



**Agenda**  
**Thursday, March 26, 2026**

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| 8:30 a.m.             | <b>Registration</b>  |
| 9:00 a.m.             | <b>Welcome</b>   |
| 9:05 a.m.             | <b>Opening Comments</b><br>Laurie Forlano, DO, MPH<br>Director, Office of Epidemiology   |
|                       | <b>SESSION 1</b><br>Moderator – Melissa Viray, MD<br>Deputy Director, Richmond and Henrico Health Districts  |
| 9:20 a.m.             | <b>When Two Mosquito-Borne Viruses Collide: An Unprecedented West Nile and La Crosse Coinfection in a Non-Traveling Adult in the Fairfax Health District, 2025</b><br>Chtaura Jackson, MPH, MS<br>Environmental Epidemiologist, Fairfax County Health Department   |
| 9:40 a.m.             | <b><i>Burkholderia pseudomallei</i> Infection Associated with Travel to the Philippines, Central Virginia Health District, April 2025</b><br>Cali Anderson, MPH, Senior Epidemiologist, Central Virginia Health District and<br>Paige Bordwine, MPH, CIC, MT(ASCP), Southwest Regional Epidemiologist, Office of Epidemiology, Virginia Department of Health                       |
| 10:00 a.m.            | <b>When Alarm Bells Ring: Interpreting Wastewater Surveillance Signal for H5 Infected Wildlife</b><br>Michelle Yancey, MPH, PhD<br>Wastewater Surveillance Data Manager<br>Office of Environmental Health Services, Virginia Department of Health  |
| 10:20 –<br>10:35 a.m. | <b>Break and Networking</b>  |
|                       | <b>SESSION 2</b><br>Moderator – E. Katrina Saphrey, MPH, CIC<br>Epidemiologist Senior, Crater Health District  |
| 10:35 a.m.            | <b>One Case, High Consequences: The Measles Multiplier — A Multi-Jurisdictional Response in the Eastern Region, September 2025</b><br>Brittany Kendall, MPH, CHES, CIC, Deputy Regional Epidemiologist, Office of Epidemiology, Virginia Department of Health and<br>Ashley Caesar, MPH, MHI, Epidemiologist, Virginia Beach Department of Public Health                           |
| 10:55 a.m.            | <b>If It's Not One Thing, It's Another: A Multi-Source Respiratory Outbreak at a Private School in Virginia, October- November, 2025</b><br>Stephanie Neal, MPH, CIC<br>District Epidemiologist Jr., Lord Fairfax Health Department  |
| 11:15 a.m.            | <b>Visualizing a High-Risk Syphilis Network Using Partner Services and Social Network Analysis – Southwest - Virginia, 2025</b><br>Courtney Gonzalez, MPH, CHES, Disease Intervention Specialist, Office of Epidemiology, Virginia Department of Health and<br>Danesha Alam-Richardson, BS, Disease Intervention Specialist, Office of Epidemiology, Virginia Department of Health |
| 11:35 a.m.            | <b>An Evaluation of <i>Candida auris</i> Transmission Between Healthcare Facilities</b><br>Eboni Bassett, MPH<br>Deputy Epidemiologist, Crater Health District   |



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| 11:55 a.m.-<br>1:00 p.m. | <b>Lunch and Networking</b>  |
|                          | <b>SESSION 3</b><br>Moderator – Kenesha Smith Barber, MSPH, PhD<br>Community Health Improvement Epidemiology Manager, Office of Family Health Services,<br>Virginia Department of Health   |
| 1:05 p.m.                | <b>Understanding COPD Burden in Virginia: Patterns, Disparities, and Public Health Implications</b><br>Francis Adams, MPH<br>Epidemiologist, Office of Family Health Services, Virginia Department of Health   |
| 1:25 p.m.                | <b>Assessing Local Needs to Support Maternal Health-Related Emergency Preparedness Efforts in Virginia</b><br>Juliana Keeney, MPH<br>CSTE Applied Epidemiology Fellow, Office of Family Health Services,<br>Virginia Department of Health                |
| 1:45 p.m.                | <b>Examining Drug Overdose Deaths Without Opioid Involvement Among Virginians, 2019-2023</b><br>Lauren Yerkes, MPH, CPH<br>Injury and Violence Prevention Senior Epidemiologist, Office of Family Health Services,<br>Virginia Department of Health      |
| 2:05 –<br>2:20 p.m.      | <b>Break and Networking</b>  |
|                          | <b>SESSION 4</b><br>Moderator – Amanda Woods, MS<br>Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Response Lead Scientist<br>Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services, Virginia Department of General Services   |
| 2:20 p.m.                | <b>When the Workforce Is Tired: Designing Programs That Support People and Practice</b><br>Ginger Vanhoozer, MPH, BSN, RN, CIC, AL-CIP<br>HAI/AR Education and Training Specialist, Office of Epidemiology, Virginia Department of Health                |
| 2:40 p.m.                | <b>Disrupting Syphilis Transmission through Hyper-Localized At-Home Testing Initiatives in a High-Burden Health District, Crater Health District, Virginia</b><br>Tia Sanchez, BA<br>STI Health Education Senior, Crater Health District                 |
| 3:00 p.m.                | <b>Linking Emergency Medical Services and Emergency Department Data for Heat-Related Illness Surveillance, Virginia, 2024-2025</b><br>Daisy Banta, MPH<br>Senior Epidemiologist, Office of Emergency Medical Services, Virginia Department of Health     |
| 3:20 p.m.                | <b>Voting for People’s Choice Award</b>  |
| 3:30 p.m.                | <b>Closing Remarks and Award Presentations (Grayson B. Miller, Jr., MD Award, Diane Woolard, PhD Award, and People’s Choice Award)</b><br>Brandy Darby, DVM, MPH, DACVPM<br>Director, Division of Surveillance and Investigation, Office of Epidemiology |