



2015 Binational Border Health Research Forum Report





Introduction

The U.S.-México Border Health Commission (BHC) convened the Binational Border Health Research (BHR) Forum on October 21, 2015, at the Health Science Development and Research Center at the Autonomous University of Nuevo León in Monterrey, Nuevo León. The Forum aimed to develop a binational health research agenda for the United States-México border region and consisted of three work groups focusing on the following topics: chronic degenerative diseases, infectious diseases, and maternal and child health; mental health, addictions, violence, accidents, and injuries; and strengthening research capacity and human resources development.

This report includes the recommendations and suggestions from each work group, as well as information from the inaugural ceremony, plenary session, poster session, and closing session.

Participants included leading researchers, academics, civil servants, health professionals, and universities distinguished for their research on border issues and the health of the United States-México border populations.

The objective of the BHR Forum was to develop a binational health research agenda for the United States-México border, based on the Healthy Border (HB) 2020 priorities that supports decision-making in health and public policy.



Additional objectives included disseminating and transferring health knowledge in the United States-Mexico border; identifying needs to strengthen border health research; proposing research agenda priorities based on the HB 2020 framework; reinforcing actions in health and public policy through scientific evidence; and promoting the Binational Border Health Thematic Network.

Opening

The Forum consisted of an opening session that included the participation of Dr. Jesús Ancer Rodríguez, Dean, Autonomous University of Nuevo León, who stated that the university has an important role in this research initiative and border health issues.



Dr. Cristina Rabadán-Diehl, Director, Office of the Americas, Office of Global Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, called on participants to identify gaps and opportunities as well as consider using the power of collaboration as a resource to strengthen research.

Hilda Dávila, General Director of International Relations, México Secretariat of Health, stated that one of the roles of the BHC is to support health research as outlined in HB 2020 and to highlight the binational work conducted by universities in the ten border states that are committed to health research.

The Nuevo León Secretary of Health, Dr. Manuel Enrique de la O Cavazos, reiterated that health cannot be politicized because health has no borders.

The opening session concluded with the signing of the Binational Border Health Thematic Network initiative agreement, funded by the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT). The signees included the BHC-México Section, the Autonomous



University of Nuevo León, the Autonomous University of Ciudad Juárez, the University of Arizona, the University of California-San Diego, and the Autonomous University of Tamaulipas. Honor witness's included Hilda Dávila, Secretariat of Health of México; Dr.

Cristina Rabadán-Diehl, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and Dr. Manuel de la O Cavazos, Nuevo León Secretary of Health.

Plenary session



The plenary session consisted of an overview of Healthy Border 2020, which included background and history of Healthy Border 2010. The objectives, priorities, strategies, monitoring and proposed evaluation of the initiative were highlighted. Participants were reminded that discussions within the Forum should be within HB 2020's aim to provide a framework that presents

public health goals and the actions needed to achieve the initiatives' objectives of improving health on both sides of the border.

Work Groups

Participants were divided into three simultaneous thematic work groups. Each group began with brief presentations from researchers that focused on their successful experiences working binationally. Participants were asked to discuss and consider these experiences for potential replication and adaptation along the border.

The themes and facilitators for each group included the following:

- Chronic-degenerative diseases, infectious diseases and maternal and child health.
Facilitators: Dr. Humberto Astiazarán and Dr. Susan Forster-Cox
- Mental health and addictions, violence, accidents and injuries.
Facilitators: Dr. Jaime León Varela and Jill de Zapien.

- Strengthening research capacity and human resources development.

Facilitators: Dr. María de la Luz Vázquez and Dr. Leah Whigham.

A discussion guide was designed based on the general objectives of the Forum to promote group participation and assist in generating comments, observations, recommendations, and proposals for the BHC. The guide included the following topics :

- 1) Priorities for the research agenda
- 2) Proposals for public policy to support research
- 3) Strengthening the capacity of human resources
- 4) Strengthening infrastructure for research

The tables below are a summary of the presentations and recommendations of each work group.

Work Group 1: Chronic-degenerative diseases, infectious diseases, and maternal and child health.

Topic	Presenter	Title	Country	Thematic Area
The role of research in developing an evidence-based adolescent pregnancy prevention model	Dr. José Manuel Ramírez Aranda	State Research Coordinator, Secretariat of Health of Nuevo León	México	Maternal and Child Health
TeleECHO model applied to the management of tuberculosis in the border region	Dr. Bruce Struminger	Associate Director for Project ECHO and Associate Professor of Medicine, University of New	U.S.	Infectious diseases

		Mexico Health Sciences Center		
Chronic diseases and health promotion: The role of promotores in chronic diseases	Dr. Catalina Denman	Professor, Center of Health and Societal Studies, Sonora College	México	Chronic-degenerative diseases

The recommendations of this work group are as follows:

- 1) Increase the awareness and profile of environmental health in the research agenda using HB 2020 as the basis and context.
- 2) Consider new models and knowledge transfer in HB 2020 to address childhood obesity, diabetes, and tuberculosis.
- 3) Coordinate existing information to carry out public health action plans.
- 4) Collect resources to develop mini-grants and provide funding for established projects that can increase their assets.
- 5) Create awards for graduate students to encourage health research and develop opportunities to recognize their work.
- 6) Promote an electronic journal through the BHC that is not necessarily peer reviewed but validated through alternative methods.
- 7) Utilize the Consortium of the Californias structure and framework as a model to encourage collaboration between researchers and networks in an effort to strengthen human resource capacity.
- 8) Use videoconferencing technology, similar to Project ECHO, and the resources presented at other workshops including the BHC’s Border Health Symposium: The Power of Collaboration held in 2014.
- 9) Promote health based on the World Health Organization’s Bangkok Charter that emphasizes balancing physical, emotional, social, spiritual, and intellectual health to develop and improve healthy practices.
- 10) Recommend and encourage students to work in health research settings on both sides of the border if they are able to do so.

- 11) Review the institutions and services to identify gaps and research needs.
- 12) Create a platform for researchers to share information and facilitate communication among them.
- 13) Develop directories of researchers and graduate students, publications, and programs that can be shared with border researchers and other stakeholders.
- 14) Promote community-based participatory research so communities are more involved in the research processes, including reporting of results.



Work Group 2: Mental health and addictions, violence, accidents and injuries

Topic	Presenter	Title	Country	Thematic Area
Addictions in the border	Dr. Steffanie A. Strathdee	Associate Dean Of Global Health Sciences, School of Medicine, University of California-San Diego	U.S.	Addictions
Impact and management intervention on child violence in Ciudad Juárez	Dr. Marie A. Leiner	Research Associate Professor Department of Pediatrics, Texas Tech University; Professor and Researcher, Autonomous University of Ciudad Juárez	México	Violence
Binational accidental poisoning notification proposal	Dr. Stephen W. Borron	Regional Medical Director, West Regional Poison Center, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Centers	U.S.	Accidents and injuries

The recommendations of this work group are as follows:

- 1) Investigate the drug addiction situation on the border, and prevention and treatment strategies.
- 2) Investigate methods to efficiently disseminate poisoning information free of charge.
- 3) Identify all reported poisoning cases and adapted methods from all border poison centers in an effort to better capture and report data collectively within the border region.
- 4) Encourage the BHC Expert Panel to collect existing information on addictions and develop bilingual material to promote prevention and treatment in both countries.
- 5) Identify issues and interventions related to violence in children.
- 6) Support more toxicology projects and seek funding in the private sector.
- 7) Develop educational materials or design brochures, videos, and cartoons of the fifty most important things people should know about toxicology to promote education in health communication through electronic and digital media.
- 8) Encourage the BHC to hold additional fora to strengthen infrastructure and train health care professionals in bilingual format on poisonings and violence against children, especially in areas with high rates.
- 9) Encourage the BHC to collect existing documents or information and identify the results of best practices in addictions; and use information from schools to promote the creation of an anti-poison center information at the border.



Work Group 3: Strengthening research capacity and human resources development

Topic	Presenter	Title	Country	Thematic Area
Border Health Virtual Library	Dr. Porfirio Taméz Solís	General Director, Autonomous University of Nuevo León Libraries	México	Health research infrastructure
Binational Border Health Thematic Network	Dr. Rogelio Zapata	Technical Representative, Binational Border Health Thematic Network	México	Border health research
Basic Science Research and Human Resources Replicable Training Model in the Border	Dr. Peter Rotwein	Assistant Vice President for Research, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center	U.S.	Strengthening research capacity

The recommendations of this work group are as follows:

- 1) Include social determinants, and environmental and economic factors in the health research agenda and develop tools for collecting this information.
- 2) Establish communication fora to disseminate information on health problems in the migrant population.
- 3) Develop a website and directory based on subject areas and disseminate a questionnaire to border universities to better understand their resources.

- 4) Include health and public policy stakeholders, and industry leaders in research discussions so they can better support research opportunities.
- 5) Coordinate and organize border researchers in a manner that positions them to receive funding for research projects that seek to improve the conditions of border populations.
- 6) Synthesize and translate research, and disseminate best practices and recommendations that are more user-friendly.
- 7) Expand the field of health services nationwide in the U.S. so the private and public sectors can work together, using the Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) as a model.
- 8) Increase the exchange between students and health care professionals through training programs and programs that support students and researchers to focus on the community or areas of indigenous nations and tribes.
- 9) Formalize the promotor workforce and create a program that allows for the collection of research data.
- 10) Develop a directory of physical infrastructure and another one that identifies funding sources that can optimize philanthropic investments.
- 11) Encourage large institutions to share resources and information with smaller institutions.



Poster session



In response to a call for posters, thirty-two abstracts (programs, projects, proposals) were received and reviewed by a binational committee. A total of twenty-eight were approved and twenty-five were exhibited during the event. Please see the attachment for a detailed list of posters.

Closing



In closing, Dr. Dora Elia Cortés and Dr. J. M. de la Rosa, BHR Co-chairs, provided a brief summary of each work group, urging the U.S.-México Border Health Commission to follow up on recommendations and strengthen a binational body researchers to improve their effectiveness and efficiency based on available resources and access to information and to recognize the research agenda priorities, including the public policy

proposals, strengthening human resource capacity, and research infrastructure that was identified and discussed during the Binational Border Health Research Forum.

The following next steps were identified:

- 1) Establish the Monterrey Declaration on binational health research within a month, as a way of demonstrating public and institutional interest.
- 2) Establish communication with researchers within two months to promote the construction of a virtual library where researchers can share their results. A questionnaire on topics that should be included in the library was distributed to participants at the conclusion of the forum for their completion.

The BHR cochairs each provided brief remarks and then closed the event.



ATTACHMENT: POSTER LIST

Binational Border Health Research Forum



CODE	POSTER TITLE	AUTHORS	INSTITUTIONS	COUNTRY
FBSFC-03	<p>Explorar la asociación entre el diagnóstico de diabetes mellitus e hipercolesterolemia en adolescentes de 10-19 años</p> <p>[Explore the association between diabetes mellitus and hypercholesterolemia diagnosis in adolescents aged 10 to 19 years]</p>	Leticia Yesenia Camarena Mora, José Antonio Hurtado, Marco Antonio Cabrera García, Alicia Harvey Vera	Centro de Estudios Universitarios Xochicalco, Tijuana, Baja California, México; University of California, La Jolla, California, United States	México
FBSFC-05	<p>Prevalencia de sobrepeso y obesidad en niños de 9 a 14 años en zonas rurales de México, resultados de la Encuesta Nacional de Salud 2012</p> <p>[Prevalence of overweight and obesity in children aged 9 to 14 years in rural areas of Mexico: Results from the 2012 National Health Survey]</p>	Coral Ruby Martínez Arévalos, José Antonio Hurtado-Montalvo, Alicia Harvey-Vera	Universidad Xochicalco Campus "Tijuana," Tijuana, Baja California, México	México
FBSFC-07	<p>Prevalencia de consumo de tabaco e hipertensión arterial sistémica en el centro de salud Tijuana B.C. México en el periodo de Agosto a Diciembre de 2013</p> <p>[Prevalence of tobacco consumption and systemic arterial hypertension at the health center in Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico from August to December 2013]</p>	Hugo Alberto Carrillo Morales, Christian Alberto Armenta Angeles, José Rodolfo Magaña Cano	Universidad Xochicalco Campus "Tijuana," Tijuana, Baja California, México	México
FBSFC-09	An Integrated Approach to Address Asthma Management in South Texas	Genny Carrillo, E. Spence-Almaguer, R. Lucio, Betty Chong-Menard, Kenneth Smith	Texas A&M Health Sciences Center, School of Public Health McAllen Campus; University of North Texas, Health Science Center; South Texas College, Dr. Ramiro R. Casso Nursing & Allied Health Campus; Rio Grande Regional Hospital	United States
FBSFC-10	Programa "Unidos Para Una Tijuana Saludable" Para Prevención y Control de Obesidad Infantil	L.A. Villegas, A.R. Murillo, E. M. Machado, M.C. Velázquez	H. Ayuntamiento de Tijuana, Dirección Municipal de Salud, México	México

CODE	POSTER TITLE	AUTHORS	INSTITUTIONS	COUNTRY
	[The <i>United for a Healthy Tijuana</i> Program for the prevention and control of child obesity]			
FBSFC-11	Frecuencia de cáncer cervicouterino en un Hospital de Medicina Familiar en Ciudad Victoria, Tamaulipas, México [Cervical cancer frequency in a family medicine hospital in Ciudad Victoria, Tamaulipas, Mexico]	L.A. Sánchez, C.H.K. Brussolo, J.L.G. Ochoa, V.J. Vázquez	Facultad de Enfermería Victoria, Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas; Hospital General de Zona de Medicina Familiar No. 1, Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social, Centro Médico Educativo y Cultural “Adolfo López Mateos;” Facultad de Medicina Veterinaria y Zootecnia, Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas	México
FBSFC-14	Salud Para Usted y Su Familia: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Child Obesity Prevention in US-Mexico Border Colonias	Jill A. McDonald, PhD; Esther Devall, PhD; Devon Golem, PhD; Maria Gurrola, PhD; Merranda Marín, PhD; Elizabeth Olivares, MPH; NMSU SPUSF Team	The Southwest Institute for Health Disparities Research, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico, United States	United States
FBSFC-15	Biblioteca Virtual de Salud Fronteriza México-Estados Unidos [United States-Mexico Border Virtual Healthy Library]	Dr. Porfirio Tamez Solís, Dr. Dora Elia Cortés Hernández, Dr. Esteban Picazzo Palencia	Facultad de Medicina, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León; Instituto de Investigación Sociales, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León	México
FBSFC-16	Estudio exploratorio comparativo del uso de cinturón de seguridad y de sistemas de retención en usuario de vehículos de motor en estados de la frontera México-USA [Exploratory comparative study of seat belt use and restraint systems in motor vehicles in U.S.-Mexico border states]	Dora Elia Cortés Hernández, Jorge Alberto Chiu-García, Verónica Velasco-Villavicencio, Ismael Ibarra-Nava, Lourdes Huerta-Pérez, Esteban Picazzo-Palencia	Unidad de Investigación en Salud Pública, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, México; Promoción de la Salud, Secretaría de Salud del Estado de Nuevo León, México	México
FBSFC-17	Propuesta de Modelo de Atención para la Conducta Sexual del Migrante [Proposed Model of Care for Sexual Behavior in Migrants]	ME. Jesús Alejandro Guerra Ordoñez, Raquel Alicia Benavides Torres, PhD	Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León	México

CODE	POSTER TITLE	AUTHORS	INSTITUTIONS	COUNTRY
FBSFC-18	Eventos Estresantes de la Vida y Consumo de Tabaco y Alcohol en Estudiantes de Preparatoria [Stressful life events, and consumption of tobacco and alcohol in high school students]	Jessika Jazmin Garza Rodríguez, Magaly Domingo Enríquez, Dora Edith Reyes Segura, Montserrat González Muñiz y MCE, Brenda Guadalupe Yáñez Castillo, MCE Perla Martínez Aguilera (Autor de Correspondencia)	Facultad de Enfermería, Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas	México
FBSFC-19	Diseño del Observatorio Mexicano de Enfermedades no Transmisibles (OMENT) [Mexican observatory design in non-communicable diseases (OMENT)]	MSP Yolanda Elva de la Garza Casas, Dr. Dora Elia Cortés Hernández, Dr. Esteban Picazzo Palencia, MC Yenisei Ramírez Toscano	Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León	México
FBSFC-20	Epidemiología molecular de <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> y <i>M. bovis</i> en muestras clínicas en Baja California, México [Molecular epidemiology of <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> and <i>M. Bovis</i> in clinical samples in Baja California, Mexico]	Raquel Muñiz-Salazar, Rafael Laniado-Laborín, Roberto Zenteno-Cuevas, Rosa Alejandra García-Ortíz, Nelva L. Victoria-Cota, Carlos A. Vazquez-Chacon, Armando Martinez-Guarneros, Jorge A. Gonzalez-y-Merchand, Sandra Rivera-Gutierrez, Vaughan Gilberto	Escuela de Ciencias de la Salud, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Ensenada, Baja California, México; Clínica de Tuberculosis del Hospital General de Tijuana del Hospital General de Tijuana, Secretaría de Salud, Tijuana, Baja California, México; Instituto de Salud Pública, Universidad Veracruzana, Xalapa, Veracruz; Instituto de Diagnóstico y Referencia Epidemiológicos, Secretaría de Salud, México; Escuela Nacional de Ciencias Biológicas, Instituto Politécnico Nacional, México	México
FBSFC-21	Propuesta para conocer la relación que existe entre la percepción de estigma y la conducta sexual en mujeres portadoras del VPH. [A proposal to understand the relationship between the perceived stigma and sexual behavior in female HPV carriers]	M.E. Gloria Maricela Guerra Rodríguez, Dr. María Guadalupe Moreno Monsiváis, M.E.S. Octavio Augusto Olivares Órnelas, M.G.A. Héctor Manuel Gil Vázquez	Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León; Unidad Académica Multidisciplinaria Matamoros, Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas	México
FBSFC-22	Frontera Saludable 2020 [Healthy Border 2020]	R. Magdaleno-Juárez, R. Zapata-Garibay, J.E. González-Fagoaga, M.G. Rangel-Gómez	Comisión de Salud Fronteriza México-Estados Unidos, Tijuana, Baja California; Secretaría de Salud, México, D.F.	México

CODE	POSTER TITLE	AUTHORS	INSTITUTIONS	COUNTRY
FBSFC-23	Condiciones de salud en los módulos de salud del migrante en Tijuana, Baja California y Matamoros, Tamaulipas [Health conditions in migrant health modules in Tijuana, Baja California and Matamoros, Tamaulipas]	E. López-Torres, R. Zapata-Garibay, J.E. González-Fagoaga, M.G. Rangel-Gómez	Comisión de Salud Fronteriza México-Estados Unidos, Tijuana, Baja California; Secretaría de Salud, México, D.F.	México
FBSFC-24	Los estresores como factor de riesgo para la salud mental en repatriados atendidos en el Módulo de Salud del Migrante en El Chaparral [Stressors as a mental health risk factor in repatriated migrants treated by the Migrant Health Module at El Chaparral]	J.L. García-Avalos JL; R. Zapata-Garibay, K.N. Jasso- Flores, M.G. Rangel-Gómez, J.E. González-Fagoaga	Comisión de Salud Fronteriza México-Estados Unidos, Tijuana, Baja California; Secretaría de Salud, México, D.F.	México
FBSFC-25	Serum Uric Acid (UA) levels and Metabolic Syndrome (MetS) in Elementary School children with Obesity From Nuevo León, Mexico	Elizabeth Solis Pérez, Mario Alberto González Medina, Chandan Prasad, Imrhan Victorine	Facultad de Salud Pública y Nutrición, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, Monterrey, Nuevo León, México; Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences, Texas Women's University, Denton, Texas, United States	México
FBSFC-26	El Síndrome de Ulises en migrantes económicos y políticos Mexicanos y Centroamericanos [Ulysses syndrome in Mexicano and Central American economic and political migrants]	Silvia María Chavez Baray, Eva M. Moya, Oscar A. Esparza, Leticia Calderón Chelius	School of Social Work, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, Texas, United States; Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez, Psicología, Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, México; Instituto de Investigaciones Dr. José María Luis Mora, México, México	United States
FBSFC-27	Estrategias de Afrontamiento en Familiares de Personas con Dependencia al Alcohol en la Frontera Norte [Coping strategies in relatives of people with alcohol dependence in the northern border]	Laura Hinojosa García, MCE; Dr. María Magdalena Alonso Castillo	Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, México	México

CODE	POSTER TITLE	AUTHORS	INSTITUTIONS	COUNTRY
FBSFC-28	Propuesta para Evaluar la Actitud Positiva en Adultos Mayores Exitosos en la Frontera Norte [Proposal to evaluate positive attitudes in successful older adults in the northern border]	Martha Elba Salazar Barajas, MCE; Bertha Cecilia Salazar González, PhD	Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, México	México
Not Applicable	Actitudes asociadas al stigma y discriminación en la atención que reciben las personas afectadas por VIH/SIDA en instituciones de salud [Attitudes associated with stigma and discrimination in services received by people affected by HIV/AIDS in health care settings]	R. Zapata-Garibay, J. Kozo, P. Bobenrieth, M. Meneses, J. Hurtado	Comisión de Salud Fronteriza México-Estados Unidos, Sección México; County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency; Secretaría de Salud, Gobierno de Baja California; Universidad Xochicalco Campus Tijuana	México
Not Applicable	Explorar la asociación entre el rendimiento escolar, las horas de sueño y las horas de estudio en alumnos de la facultad de medicina de primer nivel de la Universidad Xochicalco campus Tijuana en el año 2013-2 [Explore the association between school performance, hours of sleep, and hours of study in first year medical students at the Tijuana Campus, University of Xochicalco, in 2013]	Jade Díaz, Luciana Martínez	Universidad Xochicalco, Campus Tijuana	México
Not Applicable	Smartphone Tools for Ecological Momentary Assessment	Leah D. Whigham, PhD; José L. Velasco, Jon K. Moon, PhD	Paso del Norte Institute for Healthy Living, United States-México Border Health Commission, MEI Research, Ltd.	United States
Not Applicable	An Ounce (or Milligram) of Infection Prevention? Process and Outcome Measures of Care Seen in U.S. Surgical Inpatients 18+ Years Old	Darryl T. Gray	Center for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	United States

CODE	POSTER TITLE	AUTHORS	INSTITUTIONS	COUNTRY
Not Applicable	Breath carbon stable isotope ratios identify changes in energy balance and substrate utilization in humans	Leah D. Whigham, Dan E. Butz, LuAnn K. Johnson, Dale A. Schoeller, Dave H. Abbott, Warren P. Porter, Mark E. Cook	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Research Service Human Nutrition Research Center, Grand Forks, North Dakota, and University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin; Paso del Norte Institute for Healthy Living, El Paso, Texas; Department of Animal Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin; University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North Dakota; Department of Nutritional Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin; Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology and Wisconsin National Primate Research Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, and Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin	United States

Posters		
Received	29	
Dictated	29	
Rejected	4	14 %
Accepted	25	86 %
Presented	21	73 %