

**EPI Update for Friday, February 17, 2012**  
**Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)**  
**Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)**

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **Skin infections associated with tattoos**
- **Foodborne illness linked to clover sprouts**
- **Update on Adolescent Immunization Schedule**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

**Skin infections associated with tattoos**

IDPH is investigating a possible cluster of atypical mycobacterium skin infections among persons receiving tattoos at a central Iowa tattoo parlor between May 2011 and February 2012.

Health care providers with a case(s) of atypical mycobacterial (e.g. *M. chelonae*) skin infection diagnosed between May 2011 and February 2012 (especially after tattooing) are encouraged to report to IDPH via phone at 515-281-7462 or e-mail by hitting reply to this update.

**Foodborne illness linked to clover sprouts**

IDPH, along with CDC and other state health departments, is conducting an investigation of a multi-state outbreak of Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* O26 (STEC O26) infections linked to raw clover sprouts. Health care providers with patients who may have become ill after eating sprouts are asked to obtain a stool sample to be sent to the State Hygienic Laboratory for testing.

Recommendations:

- Iowans, especially children, older adults, pregnant women, and persons with weakened immune systems should avoid eating raw sprouts of any kind (including alfalfa, clover, radish, and mung bean sprouts).
- If sprouts are going to be eaten, cook them thoroughly to kill pathogenic bacteria.

For more sprout information, visit [www.foodsafety.gov/keep/types/fruits/sprouts.html](http://www.foodsafety.gov/keep/types/fruits/sprouts.html). For information about the multi-state outbreak of STEC O26, visit [www.cdc.gov/ecoli/2012/O26-02-12/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ecoli/2012/O26-02-12/index.html).

**Update on Adolescent Immunization Schedule**

Some of the changes to the previous schedules include:

- Quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) has been extended to reflect licensure of MCV4-D (Menactra) use in children as young as age 9 months.
- Guidance for administration of hepatitis B (Hep B) vaccine in infants with birth weights <2,000 grams and ≥2,000 grams. Clarification is provided for doses after administration of the birth dose of Hep B vaccine.

- *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) conjugate vaccine and the use of Hiberix for the booster (final) dose are clarified. Guidance for the use of Hib vaccine in persons aged 5 years and older in the catch-up schedule has been updated.
- Influenza vaccine information updated to clarify dosing for children aged 6 months through 8 years for the 2011–12 and 2012–13 seasons.
- Information on the recommended age (16 years) for the booster dose of MCV4.
- Tdap vaccine recommendations for children aged 7 through 10 years are updated.
- Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine includes routine recommendations for males.

To view the full MMWR article and schedule, visit

[www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6105a5.htm?s\\_cid=mm6105a5\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6105a5.htm?s_cid=mm6105a5_e)

### **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

None

### **Have a healthy and happy week!**

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology

Iowa Department of Public Health

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