

EPI Update for Friday, January 20, 2012
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **Hepatitis B vaccination for adults with diabetes**
- **Progress on polio eradication**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

Hepatitis B vaccination for adults with diabetes

The Hepatitis B virus (HBV) causes acute and chronic infection of the liver, leading to substantial morbidity and mortality. Since 1996, a total of 29 U.S. outbreaks of HBV infection have been reported to CDC as having occurred in long-term-care (LTC) facilities, including nursing homes and assisted-living facilities. Of these, 25 outbreaks involved adults with diabetes receiving assisted blood glucose monitoring using finger stick devices.

On the basis of available information about HBV risk, morbidity and mortality, available vaccines, age at diagnosis of diabetes, and cost-effectiveness, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends the following:

- Hepatitis B vaccination should be administered to unvaccinated adults with diabetes mellitus who are 19 through 59 years of age.
- Hepatitis B vaccination may be administered at the discretion of the treating clinician to unvaccinated adults with diabetes mellitus who are ≥ 60 years of age.

Administration of the hepatitis B vaccine series should be completed as soon as feasible after diabetes is diagnosed. No serologic testing or additional hepatitis B vaccination is recommended for adults who received a complete series of hepatitis B vaccinations at any time in the past. For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6050a4.htm.

Progress on polio eradication

According to the World Health Organization, India has completed a full year without any reported polio cases. If all pending laboratory investigations return negative in the coming weeks, India will be officially recognized as having stopped indigenous transmission of wild poliovirus. The last reported case was in a 2-year-old girl from West Bengal in January, 2011.

Upon this anticipated designation for India, the number of countries with endemic polio will be reduced to a historic low of three: Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan. Note: Until polio is eradicated, immunization for polio remains important in the U.S. and throughout the world. For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/polio/progress.

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

None

Have a healthy and happy week! Keep warm!

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