

Announcements

American Heart Month — February 2013

February is American Heart Month. Heart disease is a major public health problem in the United States. Every year, approximately 715,000 persons in the United States have a heart attack, and approximately 600,000 die from heart disease. Heart disease is the leading cause of death for U.S. men and women, accounting for one out of every four deaths each year (1).

Cardiovascular disease, including heart disease and stroke, costs the United States \$312.6 billion each year (1). This total includes the cost of health-care services, medications, and lost productivity. Cardiovascular diseases also are leading causes of disability, preventing affected persons from working and enjoying family activities.

In observance of American Heart Month, CDC will offer four heart-healthy tips per week. This social media and web-based campaign is a way to actively engage persons in heart-healthy activities. Each tip falls into one of four categories: 1) reducing sodium consumption, 2) getting active, 3) quitting smoking, and 4) controlling blood pressure. All the tips will be listed together online at http://www.cdc.gov/salt/healthy_heart_tips.htm and will be accessible all year long.

Reference

1. Go AS, Mozaffarian D, Roger VL, et al. Heart disease and stroke statistics—2013 update: a report from the American Heart Association. *Circulation* 2013;127:e6–245.

International Course in Applied Epidemiology

CDC and the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University will cosponsor the course, International Course in Applied Epidemiology, from September 23 to October 18, 2013, in Atlanta, Georgia. This basic course in applied epidemiology is directed at public health professionals who work abroad and public health professionals from countries other than the United States. Its content includes presentations and discussions of epidemiologic principles, basic statistical analysis, public health surveillance, field investigations, surveys and sampling, and discussions of the epidemiologic aspects of current major public health problems in global health. Included are small group discussions of epidemiologic case exercises based on field investigations. Participants are encouraged to give a short presentation reviewing some epidemiologic data from their own country.

Computer training using Epi Info 7, a software program developed at CDC for epidemiologists, is included. Prerequisites for the course are familiarity with the vocabulary and principles of basic epidemiology, or completion of CDC's Principles of Applied Epidemiology home study course, or equivalent. Preference will be given to applicants whose work involves priority public health problems in global health. Registration deadline is June 1 or until filled. Tuition is charged. Additional information and applications are available online (<http://www.sph.emory.edu/epicourses>); by e-mail (pvaleri@emory.edu); by mail (Emory University, Hubert Department of Global Health, 1518 Clifton Rd. NE, CNR Bldg., Rm. 7038, Atlanta, GA 30322); by telephone (404-727-3485); or by fax (404-727-4590).