

## 2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Board of Scientific Counselors Deputy Director for Infectious Diseases

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>		<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>	
Department of Health and Human Services		2024	
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>		<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>	
Board of Scientific Counselors Deputy Director for Infectious Diseases		812	
<b>4. Is this New Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	10/31/2021	10/31/2023	
<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>		<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>
No			
<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>	
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
<b>11. Establishment Authority</b> Authorized by Law			
<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
42 U.S.C. 217a	11/17/1962	Continuing	No
<b>15. Description of Committee</b> Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board			
<b>16a. Total Number of Reports</b>	No Reports for this Fiscal Year		
<b>17a. Open</b>	<b>17b. Closed</b>	<b>17c. Partially Closed</b>	<b>Other Activities</b>
0	0	0	0
<b>17d. Total</b>			
0			
<b>Meetings and Dates</b>			
No Meetings			

	Current FY	Next FY
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The Board provides critical advice and direction to the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the CDC Director, and CDC's infectious disease national centers on improving the Agency's efforts to prevent and control infectious diseases. The Board comprises a highly respected and diverse group of nationally and internationally recognized experts, who bring extensive experience to help CDC ensure sound public health policies and programmatic balance for current and emerging infectious disease threats. Their candid advice and critiques help to

improve program focus and maximize program effectiveness. Over many years, the Board has provided valuable advice to CDC for strengthening public health capacity at national, state, and local levels; enhancing preparedness to address new diseases and public health challenges; developing new tools for detecting and controlling infectious diseases; and implementing science-based programs to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. The Board's global scientific expertise plays an integral role in helping CDC's infectious disease programs stay abreast of current health trends and appropriate scientific directions, thereby ensuring the highest quality prevention and control efforts.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

The Board consists of up to 17 public members, including the Chair. Members are selected by the Secretary from authorities knowledgeable in the fields relevant to the issues addressed by the infectious disease national centers (e.g., respiratory diseases, healthcare-associated infections, antimicrobial resistance, foodborne diseases, zoonotic and vector-borne diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, preparedness) and related specialties, including clinical and public health practice (including state and local health departments), laboratory practice, research, diagnostics, microbiology, immunology, molecular biology, bioinformatics, infectious disease modeling and outbreak analytics, health policy/communications, and industry. A variety of sources are used to identify qualified, diverse candidates for the Board. In addition to the broad professional expertise, a diverse membership, including the geographical location of members, helps to ensure that the committee provides a

well-balanced perspective.

### **20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

In FY 2023, the full Board and its workgroups met less often than in a typical year because Board and workgroup members, as well as CDC's infectious disease leadership and staff, were heavily involved in the COVID-19 pandemic response, which limited their availability for meetings. The full Board convened once in FY 2023 via a hybrid meeting in December 2022, with some in-person and some virtual attendance.

Typically, between meetings, the Board is kept abreast of CDC's infectious disease activities through periodic emails and informational calls. In addition, two of the Board's workgroups convened in FY 2023 as follows: The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Surveillance Working Group met once in December 2022, via a hybrid in-person/virtual meeting, and the Acute Flaccid Myelitis (AFM) Task Force held two virtual meetings. The Infectious Disease Laboratory Working Group did not meet in FY 2023. During FY 2023 the FSMA Surveillance Working Group providing input to the Board on the following: 1) impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on enteric disease surveillance and future planning; 2) enhancements to enteric disease data access and collection; and 3) modernization and progress in technology advances including surveillance initiatives to address gaps in foodborne illness surveillance. The AFM Task Force has shared findings, observations, and outcomes with the Board in two key areas: 1) Acute flaccid myelitis etiologies (AFM) and pathogenesis; and 2) clinical treatment of AFM. The workgroup has continued to evaluate new research and identify persistent gaps in knowledge related to pathogenesis and

clinical management of AFM and how research activities should be prioritized. In addition, the workgroup has served as an informational network for the Board to discuss the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on AFM diagnosis, clinical management, and research activities. The ID Laboratory Working Group (IDLWG) did not meet in FY 2023; however, the Board did receive updates from CDC staff on topics that had been addressed previously by the working group, including on CDC's Advanced Molecular Detection activities and on the Division of Foodborne, Waterborne, and Environmental Diseases' work to address Culture Independent Diagnostic Testing. CDC's infectious diseases laboratory programs are assessing priority areas related to laboratory readiness.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

The Board plays an essential role in assisting CDC and the infectious disease national centers in evaluating programs, setting priorities, and developing and achieving goals. Over this next year, the Board and its workgroups will play an important role in helping CDC address several critical public health issues. Examples include providing critical insights regarding wastewater surveillance as a public health tool for infectious disease programs, advances in foodborne illness surveillance, data modernization efforts in CDC's infectious disease programs, CDC's prevention and surveillance activities related to the viruses responsible for diseases that cause the majority of fall and winter hospitalizations, and advances in infectious disease diagnostics. The board will provide critical information to our infectious disease centers on increasing outbreak responses in the context of post-pandemic public health and

potential impacts on at risk populations. The Board and its workgroups have significant expertise in these areas that can help CDC best focus resources strategically. The broad infectious disease expertise represented on the Board and centralized in one committee does not exist elsewhere.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

N/A

**21. Remarks**

Special Government Employee (SGE), Ann Garvey, start date 10/01/2019 and end date 09/30/2023 (deceased). In addition, SGEs: Timothy Jones, start date 06/09/2014 and end date 03/31/2022; Salmaan Keshavjee, start date 09/23/2015 and end date 09/30/2022; Ruth Lynfield, start date 06/16/2014 and end date 03/31/2022; Lee Riley, start date 06/17/2014 and end date 03/31/2022; Kathryn Talkington, start date 04/27/2018 and end date 03/31/2022; Jonathan Temte, start date 05/01/2018 and end date 03/31/2022; and Saad Omer, start date 7/01/2021 and end date 10/24/2023. Additionally, 4 SGEs extended for 180 days (03/30/2024) – James Le Duc, Jennifer Rakeman, Emily Spivak, and Tina Tan. Liaison representatives: Hilary Babcock, start date 10/25/2019 and end date 12/31/2021; Robert Belknap, start date 08/05/2021 and end date 06/30/2022; and Donna Wolk start date 10/30/2019 and end date 06/30/2022. In addition, liaison representative, Hugo Lopez-Gatell Ramirez, start date 06/14/2019 and will continue to serve, end date extended to 06/30/2024. Ex Officio member, Denise Hinton start date 11/17/2017 and end date 11/11/2021.

## Designated Federal Officer

Sarah D. Wiley Senior Advisor, National Center for  
Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, CDC

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Birnkrant, Debra	11/12/2019	09/30/2024	Director, Division of Antivirals, Office of Infectious Diseases, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration	Ex Officio Member
Caine, Virginia	07/27/2022	09/30/2025	Marion County Public Health Department	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Duchin, Jeffrey	07/27/2022	09/30/2024	Public Health - Seattle & King Country	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Erbelding, Emily	01/18/2017	09/30/2024	Director, Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health	Ex Officio Member
Le Duc, James	07/28/2022	03/30/2024	University of Texas Medical Branch	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Markham, Christine	09/28/2023	09/27/2025	Center for Health Promotion and Prevention Research, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Public Health	Representative Member
Messaoudi, Ilhem	11/10/2020	09/30/2024	Professor of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, University of California, Irvine	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Meyers, Lauren	08/03/2022	09/30/2025	University of Texas at Austin	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Omer, Saad	07/01/2021	10/24/2023	Lyda Hill Dean and Professor School of Public Health The University of Texas Southwestern	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Philip, Susan	08/04/2022	09/30/2025	San Francisco Department of Public Health	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Rakeman, Jennifer	08/01/2022	03/30/2024	Cepheid	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Shenoy, Erica	09/18/2023	09/10/2025	Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School; Chief of Infection Control, Massachusetts General Brigham	Representative Member
Sheppard, Donald	09/11/2023	09/10/2025	Vice President Infectious Diseases and Vaccination Programs Branch	Representative Member
Sosa-Bergeron, Lynn	08/28/2023	08/27/2025	Medical Director, Tuberculosis and Sexually Transmitted Diseases Programs Connecticut Department of Public Health	Representative Member
Spivak, Emily	10/01/2019	03/30/2024	Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, University of Utah School of Medicine	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Tan, Tina	10/01/2019	03/30/2024	Attending Physician, Division of Infectious Diseases, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

## Number of Committee Members Listed: 16

### Narrative Description

The Board provides critical advice and direction to the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the CDC Director, and CDC's infectious disease national centers on improving the Agency's efforts to prevent and control infectious diseases. The Board comprises a highly respected and diverse group of nationally and internationally recognized experts, who bring extensive experience to help CDC ensure sound public health policies and programmatic balance for current and emerging infectious disease threats. Their candid advice and critiques help to improve program focus and maximize program effectiveness. Over many years, the Board has provided valuable advice to CDC for strengthening public health capacity at national, state, and local levels; enhancing preparedness to address new diseases and



public health challenges; developing new tools for detecting and controlling infectious diseases; and implementing science-based programs to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. The Board's global scientific expertise plays an integral role in helping CDC's infectious disease programs stay abreast of current health trends and appropriate scientific directions, thereby ensuring the highest quality prevention and control efforts. The Board consists of up to 17 public members, including the Chair. Members are selected by the Secretary from authorities knowledgeable in the fields relevant to the issues addressed by the infectious disease national centers (e.g., respiratory diseases, healthcare-associated infections, antimicrobial resistance, foodborne diseases, zoonotic and vector-borne diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, preparedness) and related specialties, including clinical and public health practice (including state and local health departments), laboratory practice, research, diagnostics, microbiology, immunology, molecular biology, bioinformatics, infectious disease modeling and outbreak analytics, health policy/communications, and industry. In FY 2023, the full Board and its workgroups met less often than in a typical year because Board and workgroup members, as well as CDC's infectious disease leadership and staff, were heavily involved in the COVID-19 pandemic response, which limited their availability for meetings. The full Board convened once in FY 2023 via a hybrid meeting in December 2022, with some in-person and some virtual attendance. Current plans are for two to three meetings of the full Board in FY 2023. Typically, between meetings, the Board is kept abreast of CDC's infectious disease activities through periodic emails and informational calls. In addition, two of the Board's workgroups convened in FY 2023 as follows: The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Surveillance Working Group met once in December 2022, via a hybrid in-person/virtual meeting, and the Acute Flaccid Myelitis (AFM) Task Force held two virtual meetings. The Infectious Disease Laboratory Working Group did not meet in FY 2023.

**What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if  
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Outcome Comments

N/A

### What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Cost Savings Comments

The Board's advice and guidance to CDC's infectious disease programs could impact cost savings in numerous ways. Through their broad expertise, the members help identify new strategies and opportunities to better target and focus prevention and control efforts. The Board has also been instrumental in helping enhance collaborations across federal organizations.

### What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

208

### Number of Recommendations Comments

No change in FY2023. Recommendations were made to CDC leadership and staff during Board meetings. Because CDC's infectious disease leadership and staff had significant involvement in the COVID-19 response, much work on implementing the recommendations was on hold, and much of the discussion during the FY2023 meeting was concerning ongoing agency operations during the pandemic response.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

32%

**% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

No change in FY2023. Note: The percentage for this fiscal year includes an adjustment from the past to reflect the cumulative percentage of the life of the Board.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

68%

**% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

No change in FY2023. Note: The percentage for this fiscal year includes an adjustment from the past to reflect the cumulative percentage of the life of the Board.

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

**Agency Feedback Comments**

CDC provides updates to the public at the Board of Scientific Counselors Deputy Director for Infectious Diseases meetings and meeting minutes. Additional information regarding the Board is located at <https://www.cdc.gov/faca/committees/bscddid.html>.

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other ☐

**Action Comments**

N/A

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

**Grant Review Comments**

N/A

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO ☒

Online Agency Web Site ☒

Online Committee Web Site ☒

Online GSA FACA Web Site ☒

Publications ☒

Other ☐

**Access Comments**

The full minutes of each Board meeting, which includes summaries of workgroup meetings, are posted on CDC's website.