

Epi Update for Friday, March 14, 2014
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's Epi Update include:

- **NYC measles outbreak: Reminder that measles is serious**
- **Mumps at Ohio State University**
- **Health resources for international travelers**
- **Iowa *Acute Disease Monthly Update***
- **Adult Blood Lead Epidemiology & Surveillance (ABLES)**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

NYC measles outbreak: Reminder that measles is serious

As of March 7th, 16 cases of measles (seven adults, nine children) have been reported in the New York City area, resulting in at least four hospitalizations.

Measles is a public health emergency. This outbreak serves as a reminder to all Iowa health care providers to tell any patient with possible measles to stay home until laboratory testing either confirms or rules out measles. In addition, health care providers who suspect a patient may have measles should contact public health immediately (even in the middle of the night) as public health can facilitate emergency laboratory testing and assist in implementing immediate control measures. For more information on measles, visit: www.idph.state.ia.us/cade/DiseaseIndex.aspx?disease=Measles

Mumps at Ohio State University

Columbus Public Health (Columbus, Ohio) is investigating an outbreak of mumps at Ohio State University. The first cases were identified on February 11th and by March 12 had increased to 19 cases (16 Ohio State students, one OSU student's relative, and two community members).

Mumps is an acute viral illness with fever and swelling of one or more salivary glands. It is spread by airborne transmission or droplet spread (infectious person coughs or sneezes). For more information on mumps, visit: www.idph.state.ia.us/cade/DiseaseIndex.aspx?disease=Mumps

Health resources for international travelers

As spring break and summer travel seasons approaches, it is important to remind health care providers and Iowan's traveling to international destinations to review travel guidance and recommendations well before the planned departure date.

- For destination-specific recommendations from the CDC, visit: wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/
- For a health checklist for international travelers, visit: www.idph.state.ia.us/IDPHChannelsService/file.ashx?file=C73E8D9E-CE7C-48A0-A33E-7C3E35F7E1C1

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/ and scrolling down to 'Reports.'

Adult Blood Lead Epidemiology & Surveillance (ABLES)

IDPH's ABLES website was recently updated, and now includes 2013 surveillance numbers (3,173 Iowa adults tested in 2013) A blood lead level (BLL) of 10 microgram per deciliter (mcg/dL) or higher is currently considered elevated for adults.

In 2013, there were:

- 856 Iowa adults with BLLs of 10 mcg/dL or higher (818 in 2012).
- 202 Iowa adults had BLLs of 25 mcg/dL or higher (196 in 2012).
- 19 Iowa adults had BLLs of 40 mcg/dL or higher (22 in 2012).

If you would like to join the IDPH's Occupational Health & Safety Surveillance Program (OHSSP) mail list to receive periodic updates of new data reports, information, or resources, send a blank email to join-idph_ohssp@lists.ia.gov. You can find additional information on OHSSP, ABLES, and Pesticide at www.idph.state.ia.us/LPP/OHSSP.aspx.

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

None

Have a healthy and happy week!

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