In November 2014, Oregonians voted to allow retail sale of marijuana in Oregon. As retail sales are implemented, public health has a role in: understanding and minimizing the public health impacts of retail marijuana; educating the public about marijuana related health issues; protecting children from exposure; preventing youth marijuana use; and monitoring marijuana use, attitudes and health effects in Oregon. Dr. Hedberg will present current data and discuss the public health policy implications.

Dr. Katrina Hedberg is the Oregon Public Health Officer and State Epidemiologist with the Oregon Public Health Division. Dr. Hedberg has worked at the Oregon Public Health Division for the past 25 years as a public health physician and medical epidemiologist. Her recent focus areas include: nontuberculous mycobacterial disease in Oregonians, a communitywide outbreak of cryptosporidiosis, smoking-related mortality in Oregon, and Oregonian’s participation in the Death with Dignity Act. One of her particular interests is working to make public health data available for policy and decision making at state and local levels.