

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

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **Pertussis, Iowa 2012**
- **Centers for Disease Control (CDC) issues state healthcare-associated infection (HAI) report**
- **Iowa influenza surveillance weekly report condensed**
- **For the public's health**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

**Pertussis, Iowa 2012**

As of April 19<sup>th</sup>, 92 confirmed cases of pertussis have been reported in Iowa. This is an 83 percent increase over the five-year average for the state. While cases are predominately occurring in eastern Iowa, scattered cases are being reported across the state. Clusters are occurring in Scott, Linn, Benton and Polk counties. Outbreaks have been identified in several schools, including Scott and Polk counties.

During outbreaks, local public health agencies interview cases (ensure appropriate isolation and treatment), identify those people who have been in close contact, and recommend prophylactic antibiotics to stop them from becoming ill and to stop further transmission.

Vaccination helps prevent future cases by reducing the risk of becoming ill after exposure. Last week, Polk County Health Department conducted a vaccine clinic at one affected school where over 200 parents, students and district employees received pertussis vaccine (Tdap).

**CDC issues state healthcare-associated infection (HAI) report**

This week, CDC released a [report](#) detailing national and state performance in preventing three major categories of HAIs: central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSIs), catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs) and surgical site infections (SSIs) for 10 procedures. The [report](#), which includes data from CDC's [National Healthcare Safety Network](#) (NHSN), shows that CLABSIs and CAUTIs continue to decline nationally; however, nine out of the 10 surgical procedures being tracked require stronger infection prevention efforts to maximize patient safety. This is the first time that CDC is releasing CLABSI [standardized infection ratios](#) (SIR) for every state.

For more information about CDC's National and State Healthcare-associated Infections Report, visit [www.cdc.gov/hai/surveillance/nhsn\\_statereports.html](http://www.cdc.gov/hai/surveillance/nhsn_statereports.html).

To see what Iowa is doing to prevent infections, visit [www.cdc.gov/HAI/state-based/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/HAI/state-based/index.html).

### **Iowa influenza surveillance weekly report condensed**

In response to the declining influenza cases in Iowa, statewide flu activity is being downgraded from regional to local and the Iowa Influenza Surveillance Network report will only report statewide activity. To see the weekly flu report, visit [www.idph.state.ia.us/idpharchive/archive.aspx?channel=flureports](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/idpharchive/archive.aspx?channel=flureports).

### **For the public's health**

This month, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released *For the Public's Health, Investing in the Future*, a report which continues its argument that society's fixation on clinical care, its delivery and its cost overshadows population-based activities. According to the committee, population-based prevention efforts can improve the nation's health more efficiently than clinical care alone. To view the report, visit [www.iom.edu/Reports/2012/For-the-Publics-Health-Investing-in-a-Healthier-Future.aspx](http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2012/For-the-Publics-Health-Investing-in-a-Healthier-Future.aspx).

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

Congratulations to the University of Iowa for the opening of their new College of Public Health building.

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

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology  
Iowa Department of Public Health  
800-362-2736