

### No sweat, I'm on Cruise Control

Impose control measures to prevent spread of disease

Health Authority has supervisory authority and control

### No sweat, I'm on Cruise Control (cont'd)

- Anyone who examines or treats an individual who has a communicable disease may instruct
- ▶Signed, sealed, & delivered

### Uh Houston, We Have a Problem

- Does not comply with written orders of DSHS or HA
- Violation of control measure= criminal penalty
- ►What more can the HA do?

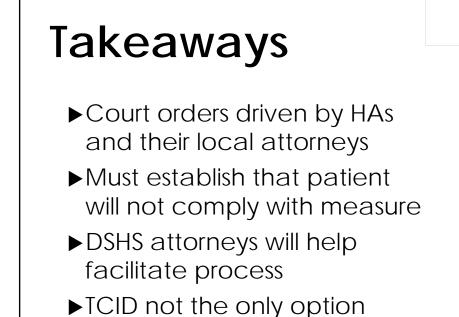












Confidentiality

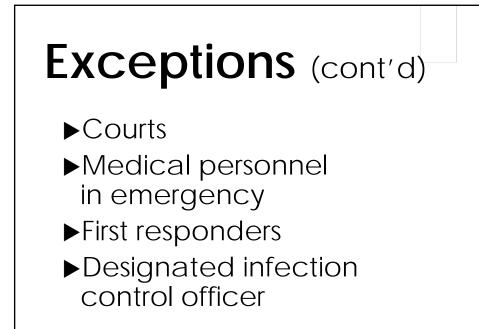
Info relating to case or suspected case of disease is **confidential** and may be used only for purposes of Communicable Disease Prevention & Control Act

## Confidentiality

Stronger than HIPAA
Includes all information
Exceptions apply

### **Exceptions**

- ► Statistics
- ►Consent
- Treating personnel
- ► Health agencies
- ► Health departments



### How it works

- 1. Health dept. monitors patient
- 2. Health dept. gives address
- 3. Address entered into CAD
- Monitoring ends & address removed

## What it means

First responders will know the precautions they need to take when they respond to certain calls

## **Testing & Notifying**

When patient exposes emergency worker to disease, patient may be tested without consent in certain cases

# **Testing & Notifying**

Notifications of results now extend to emergency worker and to designated infection control officer

#### Designated Infection Control Officer

Entity using emergency workers must have **designated infection control officer** (and must inform HA and hospitals)

### Designated Infection Control Officer

Trained as health care provider or has training in control of infectious & communicable diseases

#### Designated Infection Control Officer

- Liaison between exposed worker & hospital
- ►Investigate & evaluate
- Monitor treatment

## What it means

Designated infection control officer can timely get lab results so first responder can take appropriate measures

# Resources

Communicable Disease Prevention & Control Act www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.81.htm

Communicable Disease Control forms

www.dshs.texas.gov/commprep/legal/CDCMManual.aspx

**Department of State Health Services** 

www.dshs.texas.gov

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