In this Issue

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Welcome to this issue of the Delaware Journal of Public Health, which focuses on Genetics and its relationship to public health. As always, we appreciate your feedback and hope that you find this issue valuable.

The Determinants of Health, as defined by the US Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, include:

- Policymaking,
- Social Factors,
- Health Services,
- Individual behavior, and
- Biology and genetics.

The more easily modifiable factors are represented in the first three determinants. The modification of individual behavior is much more challenging - health promotion and a variety of individual and community level models and theories of behavior change address this head on. It has only been during the past few decades that we have seen the growth of novel interventions that can act at the biologic and genetic level, including CRISPR gene therapy and gene editing. This new field has great potential, and groups in Delaware – including the Gene Editing Institute at ChristianaCare - are focusing their energy in these areas.

This issue includes articles on newborn screening, genetic counseling, the development of cell lines for use in COVID-19 research, CRISPR technology and use, and higher education and research, as well as articles on seasonal trends in Delaware's overdose deaths, HIV and SARS-CoV-2 coinfection, and disparities in caregiver beliefs about the COVID-19 vaccine.

Dr. Lou Bartoshesky and Dr. Eric Kmiec are our guest editors for this issue, and have their own introductory articles to help set the stage. We are grateful for their work on this issue of the Journal.

As the Journal concludes its seventh year of publication with inclusion in PubMed, we want to extend our thanks to all past authors, editors, and to you, our readership, for your engagement and support.

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