

## **Kis Robertson, DVM, MPH**

### Business Address

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### Home Address

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### **EDUCATION**

2008 University of Minnesota School of Public Health, Twin Cities, MN – MPH  
2003 Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine, Tuskegee, AL—DVM  
1999 Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA –BS (Biology)

### **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

7/10-6/11 CDC Preventive Medicine Fellowship; Baltimore, MD  
7/08-6/10 Epidemic Intelligence Service Program, CDC; Atlanta, GA  
12/08 GIS for Public Health Professionals, CDC; Atlanta, GA  
8/07 Hurricane Disaster Training, USPHS; Camp Bullis, San Antonio, TX  
7/07 SAS I: Programming Essentials, SAS Institute; Rockville, MD  
10/04-11/04 Federal Law Enforcement Training (FLET), FLET Center; Artesia, NM  
10/03-11/03 “EIAO Methodology: HACCP Training”, USDA/FSIS; College Station, TX  
8/03 “Practical Anti-Terrorism Training for Regulators of the Food & Agriculture Industry”, Law Enforcement Academic Research Network; Philadelphia, PA

### **COMPUTER SKILLS**

- MS Office (Word, Excel, Access, Power Point)
- Arc GIS
- Epi Info
- SAS

### **LICENSES AND BOARD CERTIFICATION**

#006929 Georgia veterinary license, expires December 31, 2013  
Basic Life Support, expires December 2011

### **WORK/VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

#### Commission Corps Positions

07/11-present **Senior Epidemiologist** (grade/rank: O-4/LCDR)

USDA/Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)/Office of Public Health Science /Applied Epidemiology Division; 1400 Independence Ave, Washington, DC 20250

- Duties—As Acting Team Lead, responsible for providing technical, programmatic and management oversight of surveillance activities within the Division, including programs such the Consumer Complaint Monitoring System (CCMS) and ongoing analysis of Salmonella serotypes associated with FSIS-regulated products
- Reviewing and providing technical input into division operational plans and other strategic documents
- Preparing briefs and similar reports at the request of the Director to apprise Agency leadership on issues related to foodborne hazards.

07/10-06/11 **CDC Preventive Medicine Fellow** (grade/rank: O-4/LCDR)  
Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH)  
Infectious Disease and Environmental Health Administration  
210 W Preston St., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Baltimore, MD 21201

- Hours worked per week— 40
- Duties— Coordinating the writing and submission process for Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) Cooperative Agreement proposals, including activity and budget planning for the DHMH
- Developing and administering training to healthcare providers and public health professionals regarding rabies, with emphasis on exposure risk assessments and the administration of postexposure prophylaxis (PEP). Components include in-service presentations at hospitals, poster design and distribution, enhancements to electronic physician-ordering entry systems used by emergency department personnel, and the development of a CE-accredited, web-based training course highlighting keys aspects from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) guidelines for rabies PEP.
- Conducting qualitative and quantitative program evaluations, with a focus on healthcare-associated infections (HAI) collaboratives, using logic models, stakeholder engagement, and the collection of credible evidence to formulate practical recommendations
- Analyzing, developing, and/or revising existing or proposed policy related to DHMH's mission, and writing regulations specific to new laws that expand DHMH's authority (e.g. new regulations governing how DHMH can purchase, store, and distribute prescription drugs; new policy for the use of animal-assisted therapy in healthcare facilities)

- Providing consultation for rabies-related issues and other zoonotic diseases as requested by the State Public Health Veterinarian, and giving scientific presentations to external and internal audiences.
- Supervisor: Dr. Katherine Feldman, (410)-767-6703 –can be contacted

07/08-06/10 **Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer** (grade/rank: O-4/LCDR)  
 CDC/NCZVED/Division of High Consequence Pathogens  
 and Pathology/ Poxvirus & Rabies Branch/ Rabies Team;  
 1600 Clifton Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30333

- Hours worked per week— 40
- Duties—Leading and collaborating in epidemiological investigations, domestic and international outbreak response, research and surveillance activities, and other complex projects related to zoonotic disease exposure
- Providing expert consultation to public health professionals, physicians, and the public, both orally and in writing
- Speaking on behalf of the program at conferences and meetings, to audiences internal and external to CDC
- Providing briefs and other short communications to leadership regarding timely policy issues and recent developments; such briefs were also used by leadership when interacting with policymakers (e.g. Strategic National Stockpile issues)
- Writing and publishing case reports and research findings in the peer-review literature
- Serving as a surveillance liaison during CDC’s pandemic-H1N1 flu response
- Evaluating surveillance and prevention programs in jurisdictions outside of the United States at the request of international entities, and discussing findings, conclusions, and recommendations with national/regional/local leadership as a representative of CDC
- Summary of international and domestic activities:
  - Montana, 10/08—evaluated persons for rabies virus exposure following large-scale contact with a rabid bat at a school setting
  - Puerto Rico, 9/08—provided assistance to the Department of Health in conducting rabies exposure assessments and determining rabies PEP allocation during a period of limited human rabies vaccine availability; 9/09—conducted a retrospective cohort study to determine factors associated with patient-delay in rabies PEP initiation.

- Dominican Republic, 4/09—evaluated the Ministry of Health’s rabies control and prevention program during an outbreak of human rabies.
- Ethiopia, 7/09—provided technical guidance to the Ministry of Health regarding cell-culture rabies vaccine production and rabies surveillance.
- Thailand, 9/09—conducted a community survey with the assistance of Thai Red Cross and CDC-Thailand to assess rabies-related knowledge and practices among persons occupationally exposed to bats.
- Democratic Republic of Congo, 2/10—trained Ministry of Health staff in data collection and analysis for animal and human disease surveillance during an outbreak of human rabies. Trained physicians and veterinarians on rabies case management and proper rabies PEP protocols based on World Health Organization guidelines.
- Supervisor: Dr. Charles Rupprecht, (404)-639-1050 –can be contacted

07/05- 07/08 **Surveillance Epidemiologist/Acting Branch Chief** (grade/rank: O-4/LCDR)  
 USDA/Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)/Office of Public Health Science (OPHS); 1400 Independence Ave, Washington, DC 20250

- Hours worked per week— 40
- Duties–Evaluating consumer complaints of FSIS-inspected meat and poultry products
- Analyzing surveillance data for trends and patterns of regulatory and public health significance
- Recommending investigations based on public health implications; participating in Human Health Evaluation Board (HHEB) meetings to assess risk associated with FSIS products, making recommendations for product recall; writing position papers on behalf of OPHS to support controversial decisions with regard to HHEB determinations
- Assisting with trace-back investigations for several product recalls that involved ground beef contaminated with E. coli O157, undeclared allergens, and contamination of food with foreign objects
- Monitoring self-reported incidents (via the Consumer Complaint Monitoring System [CCMS]) to identify outbreaks and other events of public health consequence
- Contributing to research projects that promote the Agency’s mission while supporting the core functions of the Medical Affairs and Surveillance Branch

- Serving as a liaison to field offices by arranging site visits to processing plants and relaying information on field-related issues to headquarters staff
- Preparing briefs and similar reports at the request of the Director to apprise Agency leadership on new or unusual issues related to foodborne hazards (e.g. undeclared allergens)
- Supervisor: Dr. Elisabeth Hagen, (202)-690-6045 –can be contacted

7/03-7/05 **Enforcement Investigation and Analysis Officer** (grade/rank: O-3/LT)  
 USDA/FSIS (FSIS)/Office of Field Operations; 5601 Sunnyside Ave, Beltsville, MD 20705

- Hours worked per week— 40
- Duties—Conducting comprehensive food safety assessments of FSIS-inspected facilities and their associated sanitation and HACCP programs
- Verifying the effectiveness of product recalls to ensure the removal of potentially hazardous food from commerce
- Investigating consumer complaints and collecting information used in case evaluation
- Recommending and documenting (in written notices) administrative actions against regulatory non-compliant establishments
- Developing and launching an online newsletter to facilitate employee communication as chair of the district’s EEO advisory committee.
- Developing guidance documents for district EIAOs to promote consistent application and interpretation of FSIS regulations and other Agency policies
- Assisting very small businesses to comply with FSIS regulations in accordance with SBREFA policies
- Supervisor—Dr. Jerry Elliott, (301)504-2153, can be contacted

3/03-6/03 not employed, attended school

Non-Commissioned Corps Positions

1/03-2/03 **Extern, Elective in Epidemiology** (unpaid experience)  
 Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)  
 1825 Century Center; Atlanta, Ga 30333

- Duties—Examining the current body of knowledge on the ecological and human health effects of endocrine disrupting compounds; compiling data, presenting an overview of animal study findings, performing literature reviews of published studies
- Supervisor—Dr. Stephanie Miles-Richardson, (404)498-0111, can be contacted

5/02-8/02 **Veterinary Technician/Assistant**  
 Pet’s Are People, Too; 1510 Piedmont Rd NE, Atlanta, Ga 30324

- Duties—Performing physical exams, collecting blood and conducting blood chemistry and CBC profiles; performing heartworm, fecal, and urine tests; administering treatments, restrained animals, filling prescriptions, and assisting vets and managers in performing the day-to-day operations of the hospital.
- Supervisor—Ms. Treasure Druher, (404)875-7387, can be contacted

9/01-5/02 **Work-Study Tutor**

Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, Al 36088

- Duties—Providing tutorial sessions for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year veterinary students studying physiology
- Supervisor—Ms. Tanya Hunt, (334)727-8176, can be contacted

6/01-8/01 **Research Fellow, Leadership Program for Veterinary Students**

Cornell University; Ithaca, NY 14853

- Duties—Conducting research on PCR fingerprinting of Salmonella isolates taken from dairy farms in upstate NY, evaluating molecular methods for strain detection
- Supervisor—Dr. Lorin Warnick, (607)-253-8469, can be contacted

9/00-6/01 **Work-Study Tutor**

Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, Al 36088

- Duties—Providing tutorial sessions for 1<sup>st</sup> year veterinary students studying histology
- Supervisor—Ms. Tanya Hunt, (334)727-8176, can be contacted

6/00-8/00 **Research Fellow, Ferguson Fellowship**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Division of Parasitic Disease; Atlanta, Ga 30333

- Duties—Assisting in an immuno-epidemiological study of malaria, providing data to help in the elucidation of immunological factors involved in acquiring resistance to *Plasmodium falciparum*.
- Supervisor—Dr. Altaf Lal, (770)488-4047, can be contacted

9/99-5/00 not employed, attended school

1/99-8/99 **Research Assistant/ Howard Hughes Intern**

Georgia Institute of Technology; Atlanta, Ga 30322

- Duties—Assisting graduate students conduct research on analgesic compounds
- Supervisor—Dr. Sheldon May, (404)894-4054, can be contacted

### PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

American Association of Public Health Veterinarians (AAPHV)

United States Animal Health Association (USAHA)  
American Association of Food Hygiene Veterinarians (AAFHV)  
Commissioned Officers Association (COA)  
Tuskegee University Veterinary Medical Alumni Association (TUSVMA)

### ACTIVITIES

2007-08 Applied Public Health Team (APHT-2), USPHS  
2006-08 Montgomery Symphony Orchestra  
2007 Transformation Working Policy and Design Group, USPHS  
2006-07 Veterinary Professional Advisory Committee (Vet PAC), voting member  
- Executive Secretary (2005), website subcommittee chair (2006), website  
subcommittee member (2010)  
2006 Kiwanis Club of Prince George's County  
2005 EEOC Advisory Committee Chair, USDA/FSIS Beltsville District Office

### HONORS/AWARDS

2008 Special Assignment Award, USPHS  
2008 Commendation Medal, USPHS  
2008 Outstanding Unit Commendation, USPHS  
2006, '08, '10 Unit Commendation, USPHS  
2005 Public Health Citation, USPHS  
2003 I.D. Siddique Award for Public Health, Tuskegee University School of Vet Med  
1997, 1998 Tower Award, Georgia Tech Office of Minority Educational Development

### PUBLICATIONS

CDC. Human rabies—Michigan, 2009. *MMWR* 2011; 60(14):437-40. (Lead author)

**Robertson K**, Lumlertdacha B, Franka R, et al. Rabies-related knowledge and practices among persons at risk of bat exposures in Thailand. *PLoS Neglected Tropical Disease*. 2011;5:e1054.

**Robertson K**, Recuenco S, Niezgodka M, Garcia EJ, Rupprecht CE. Seroconversion following incomplete human rabies postexposure prophylaxis. *Vaccine*. 2010; 28: 6523-6.

Recuenco S, Willoughby R., **Robertson K**. Rabies. *Epocrates Online*. 2010.

Blanton J, **Robertson K**, Palmer D, Rupprecht CE. Rabies surveillance in the United States during 2008. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*. 2009; 235:676-89.

**Robertson K**, Marano N, Johnson K. Rabies. In: Jong and Stevens. *Neeter's Infectious Disease* In Press.

CDC. Human exposures to a rabid bat—Montana, 2008. MMWR 2009; 58:557-61. (Lead author)

CDC. Human rabies—Missouri, 2008. MMWR 2009; 58:1207-1209. (Lead author)

Woznichak, M.M., Overcast, J.D., **Robertson, K.**, Neumann, H.M., May, S.W. Reaction of Phenylaminoethyl Selenides with Peroxynitrite and Hydrogen Peroxide. Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics. 2000; 379:314-320.

## PRESENTATIONS

**Robertson K.** Rabies Nationally and Internationally: The CDC Perspective. Presented at the Virginia-Maryland Regional Veterinary College, Blacksburg, VA, 2010

**Robertson K,** Garcia-Rivera B, Serrano-Rodriguez R, et al. Factors Associated with Patient Delay in Rabies Postexposure Prophylaxis Initiation in Puerto Rico, 2008-2009. Presented at the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual James E. Steele Diseases in Nature Conference, Austin, TX 2010

**Robertson K,** Garcia-Rivera B, Serrano-Rodriguez R, et al. Factors Associated with Patient Delay in Rabies Postexposure Prophylaxis Initiation in Puerto Rico, 2008-2009. Presented at the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Epidemic Intelligence Service Conference, Atlanta, GA 2010

**Robertson K,** Lumlertdacha B, Franka R, et al. Knowledge and Practices of Persons Occupationally Exposed to Bats in Thailand. Presented at CDC: Tuesday Morning Seminar, Atlanta, GA 2009

**Robertson K.** 2008 Rabies Surveillance in the United States. Presented at the US Animal Health Association Meeting, San Diego, CA, 2009

**Robertson K,** Recuenco S, Niezgodna M, et al. Seroconversion following incomplete human rabies postexposure prophylaxis. Presented at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Rabies in the Americas (RITA) Conference, Quebec, Canada, 2009

**Robertson K.** George M. Baer: Disease Detective in the Epidemic Intelligence Service Program. CDC World Rabies Day Symposium, Atlanta, GA 2009

**Robertson K.** A Historical Perspective on the Elimination of Canine Rabies in the United States. Presented at the 146<sup>th</sup> American Veterinary Medical Association Annual Convention (AVMA), Seattle, WA, 2009.

**Robertson K.,** Helgerson S, Griffin J, et al. Human exposures to a rabid bat—Montana, 2008. Poster presented at the CDC NCZVED Scientific Summit, Atlanta, GA, 2009

**Robertson K.** Investigation of Potential Rabies Exposures in Puerto Rico, 2009. Presented at the Presented at the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Tuskegee School of Veterinary Medicine Veterinary Symposium, Tuskegee, AL, 2009

**Robertson K.** The North American Rabies Management Plan. Presented at the Binational Infectious Disease and Surveillance Conference (BIDS), El Paso, TX, 2008