

EpiNews



Palm Beach County Health Department
Division of Epidemiology & Disease Control
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Disease Highlights:

Rabies: Through the cooperative efforts of the Division of Epidemiology and Disease Control, Environmental Health and Engineering, the Health Department clinics, and the Palm Beach County Division of Animal Care and Control, 17 people received post-exposure prophylaxis, after a chihuahua was found to be infected with rabies. The dog was initially left unidentified at Animal Care and Control, but a rapid and intense search effort yielded the owner. The owner, in turn, provided valuable information on those persons exposed to the dog, and thus needing treatment. The dog is the third animal in Palm Beach County, along with two raccoons, to be diagnosed with rabies since January 2000.

In the News:

Kudos for Epi at PBCHD site visit! The Division of Epidemiology and Disease Control's electronic reporting system was recently recognized by Dr. Robert G. Brooks and his audit team during the Palm Beach County Health Department site visit on June 26-30, 2000. In place since 1996, this system allows Epi to promptly report preliminary information about notifiable diseases to the State Health Office in Tallahassee. The information can later be updated as Epi continues investigating the cases. The electronic reporting system also checks for duplicate cases, and has been invaluable in running statistical reports for epi analysis.

Dr. Brooks and his team also commended the Division of Epidemiology and Disease Control on its chickenpox surveillance project. Under the leadership, dedication and hard work of Dr. Mario Jacomino, 331 local physicians were surveyed to assess the availability of the chickenpox vaccine, as well as 300 daycare centers asking them to report chickenpox cases. In addition, local schools were asked to report, on a monthly basis, any chickenpox cases among students and school employees. Parents of children with chickenpox, as well as those within the class or school that didn't have the disease, received letters notifying them of the case and of the availability of the vaccine to prevent disease in exposed persons.

Communications:

Updated Notifiable Disease List: The Bureau of Epidemiology has updated the list of notifiable diseases, effective June 4, 2000. Changes include adding Q fever to the list, deleting amebiasis and toxic shock syndrome (staphylococcal and streptococcal), revising animal bite to humans to "animal bite to humans by a potentially rabid animal resulting in a county health department or state health office recommendation for post-exposure prophylaxis, or by a nonhuman primate", and now referring to pesticide poisoning as pesticide-related illness or injury. The reportable disease rule (Chapter 64D-3 F.A.C.) can be accessed from the Bureau of Administrative Code web site at: <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/fac/index.shtml>. Included on the back of this newsletter is the complete list of reportable communicable diseases/conditions for the Palm Beach County Health Department. Please call the Division of Epidemiology and Disease Control with any questions or clarification needs.

Flu Vaccine News Flash: The availability of the influenza vaccine has been delayed. It still is uncertain at this time when the vaccine will be available, how much of the vaccine will be available and who will get the vaccine. It is suggested that persons at **high risk** receive the **first** influenza vaccinations. After the high risk demand has been satisfied, the influenza vaccination program will expand to the at risk population and ultimately the total community depending upon the availability of the vaccine. Urge the community not to panic. "Flu season" is in January in this area. It is suggested that people get the influenza vaccination even if it is as late as December or January.

ICP Corner: Specifically to Infection Control Practitioners, please remember to send positive influenza lab results to the Division of Epidemiology and Disease Control. Also, we try to keep a current list of ICP phone, fax, pager numbers and e-mail addresses, so please advise Epi of any changes. Finally, if you need to contact the Palm Beach Health Department after hours (evenings, weekends and holidays), please call (561) 840-4500 (A.G. Holley Hospital). They will be able to contact the on-call nurse.

**PALM BEACH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
REPORTABLE COMMUNICABLE DISEASES/CONDITIONS**

AIDS (S)	Hemorrhagic Fever (T)	Salmonellosis
Animal Bite (T)	Hepatitis	Shigellosis
Anthrax (T)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Hepatitis A (T) ■ Hepatitis B 	Smallpox (T)
Botulism (T)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Hepatitis B, Perinatal ■ Hepatitis C ■ Hepatitis Non-A, Non-B ■ Hepatitis, Unspecified 	Staphylococcus aureus, glycopeptide intermediate (GISA/VISA)
Brucellosis		Staphylococcus aureus, glycopeptide resistant (T) (GISA/VISA)
Campylobacteriosis		Streptococcal disease, invasive Group A
Cancer (S) (except non-melanoma skin cancer)		Streptococcus pneumoniae, invasive disease
Chancroid (S)	HIV (S)	Syphilis (S)
Chlamydia (S)	Lead Poisoning	Tetanus
Ciguatera	Legionellosis	Toxoplasmosis (acute)
Cryptosporidiosis	Leptospirosis	Trichinosis
Cyclosporiasis	Listeriosis (T)	Tuberculosis (S)
Dengue	Lyme Disease	Tularemia (T)
Diphtheria (T)	Lymphogranuloma Venereum (S)	Typhoid Fever
E. coli, enteric disease	Malaria	Vibrio Infections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ E. coli 0157:H7 (T) ■ E. coli, other (known serotype) 	Measles (T)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Vibrio alginolyticus ■ Vibrio cholerae (Serogroup 01) (T) ■ Vibrio cholerae (Serogroup Non-01) ■ Vibrio fluvialis ■ Vibrio hollisae ■ Vibrio mimicus ■ Vibrio parahaemolyticus ■ Vibrio vulnificus (T) ■ Vibrio other (including unspecified)
Ehrlichiosis, human	Meningitis	Yellow Fever (T)
Encephalitis (T)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Meningococcal (Neisseria meningitidis) (T) ■ Haemophilus influenzae (T) ■ Streptococcus pneumoniae ■ Group B Streptococcus ■ Listeria monocytogenes ■ Other bacterial (including unspecified) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Eastern Equine ■ St. Louis ■ Venezuelan Equine ■ Western Equine ■ Post-Infectious ■ Other (including unspecified) 	Meningococcal Disease (T)	
Giardiasis (acute)	Mercury Poisoning (T)	
Gonorrhea (S)	Mumps	
Granuloma Inguinale (S)	Neurotoxic Shellfish Poisoning (T)	
Haemophilus influenzae invasive disease (T)	Pertussis	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Cellulitis ■ Epiglottitis ■ Pneumonia ■ Primary Bacteremia ■ Septic Arthritis 	Pesticide-Related Illness and Injury (T)	
Hansen's Disease (Leprosy)	Plague (T)	
Hantavirus infection (T)	Poliomyelitis (T)	
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (T)	Psittacosis	
	*Q fever	
	Rabies (T)	
	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (R. rickettsia)	
	Rubella, including congenital	

***Any disease outbreak in the community, hospital or other institution, including food/waterborne is reportable (T)**

(T) = To be reported immediately by telephone (561) 840-4566, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., M - F. Evenings, weekends, & holidays, call (561) 840-4500.

(S) = Special procedures:

AIDS/HIV: (561) 882-3249
STD: (561) 882-3122 or (561) 882-3120
TB: (561) 882-3271
Cancer: (305) 243-4600

All others = (561) 840-4566; after hours: (561) 840-4500 (evenings, weekends, & holidays)

*Indicates new reportable conditions as of June 4, 2000.

Note, as of June 4, 2000, the following are no longer reportable: Amebiasis and Toxic Shock Syndrome (Staphylococcal and Streptococcal).

Data provided is provisional

N/A = Not Applicable

***Data Representing PBCHD clients only

**Data Unavailable

Palm Beach County Health Department
 For Information - Please call (561) 840-4564
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