

EPI Update for Friday, April 14, 2017
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **Multiple confirmed cases of measles in Minnesota**
- **Partners cooperate in foodborne illness investigation**
- **A bat found where? YUCK!**
- **Survey finds almost half of adults infected with HPV**
- **In the news: Smoking causes one in 10 deaths worldwide**
- **Infographic: HPV cancer prevention**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

Multiple confirmed cases of measles in Minnesota

Minnesota has announced multiple laboratory confirmed cases of measles. More information is available at www.health.state.mn.us/han/2017/apr12measles.docx.

There are currently NO confirmed cases in Iowa; however, health care providers in Iowa need to be vigilant about measles.

- Ensure that measles vaccination of all patients and staff are up-to-date.
- 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, who will page the epidemiologist on-call).

Partners cooperate in foodborne illness investigation

Recently, a *Clostridium perfringens* toxin outbreak was reported through the Iowa Sic hotline. Individuals became ill with stomach cramps and diarrhea approximately 4.5 hours after eating at a local restaurant and most recovered within 24 hours.

SHL performed testing on patient stool samples and leftover food. Patient interviews indicated refried beans as a likely source of the illness. The leftover beans grew *C. perfringens* as well as non-perfringens organisms - indicating significant temperature abuse. The positive *C. perfringens* toxin (CPE) stool result confirm that *C. perfringens* was the cause of this outbreak. Local Environmental Health officials inspected the restaurant, and found several improper cooling practices that may have contributed to the illnesses.

In the past, about one *C. perfringens* toxin outbreak has been identified every two years. However, with better reporting by ill individuals and their health care providers, IDPH has investigated two *C. perfringens* toxin outbreaks in the past year. If anyone suspects a foodborne outbreak (illness after consuming food from a restaurant, grocery

store, convenience store, market or public gathering) call the IowaSic hotline at 1-844-IowaSIC or 1-844-469-2742. For more information, visit idph.iowa.gov/cade/foodborne-illness.

A bat found where? YUCK!

This update previously published articles of bats found in teacups and in coffee filters, but this week an investigation in another state found a dead bat in a packaged salad. Two people reported eating some of the salad before the bat was found. The bat was sent to the CDC for rabies testing, but the deteriorated condition of the bat did not allow definitive tests to be done.

Transmission of rabies by eating a rabid animal is extremely uncommon since the rabies virus dies very quickly. While the risk of rabies was considered to be very low in this situation, the two people who ate salad from the package that contained the bat were recommended to begin post-exposure rabies treatment. Both people report being in good health and neither has any signs of rabies. CDC stated that it was not aware of any other reports of bat material found in packaged salads.

On April 8, 2017, Fresh Express issued a recall of a limited number of cases of Organic Marketside Spring Mix. None of the affected product was shipped to Iowa. People who purchased the recalled salad should not eat it and should return it to the place of purchase. People who have eaten the recalled salad product and did not find animal material are not at risk and do not need to contact their health department. CDC recommends that anyone who ate the recalled salad product and found animal material in it contact their health department for evaluation. More information on the recall is at www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/precautionary-recall-of-a-limited-quantity-of-organic-marketside-spring-mix-salad-is-announced-by-fresh-express-300436938.html.

Survey finds almost half of adults infected with HPV

A recent survey found that more than 42 percent of Americans between the ages of 18 and 59 are infected with human papillomavirus (HPV) and 14 high-risk HPV types infect 25.1 percent of men and 20.4 percent of women. These high-risk strains contribute to approximately 31,000 cases of cancer each year. Currently, there are two vaccines (Gardasil and Cervarix) approved for preventing the sexual transmission of HPV. It is important that adolescents consider vaccination protect them before they become infected. To read about this survey, visit www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db280.pdf.

In the news:

Smoking causes one in 10 deaths worldwide, visit www.bbc.com/news/health-39510728

Infographic: HPV cancer prevention

HPV CANCER PREVENTION

1 HPV VACCINE IS CANCER PREVENTION
HPV vaccine protects against HPV types that most commonly cause anal, cervical, oropharyngeal, penile, vaginal, and vulvar cancers.
Every year in the U.S., 27,000 people get cancer caused by HPV. That's 1 person every 29 minutes of every day, all year long.
Most of these cancers can be prevented by HPV vaccine.

2 HPV VACCINE IS RECOMMENDED AT THE SAME TIME AS OTHER TEEN VACCINES
Preteens need three vaccines at 11 or 12. They protect against whooping cough, cancers caused by HPV, and meningitis.

3 HPV VACCINE IS BEST AT 11-12 YEARS
Preteens have a higher immune response to HPV vaccine than older teens.
While there is very little risk of exposure to HPV before age 13, the risk of exposure increases thereafter.

Parents and healthcare professionals are the key to protecting adolescents from HPV cancers.

VACCINATE YOUR 11-12 YEAR OLDS.

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/teens



Meeting announcements and training opportunities

Agricultural Safety and Health Course June 12-16, 2017 for safety and health managers, physicians, nurses, veterinarians, graduate students, and anyone interested in the unique safety and health needs of rural and agricultural communities. For information, visit cph.uiowa.edu/gpcah/education/iowa-ag-med-course.

Have a healthy and happy week!

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800-362-2736