

**EPI Update for Friday, May 15, 2015**  
**Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)**  
**Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)**

**Items for this week's EPI Update include:**

- **Timely notification of suspect measles cases essential**
- **Hepatitis A in U.S. travelers to Mexico**
- **Kiddie pools and recreational water illness**
- **Iowa Acute Disease Monthly Update**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

**Timely notification of suspect measles cases essential**

Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for measles exposure is extremely time-sensitive. Two options exist to prevent or modify disease:

- 1) Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine within 72 hours; or
- 2) Immune globulin IM (IGIM) within six days.

IDPH was recently notified of a susceptible Iowan adult exposed out-of-state to a confirmed measles case, but not until the fifth day after exposure. Since the 72 hour time frame for MMR had elapsed and IGIM is in short supply nationally, the person went into voluntary quarantine until 21 days after the exposure.

During the last several months, multiple confirmed measles cases were reported in surrounding states and nationally. IDPH and Iowa's State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) worked with providers to test more than 75 people for suspected measles. No confirmed cases of measles were identified.

Immediately report any suspected measles case to the Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE) at 1-866-834-9671 during business hours or 515 323-4360 outside of business hours (even at 3:00 AM).

**Hepatitis A in U.S. travelers to Mexico**

As of May 1, 27 confirmed cases of hepatitis A have been reported among travelers to Tulum, Mexico. Of the 27 confirmed cases, none reported vaccination prior to travel, and six (22 percent) were hospitalized. Onset dates range from 2/12/2015 to 4/16/2015 with travel dates ranging from 1/5/2015 to 3/20/2015.

CDC recommends that travelers to Mexico and other countries with high or intermediate prevalence of hepatitis A, such as those located in Central or South America, Asia (except Japan), Africa, and eastern Europe get vaccinated against hepatitis A and follow proper food and water precautions.

For more information on the travel notice to Tulum, Mexico, visit [wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/watch/hepatitis-a-mexico](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/watch/hepatitis-a-mexico).

For more information on hepatitis A and international travel, visit [www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/HAV/HAVfaq.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/HAV/HAVfaq.htm).

**Kiddie pools and recreational water illness**

Inflatable and plastic “kiddie pools” can be associated with recreational water illnesses. Generally filled with tap water, these pools do not have sufficient chlorination or filtration to kill pathogens; therefore, the use of these pools in child care programs and schools is discouraged. Households that use kiddie pools should not allow children ill with vomiting or diarrhea to use the pool. During use, children should be supervised for dirty diapers and to ensure proper water safety. After use, kiddie pools should be drained, allowed to dry, and left in the sun for several hours.

For more information on kiddie pools and recreational water illness, visit [www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/pools/inflatable-plastic-pools.html](http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/pools/inflatable-plastic-pools.html).

### **Iowa Acute Disease Monthly Update**

The new issue of the Iowa Acute Disease Monthly Update is available by visiting [www.idph.state.ia.us/cade/](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/cade/) and scrolling down to ‘Reports.’ This month’s issue can also be accessed directly at [www.idph.state.ia.us/IDPHChannelsService/file.ashx?file=64813E57-220D-4529-B196-EEF535DF2B4F](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/IDPHChannelsService/file.ashx?file=64813E57-220D-4529-B196-EEF535DF2B4F).

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

None

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

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