

Epi Update for Friday, May 19, 2017

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)

Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **FDA warns against using Magellan Diagnostics LeadCare testing systems with blood obtained from a vein**
- **Update: more confirmed cases of measles in Minnesota**
- **IowaSIC hotline update**
- **Healthy and Safe Swimming Week, May 22-28**
- **In the news: Texas girl chokes on fidget spinner part**
- **Infographic: Clean It Up, Swimmers**
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FDA warns against using Magellan Diagnostics LeadCare testing systems with blood obtained from a vein

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued a safety communication warning about the use of Magellan Diagnostics' LeadCare® analyzers (LeadCare, LeadCare II, LeadCare Ultra and LeadCare Plus) with venous blood samples because they might result in falsely low test results. FDA is now advising that Magellan Diagnostics' LeadCare® analyzers should no longer be used with venous blood samples. The safety alert does not apply to capillary blood lead test results collected by fingerstick or heelstick. The purpose of this Health Advisory is to notify state and local health departments, healthcare providers, and laboratories about CDC's re-testing guidance in light of the safety alert.

CDC recommends that healthcare providers re-test patients who:

- 1) are younger than 6 years (72 months) of age at the time of the alert (May 17, 2017) and
- 2) had a venous blood lead test result of less than 10 micrograms per deciliter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$) analyzed using a Magellan Diagnostics' LeadCare® analyzer at an onsite (e.g., healthcare facility) or at an offsite laboratory.

CDC also recommends that healthcare providers re-test currently pregnant or lactating women who had a venous blood lead test performed using a Magellan Diagnostics' LeadCare® analyzer.

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) only recognizes venous blood lead tests analyzed by an approved laboratory as a confirmed valid result. IDPH guidelines recommend children less than 6 years in age (<72 months) be retested if their lead result from a Magellan LeadCare system is equal to or greater than 10 micrograms per deciliter.

For more information visit:

- CDC's Lead Poisoning Prevention Program: <https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/>
- CDC's Lead and Multi-element Proficiency Program: <https://www.cdc.gov/labstandards/lamp.html>
- FDA safety communication warning, May 17, 2017. Available at: <https://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/Safety/AlertsandNotices/ucm558733.htm>
- Please contact the Iowa Lead Poisoning Prevention Program with questions at 800-972-2026.

Update: more confirmed cases of measles in Minnesota

As of Thursday, May 18, Minnesota had reported 64 laboratory confirmed cases of measles. Sixty-one of the cases are in children ages 0 through 17 years and three are adults.

There are currently NO confirmed cases of measles in Iowa; however, we have investigated and ruled out 15 suspect measles cases in the last two months. We appreciate the health care providers across Iowa staying watchful and reaching out to public health when they suspect measles. Providers in Iowa are urged to stay vigilant. Meanwhile:

- Ensure that measles vaccination of all patients and staff are up-to-date.
- Consider notifying unvaccinated patients of the recent measles activity in Minnesota and Nebraska, which significantly increases their risk of exposure. Non-immune people who are exposed to measles will likely be infected.
- Consider measles in anyone presenting with fever and the "Three Cs" – cough, coryza, and conjunctivitis followed by rash three to five days later.

If measles is suspected, isolate the patient and immediately call IDPH (measles is a public health emergency). During business hours, call 800-362-2736. After business hours, call the Iowa State Patrol at 515-323-4360, which will then page the epidemiologist on call.

Measles guidance for providers in

Iowa: idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/userfiles/79/Documents/measles%20for%20clinicians.pdf

For information about measles activity in Minnesota, visit www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/measles/.

IowaSIC hotline update

In October 2016, the IowaSic hotline initiative was launched to enhance food illness detection and response. In the first six months (October 2016 – March 2017), 211 reports were received and 25 outbreaks detected. In the same period the previous year (October 2015 through March 2016), only 68 reports were received and seven outbreaks detected.

Remember, “If you’re queasy (after consuming an item from a restaurant, grocery store, convenience store, market or public gathering) call, it’s easy!” by calling the IowaSIC hotline at 1-844-IowaSIC or 1-844-469-2742.

For more information, visit ia.foodprotectiontaskforce.com/.

Healthy and Safe Swimming Week, May 22-28

This year’s theme is “Diarrhea & Swimming Don’t Mix.” Many people think chlorine will kill all pathogenic organisms in water instantly, but some can survive days in properly chlorinated pools. One diarrhea-causing pathogen (Cryptosporidium - or Crypto) can survive in an adequately chlorinated pool for more than one week.

Steps to take to protect from diarrheal illness at the pool this summer:

- Stay out of the water if sick with diarrhea (swim diapers will not contain diarrhea if a child has an accident in the pool!)
- Don’t poop in the water.
- Don’t swallow the water.
- Report it if you or your child has a diarrheal incident while swimming.

Every hour at the pool – have kids get out.

- Take kids on bathroom breaks.
- Check diapers and change them in a bathroom or diaper changing area (not poolside –keep feces away from the pool).

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/healthywater/observances/hss-week/.

In the news: Texas girl chokes on fidget spinner part www.cnn.com/2017/05/17/health/texas-fidget-spinner-xray-trnd/.

Infographic: Clean It Up, Swimmers

Infographic available at www.cdc.gov/healthywater/pdf/swimming/resources/infographic-clean-it-up-swimmers.pdf.

CLEAN IT UP, SWIMMERS

Pools are great for perfecting your backstroke or relaxing as your favorite float. But they can also spread diarrhea and other illnesses.

Germies don't jump into the water like we do. They wait in people's bodies.



But what about chlorine?

Healthy pools don't have a strong chlorine smell.



- Pool chemicals kill most germs within minutes, but some live longer.
- Chemicals like bromine, copper, zinc, formaldehyde, and other pain from swimming? Sucks. But the more of the chemicals, the longer it takes to kill germs.
- Small, clear "chlorine" is actually chemicals that form when chlorine reacts with germs. These chemicals—red, white, or blue—make your eyes red and sting, your nose run, and your skin itchy.

What's in your commode?

Swimmers can bring things into the pool that you can't see.



Here are the microbes and gunk the average swimmer can bring into the pool:

Hair 1.8 million strands	From mouth, skin 22.5 million at swimming
Spit 8 million microbes in a single drop	Shampoos Lotions, deodorant, soaps
Hands 5 million microbes	Sweat 1 or 2 sweat drops
Poop 1.8 billion microbes	Pea 1 pea

1.8 billion is 1,800,000,000. 1.8 million is 1,800,000. 22.5 million is 22,500,000.

Now think about how much of that comes water. You swallow 45 ounces of swimming.

Adults

1.8 million microbes

Children

500,000 microbes

Diets

200,000 microbes

That's more than you'd find in a single drop of water.

Keep germs out of the water and water out of your mouth.

Follow these 4 steps for healthier swimming:

- Stay out of the water if you have diarrhea.
- Shower before you get into the water.
- Don't pee or poop in the water.
- Don't swallow the water.

The pool is only as clean as you are!



Environmental Data Center
www.edc.org

www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

None

Have a healthy and happy week!
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology
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800-362-2736