

From "Kitty Mahoney" <kittymahoney@maphn.org>

To "All 2024 Members" <members@maphn.org>

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Subject News This Week

Attachments who-consolidated-guidelines-on-TB.pdf; DPH-MHA-MMS-Letter-respiratory-vax_11.2025-signed-Final.pdf; MA-PHNs-at-APHA-annual-conf-D.C.-11-2025.docx; MA-PHNs-at-APHA-annual-conf-D.C.-11-2025-2.docx; Don-t-Forget-Your-Thanksgiving-Food-Safety-Steps-_-FoodSafety.gov.pdf

The MAPHN listserv will be updated to the current membership roster on our website. The News This Week on 11/17/2025 will be sent only to those members. Reconciliation will take a few days. If you received an email about your membership, please confirm that you JOINED as was required when we moved to the new website (in April/May) for the July 1st, 2025-June 30th, 2026 membership year.

Time Sensitive: Tonight, Monday November 10th, 2025 at 7:00pm VIRTUAL/ZOOM Donna White will lead a discussion on Substance Use Disorders. If you have not had the pleasure of attending one of her presentations or sessions, Donna is an extremely knowledgeable, engaging and experienced speaker on this topic! [Click here to go to the events tab on the PHM page to register.](#)

Shout Out to the Massachusetts Public Health Nurses who attended APHA! See attached article and photographs by Glynnis LaRosa.

Bringing Science to Society: A Conversation with Katelyn Jetelina: Wednesday, November 12th, (post states 4pm CT (which would be 5 pm our time) at WashU and online. The noted epidemiologist will discuss her approach to public health communication and her experience translating complex data for audiences online (via ZOOM) [Click here to register and obtain ZOOM invite.](#)

From TB Newswire: The World Health Organization (WHO) has released new recommendations on tuberculosis (TB) and undernutrition, as part of the WHO consolidated guidelines on tuberculosis. Module 6: tuberculosis and comorbidities. Undernutrition remains one of the most significant drivers of the TB epidemic globally – contributing to increased vulnerability to TB disease, poorer treatment outcomes, and preventable mortality. Addressing undernutrition and food insecurity among people affected by TB has the potential to improve outcomes and save lives. The release of the latest guidelines marks a significant step in tackling determinants as part of people-centred care under WHO's End TB Strategy. Key recommendations in the new guidelines include: nutritional assessment and counselling for all people with TB, as well as their household contacts. This recognizes that a significant proportion of people in households with TB may be undernourished, provision of nutritional interventions to optimize clinical outcomes in people with TB who have undernutrition, regardless of age, drug resistance, pregnancy status or severity of undernutrition; and provision of food assistance to prevent TB in household contacts of people with TB in food insecure settings. This new recommendation was informed by the findings from the *Reducing Activation of Tuberculosis by Improvement of Nutritional Status* (RATIONS) trial. See attached Consolidated Guidelines.

Clade I MPox news: The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) and University of Washington detected clade I mpox virus in Pierce County wastewater in September. After consulting the CDC, the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department worked with DOH to increase wastewater testing to monitor the situation. At this time, no patients with clade I mpox have been reported in Pierce County. Two types of virus cause mpox: clade I and clade II. Most U.S. mpox cases have been caused by clade II mpox. According to the CDC, six cases of clade I mpox have been reported in the United States in people who had recently traveled to countries with ongoing outbreaks. So far, there has not been sustained transmission of clade I mpox reported in the United States.

CDC Flu Update: Following a severe 2024-2025 influenza season, the CDC expects the upcoming 2025-2026 flu season to be moderate across all ages, according to a report released at the end of August. In addition, the CDC forecasted the combined season outlook of flu, COVID-19 and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) as moderate and similar to the previous season. However, uncontrollable factors could worsen the season. To combat this, vaccination is key to being prepared for the upcoming season, the agency said. In an earlier report by Infectious Disease Special Edition, their article updated on 11/5 to the correct age range for individuals to receive FluMist (AstraZeneca). It is 2 to 49 years, not 2 to 50 years. They regret the error.

Public Health Museum: Annual Meeting on Thursday November 13th, 2025 at 6:30pm VIRTUAL/ZOOM. Featured speaker is Robbie Goldstein, MD, PhD, our Public Health Commissioner. [Click here to go to the events tab on the PHM site to register.](#)

Upcoming Webinar MassHealth: The Basics Interested in learning more about the MassHealth program? Sign on this Thursday, November 13th from 12:00-1:00 PM for a webinar to review key facts and data about MassHealth eligibility, benefits and delivery systems, costs, and recent reforms and changes from our October 2025 edition of the MassHealth: The Basics – Facts and Trends chart pack. Register today if you haven't done so already. [Click here to register.](#)

The Commissioner of Public Health has joined together with the Massachusetts Health and Hospital Association and Massachusetts Medical Society leaders to request your partnership in promoting, encouraging, and facilitating vaccination of your communities, patient populations, and staff. Please review the attached letter and share broadly within your networks.

The Harvard Chan Studio: Conversations for a healthier world: We're excited to bring you all of The Studio events you know and love on YouTube podcasts. The first ten episodes are now available. Check out our podcast playlist on YouTube and be sure to subscribe to Harvard T.H. Chan School's channel to get notifications about new content. [Click here to select and view any of the podcasts!](#)

HBV Transmission Linked to Shared Glucometers in a North Carolina Skilled Nursing Facility: (article by Ethan Covey for IDSE) A confirmed case of hepatitis B virus (HBV) transmission within a North Carolina skilled nursing facility has been linked to the shared use of blood glucose meters (glucometers). CDC Summary: What is already known about this topic? During 2008–2019, 15 hepatitis B outbreaks associated with assisted blood glucose monitoring were reported in long-term care facilities. CDC recommends assigning blood glucose monitors (glucometers) to one person. What is added by this report? Hepatitis B virus (HBV) was transmitted between two residents of a skilled nursing facility who were receiving assisted blood glucose monitoring with shared glucometers. No other potential infection control risks were identified. What are the implications for public health practice? Sharing glucometers presents a risk for HBV transmission that can be reduced by routine HBV vaccination of persons with diabetes and dedicating individual glucometers to a single resident. [Read the full Notes From The Field from CDC here](#)

FDA Recalls: Below is a list of foods this past week. Moonlight/Kroger: Yellow and white peaches Potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*. ByHeart Whole Nutrition Infant formula Potential Foodborne Illness – *Clostridium botulinum* Blue Oven Bakery, Inc. English muffin Undeclared milk Snow Fruit Peach Salsa Potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*. African Food on Wheels Inc. Oven Dried Fish Potential to be contaminated with *Clostridium botulinum* Haagen-Dazs Ice Cream Bars May contain undeclared wheat
Read more on [FDA recalls here.](#)

On the subject of safe foods, share the Thanksgiving Safety Food Tips attached!

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Kitty Mahoney RN, BSN, MS
Communications /Web Manager
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