

**EPI Update for Friday, March 23, 2018**  
**Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)**  
**Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)**

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **Measles: More cases in Kansas, exposure sites identified in Missouri**
- **Study: Low level lead exposures increase cardiovascular deaths**
- **In the news: How to avoid catching the flu virus on a plane, according to new study**
- **In the news: World Health Organization gets ready for "Disease X"**
- **Infographic: Consider measles**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

**Measles: More cases in Kansas, exposure sites identified in Missouri**

The number of measles cases identified in Kansas has increased to 10, with spread occurring outside of the child care facility where cases were first identified. An accompanying list of potential exposures sites has been released by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Additionally, an individual infectious with measles visited several locations around the St. Louis, Missouri area on March 13 and 14, including a children's museum, restaurant and hotel.

Stay vigilant for patients presenting with febrile rash illness and cough, coryza or conjunctivitis, especially if they are unvaccinated or have a known exposure. If you suspect a patient may have measles, please contact IDPH immediately at 800-362-2736 during business hours or 515-323-4360 outside business hours.

For a list of potential exposure sites in Kansas, visit [knap2.kdhe.state.ks.us/NewsRelease/nr\\_index.aspx](http://knap2.kdhe.state.ks.us/NewsRelease/nr_index.aspx).

For a list of potential exposures sites in Missouri, visit [health.mo.gov/information/news/2018/measles032118](http://health.mo.gov/information/news/2018/measles032118).

**Study: Low level lead exposures increase cardiovascular deaths**

A new study found that adults with blood lead levels that increased as slightly as 1 to 6.7 micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood (current reference level is 5 µg/dL) had a significantly associated increase in mortality of 37 percent for all causes, 70 percent for cardiovascular, and 108 percent for ischemic heart disease. The authors estimated that over 400,000 Americans every year die from lead related illnesses – 10 times higher than previous assessments. The study supports prioritizing the prevention of even low-level lead exposures to improve adult health outcomes.

In Iowa, the most likely source of exposure to lead for children continues to be deteriorated lead-based paint found in housing built before 1978. Iowa adults are

most likely to be exposed during construction and manufacturing work that involves lead materials or products, or during hobbies that involve lead products.

To view the full study, visit

[www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/article/PIIS2468-2667\(18\)30025-2/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/article/PIIS2468-2667(18)30025-2/fulltext).

For more information about lead in Iowa, visit [idph.iowa.gov/lpp](http://idph.iowa.gov/lpp).

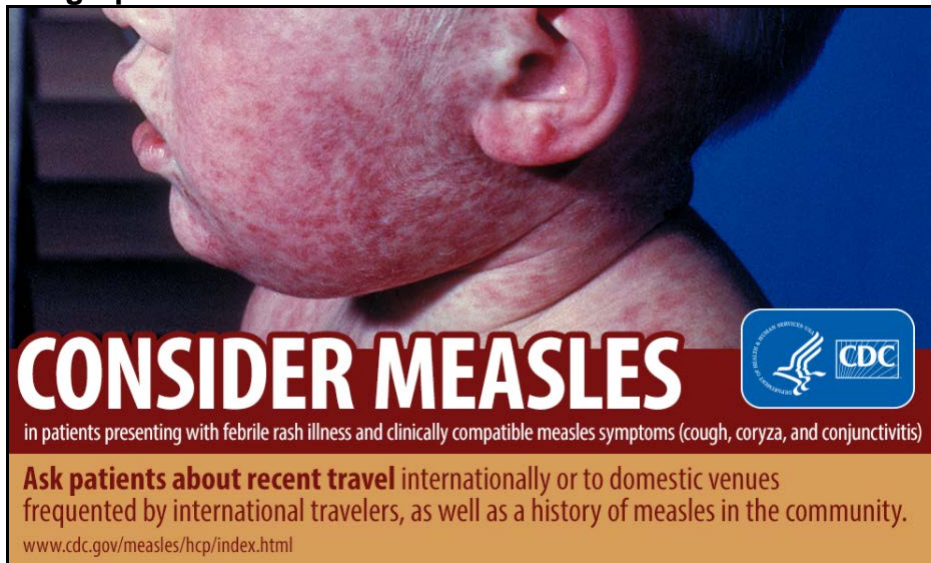
**In the news: How to avoid catching the flu virus on a plane, according to new study**

[www.newsweek.com/where-sit-if-you-dont-want-get-sick-plane-853294](http://www.newsweek.com/where-sit-if-you-dont-want-get-sick-plane-853294)

**In the news: World Health Organization gets ready for “Disease X”**

[www.cnn.com/2018/03/12/health/disease-x-blueprint-who/index.html](http://www.cnn.com/2018/03/12/health/disease-x-blueprint-who/index.html)

**Infographic: Consider measles**



To view in full size, visit

[www.cdc.gov/measles/consider-measles-infographic.html](http://www.cdc.gov/measles/consider-measles-infographic.html).

**Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

None

**Have a healthy and happy week!**

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology

Iowa Department of Public Health

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