

**Report on Progress on CSTE Position statement 04-ID-03
Prevention and Control of Recreational Water Illnesses (RWI)**

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In the position statement, CSTE recommended that CDC sponsor a series of national workshops to develop a national strategic plan to address the prevention and control of RWI.

In early February 2005, four multidisciplinary workgroups of about 20 to 25 people each convened via conference calls to discuss one of four specific areas of RWI prevention. The groups represented state, local and federal health/environmental agencies as well as pool and spa operators and the four specific areas of focus were: (1) Assessing the Problem, (2) Increasing Public Awareness and Action, (3) Maximizing the Impact of Health Department Pool Programs, and (4) Collecting Data Needed for Improving Water Quality. CDC staff collated the information that was used as a basis for discussions at the workshop.

February 15-17, 2005 the National Center for Infectious Diseases/Division of Parasitic Diseases (NCID/DPD) and the National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) of CDC convened a RWI Prevention Workshop in Atlanta. Participants in the workshop are included as a separate document (Workgroups Assignment 2-7-05.xls). The scope of the workshop included the transmission of infectious diseases in disinfected pool/spa/whirlpool environments. It included discussions on waterborne and aerosolized pathogens, chemical exposures and air quality issues, but did not address injury prevention. After a general description of the scope of the problem and the charge of the workshop participants, all four focus areas were discussed again in small groups and recommendations to the full body given at the end of the workshop.

The workshop deliberations and recommendations were used to craft a summary document that has been sent to participants for final input. CDC plans to publish these recommendations in an MMWR Reports and Recommendations format during Summer 2005. CDC will present the results as a poster session at CSTE in June 2005 (it was not selected as a presentation for any of the sessions).