

EPI Update for Friday, March 9, 2018
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **Update: *Salmonella* outbreak linked to chicken salad**
- **Influenza A activity decreasing, influenza B increasing**
- **Increase in opioid overdoses treated in emergency departments**
- **2018 Cancer in Iowa report**
- ***In the news*: South Africa blames food firms for world's worst listeria outbreak**
- ***In the news*: Kayaker attacked by possibly-rabid otter**
- **Infographic: A rise in opioid overdoses is detected. What now?**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

Update: *Salmonella* outbreak linked to chicken salad

A total of 170 cases from seven states have been identified as having the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Typhimurium linked to chicken salad sold at Fareway grocery stores. Of the 170 reported cases, 149 are Iowa residents.

The product was pulled from store shelves in Iowa on February 9; IDPH issued a consumer advisory on February 13; and USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) issued a consumer advisory on February 14. On February 21, Triple T Specialty Meats, Inc. recalled all chicken salad produced from January 2 to February 7, 2018.

For more information about this outbreak, visit www.cdc.gov/salmonella/typhimurium-02-18/index.html.

Influenza A activity decreasing, influenza B increasing

Influenza activity in Iowa remains elevated and geographically widespread, but most indicators of activity have decreased over the last several weeks. Currently influenza B is accounting for the majority of positive tests and outbreaks, and a second peak of flu activity due to influenza B may occur but would be expected to be a lower peak than occurred last month with influenza A. Influenza hospitalization rates and mortality, which often lag behind other influenza activity indicators, remains high.

Last week, more rapid positive specimens were submitted to the State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) for influenza B than influenza A. The percentage of rapid test specimens that were positive for influenza B was also higher than influenza A (15.4 percent vs. 11.7 percent). Influenza A(H3) has still been the predominate virus detected at SHL this season, representing 70 percent of all specimens. Influenza B(Yamagata) has accounted for over 25 percent of influenza viruses detected.

To view the weekly IDPH influenza report, visit idph.iowa.gov/influenza/reports.

Increase in opioid overdoses treated in emergency departments

According to CDC, emergency department (ED) visits for opioid overdose rose 30 percent in all parts of the U.S. from July 2016 through September 2017. The Midwest experienced a 70 percent increase during this timeframe.

Opioid overdoses increased as follows in the following populations:

- Men (30%), Women (24%)
- Ages 25-34 (31%), 35-54 (36%), 55 and over (32%)

Although EDs are usually seen as places for treatment of an overdose, they can be valuable resources for prevention efforts as well. To help prevent future overdoses, EDs can provide Naloxone to individuals treated for overdose and to their family members, and individuals can be immediately linked to treatment services. Also, EDs can provide valuable information to health departments and communities regarding the number of overdoses, the response to overdoses, as well as overdose outcomes.

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/opioid-overdoses/.

2018 Cancer in Iowa report

In 2018, it is estimated that 6,300 Iowans will die from cancer, 18 times the number caused by auto fatalities. The Iowa Cancer Registry has been recording the occurrence of cancer in Iowa since 1973.

The *2018 Cancer in Iowa* report focuses on:

- A description of the Iowa Cancer Registry and its goals
- Cancer estimates for 2018
- A special section on obesity-related cancers
- Brief summaries of recent/ongoing research projects
- A selected list of publications from 2017

To view the report, visit www.public-health.uiowa.edu/shri/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/W31750-V2-proof-002.pdf.

In the news: South Africa blames food firms for world's worst listeria outbreak

www.reuters.com/article/us-listeria-tiger-brands/south-africa-blames-food-firms-for-worlds-worst-listeria-outbreak-idUSKBN1GH0S9

In the news: Kayaker attacked by possibly-rabid otter

www.fox13news.com/news/local-news/kayaker-attacked-by-possibly-rabid-otter

Infographic: A rise in opioid overdoses is detected. What now?



To view in full size, visit

www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/opioid-overdoses/infographic.html#infographic.

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

None

Have a healthy and happy week!

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology

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