moving toward the target (13 measures). The remaining objectives were moving away from the target (12 measures), moving in different directions (two measures) or not moving at all (two measures). These objectives are used as a yardstick for determining where improvements have been made, the overall results of the plan, and what action needs to be taken in the next five-year improvement plan.

Medicaid patient and provider questions

As a reminder, benefits under Iowa's Medicaid Modernization do not change. Iowa is utilizing nationally-experienced health plans to coordinate care in a way that makes Medicaid members healthier and fits individual needs. Medicaid patients and providers who have questions regarding care, services, prior authorizations, billings, etc. can always contact their health plan or Iowa Medicaid. Contact information is listed below. The Iowa Dept. of Human Services has also compiled a comprehensive [FAQ](#) on Medicaid Modernization.

Iowa Medicaid Member Services	1-800-338-8366	www.IAHealthLink.gov
Iowa Medicaid Provider Services	1-800-338-7909	www.IAHealthLink.gov
AmeriGroup	1-800-600-4441	www.myamerigroup.com/IA

AmeriHealth Caritas	1-855-332-2440	www.amerihealthcaritasia.com
United HealthCare	1-800-464-9484	www.UHCCommunityPlan.com/ia

Iowa Nurse Assistance Program Committee members needed

Qualified individuals are being sought to serve on the committee for the Iowa Nurse Assistance Program, a confidential monitoring/advocacy program based on Iowa Administrative Rules 655, chapter 19. The Iowa Nurse Assistance Program Committee will meet face-to-face on a quarterly basis or more frequently if warranted. Committee members shall be appointed for three-year terms and shall serve for a maximum of three terms.

655—19.3(272C) Organization of the committee. *The board shall appoint the members of the INAPC.*

19.3(1) Membership. *The membership of the INAPC includes, but is not limited to:*

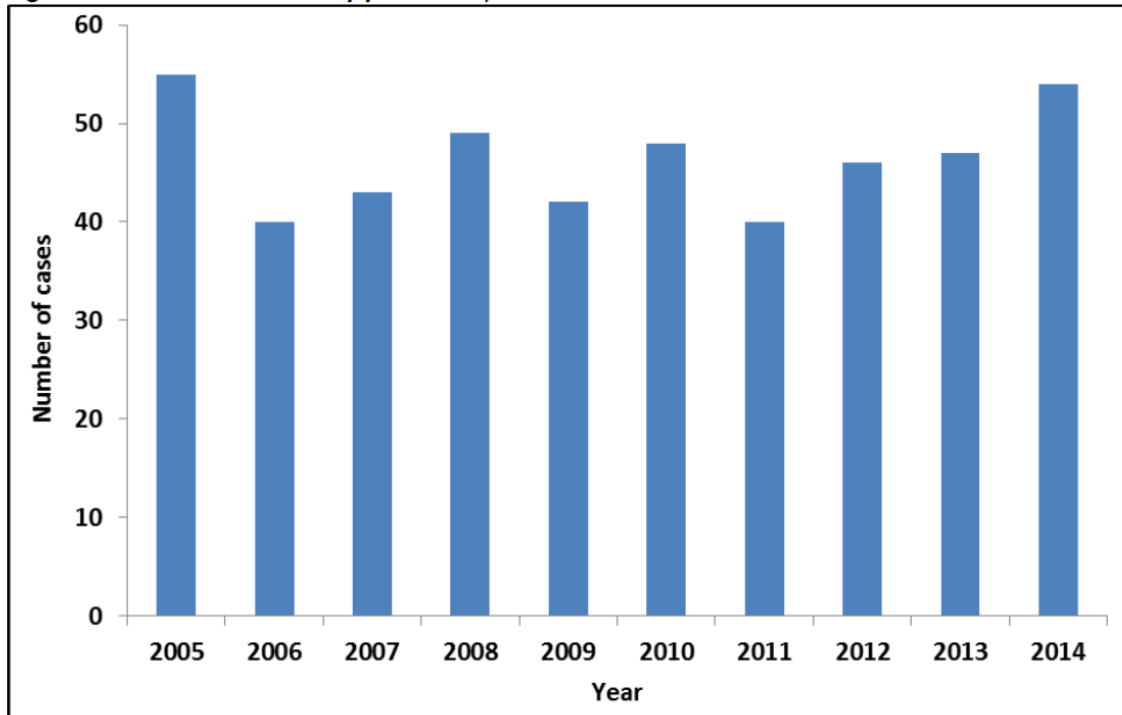
- a. The executive director of the board or the director's designee from the board's staff;*
- b. One board of nursing licensee who has maintained sobriety for a period of no less than two years following successful completion of a recovery program;*
- c. One licensed health care provider with expertise in substance use disorders;*
- d. One licensed provider with expertise in mental health; and*
- e. One public member.*

Qualified individuals may [apply](#) to be a member of the committee by submitting a letter of intent addressing your qualifications as stated in 19.3(1) and a current resume to Kathy Weinberg, Executive Director, Iowa Board of Nursing, 400 SW 8th Street, Suite B, Des Moines, Iowa, 50309 or by [email](#) to Kathy Cornwell by August 31, 2016.

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. To discover more of the important and useful data available from IDPH, please visit the [Public Health Data Tracking Portal](#).

Figure 8. Number of TB cases by year - Iowa, 2005-2014



Tuberculosis - In 2014, Iowa reported 54 cases of active TB disease. Since 2004, Iowa has averaged 46 cases of TB each year (Figure 8). Many cases have existing co-morbidities that make TB treatment considerably more complex and require extensive care, including the use of second-line drugs. Treatment with second-line drugs is complicated and expensive, requiring expert consultation and extended treatment durations.

Congrats and kudos

Congratulations to Jane Condon, [Calhoun County](#) Administrator, who retired May 31 after 41 years of championing public health at the community, county and state levels.

The National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD) has honored Patricia Young, HIV and Hepatitis Prevention Program Manager, with the [2016 NASTAD Lifetime Achievement Award](#) for her passion, leadership, and dedication in working to prevent transmission of HIV and hepatitis, and to improving the lives of people living with HIV and hepatitis.

IDPH staff Addie Rasmusson & James Olson have been accepted as scholars in the [2016-2017 Great Plains Leadership Institute](#), a year-long competency-based training program designed for established and emerging leaders in organizations in our region whose primary mission is to improve the health and well-being of populations and communities.

The [IDPH Bureau of Immunizations and TB](#) has received notification and recognition of recent efforts to increase the immunization rates for young adults receiving the HPV vaccine. So far in 2016, the vaccine distribution rate is more than 6 percent above the amount distributed over the same period in 2015.

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To get *Quick Reads* directly in your inbox, please send a blank e-mail to join-quick_reads@lists.ia.gov. To contribute a news item or smart practice, please write to Polly Carver-Kimm at Polly.Carver-Kimm@idph.iowa.gov.

To everyone in public health and all our partners, keep up the great work!

— Gerd