

EPI Update for Friday, September 30, 2005

Center For Acute Disease Epidemiology

Iowa Department of Public Health

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- Pertussis chapter in Epi Manual updated
- CDC Spotlight: Facts on Quitting Smoking, Health Consequences of Smoking
- New IDPH influenza website
- Third National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals
- Meeting announcement and training opportunities

Pertussis Chapter in Epi Manual Updated!

At this time the Epi Manual is being revised and several changes have been made to the pertussis chapter. Some of the changes regarding treatment and prophylaxis of pertussis were outlined two weeks ago in the Sept. 16th Update. Other changes include language concerning communicability and partner investigation. To review and print the new pertussis chapter on line go to:

http://www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/common/pdf/epi_manual/pertussis.pdf

Those of you with EPI Manuals, replace the current pertussis chapter in its entirety with the new document. Although the revised Epi Manual hasn't been released yet, with Pertussis "heating up" in Iowa, the IDPH is releasing the new pertussis chapter and making it available right away.

CDC Spotlight: Facts on Quitting Smoking, Health Consequences of Smoking

Unfortunately, smoking continues to be a serious health problem in the United States and around the world. The CDC has current facts on quitting, health consequences, prevalence information, economic impact, and proven methods for prevention and control available on their website at:

<<http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/news/HealthConsequences.htm>>

Here are a few facts from the website to get you started:

- In 2003, 45.4 million adults (21.6 percent) in the United States were current smokers. An estimated 70 percent of these smokers state they want to quit.
- On average, smoking reduces adult life expectancy by approximately 14 years.
- The economic costs of smoking are over \$167 billion, plus an additional \$75.5 billion in smoking-related medical expenses.
- Also available from the CDC is the report “Key Outcome Indicators for Evaluating Tobacco Control Programs.” This report is available at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/Indicators/KeyIndicators.htm> or
http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/Indicators/Key_Indicators.pdf

This is a "consumer reports" style guide that provides information on 120 key outcome indicators for evaluation of statewide, comprehensive tobacco prevention and control programs. Evidence-based logic models organize indicators. Detailed information is provided for each indicator including indicator definition, example data sources and measures, and graphic depictions of expert panel ratings across various criteria, such as overall quality and resource utilization.

“New” IDPH Influenza Website!

CADE is pleased to announce the arrival of the influenza website! The site is organized by audience group: general public, health care providers (including long-term care facilities), local public health, schools, childcare, businesses and media. The site will be updated weekly with the most current influenza information and links.

Please take a few moments to tour this site at:

<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/flu.asp>.

Feel free to send comments or suggestions to mharris@idph.state.ia.us
<mailto:mharris@idph.state.ia.us>.

Third National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals

The third *National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemical* is now available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/exposurereport>.

This third report provides an ongoing assessment of the U.S. population's exposure to environmental chemicals using biomonitoring. Biomonitoring is the assessment of human exposure to chemicals by measuring the chemicals or their metabolites in human specimens such as blood or urine. This third report contains an executive summary and presents first-time exposure information for the U.S. population for 38 of the 148 chemicals included in the *Report*. Also included are data from the second report (1999-2000).

Meeting Announcement and Training Opportunities

Fall Epidemiology Updates brochure is now online at the Iowa Department of Public Health's Website at:

[<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/common/pdf/conferences/disease_prevention_fall.pdf >>](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/common/pdf/conferences/disease_prevention_fall.pdf)

8th Annual Iowa HIV/AIDS Conference - October 11-12, 2005. The conference brochure is available via:

[<http://www.trainingresources.org/displayconvention.cfm?conventionnbr=1472>](http://www.trainingresources.org/displayconvention.cfm?conventionnbr=1472)

Influenza Testing Update - ICN Workshop, Thursday, Oct. 13, 2005, from 1-3 PM.

This program will be an overview of influenza surveillance and testing in Iowa. For a full description of the program and registration information please go to:

www.uhl.uiowa.edu/newsroom/upcomingevents/influenzaworkshop/index.html

[<http://www.uhl.uiowa.edu/newsroom/upcomingevents/influenzaworkshop/index.html>](http://www.uhl.uiowa.edu/newsroom/upcomingevents/influenzaworkshop/index.html)

Have a healthy and happy week!

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