

# Epi Update for Friday, July 9, 2021

### Office of the Public Health Medical Director Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE) Bureau of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis

## **Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)**

#### Items for this week's Epi Update include:

- Recall of LeadCare(R) lead tests due to risk of falsely low results
- Reopening buildings safely after prolonged shutdown or reduced operation
- Rabies resources available from IDPH
- In the news: Delta is now the dominant coronavirus variant in the U.S.
- In the news: US death rates are falling for many types of cancer, but not all
- Infographic: Recommendations for managing human rabies exposure

#### Recall of LeadCare(R) lead tests due to risk of falsely low results

Magellan Diagnostics, Inc. and FDA have issued a recall notice concerning the use of some LeadCare® Blood Lead Tests (certain LeadCare II, LeadCare Plus, and LeadCare Ultra test kit lots). These lots were distributed between October 27, 2020, and June 15, 2021. The use of these devices may cause serious injuries because they might underestimate blood lead levels. The FDA has identified this as a Class I recall, the most serious type of recall.

For questions regarding other options for blood lead testing, contact the IDPH Lead Prevention Program at 1-800-972-2026.

CDC has issued a Health Advisory to notify partners about the recall and recommend follow-up actions. To view the Health Advisory, visit emergency.cdc.gov/han/2021/han00445.asp.

## Reopening buildings safely after prolonged shutdown or reduced operation

Many businesses temporarily shut down or reduced operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. Reductions in normal water use can create hazards for returning occupants including mold, *Legionella*, and lead and copper contamination. For example, *Legionella* risk may increase if water heater temperature is reduced or when disinfectants in the water are not circulating during periods of non-use.

Having and implementing a plan for building maintenance can reduce hazards from periods of low water use, including regular inspection of heating, air conditioning, and plumbing.

For more information, including training on developing a water management plan, visit <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html</a>.

#### Rabies resources available from IDPH

Consultations regarding potential rabies exposures peak at IDPH in the summer and fall as interactions between animals and people increase. Any mammal is capable of transmitting rabies, mostly via bites, but also if their saliva or brain tissue comes in contact with an open wound or mucous membrane (e.g. eyes, nose, mouth).

IDPH has a dedicated web page for rabies resources, customized for three audiences: the public, health care providers, and veterinarians. Resources include flow charts for evaluating potential exposures, guidelines for post-exposure prophylaxis, testing options, and much more.

A few things to remember regarding rabies:

- Rabies is nearly 100% fatal in humans, but proper post-exposure prophylaxis is 100% effective at preventing rabies.
- Quarantine of dogs, cats, and ferrets is enforced at the local level, and a list of points of contact regarding quarantine enforcement is available on the IDPH rabies web page.
- If someone is sleeping in a room where a bat is discovered, they may need postexposure prophylaxis, even if they are unsure if the bat touched them.
- An animal that potentially exposed a human to rabies can be tested for free at SHL.

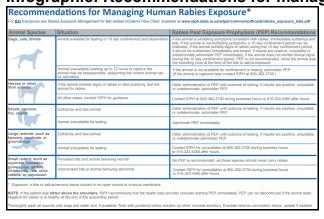
IDPH is available 24/7/365 for rabies consultation at 515-242-5935.

To view the IDPH rabies web page, visit idph.iowa.gov/rabies.

In the news: Delta is now the dominant coronavirus variant in the U.S. <a href="https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2021/07/06/1013582342/delta-is-now-the-dominant-coronavirus-variant-in-the-u-s">https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2021/07/06/1013582342/delta-is-now-the-dominant-coronavirus-variant-in-the-u-s</a>

In the news: US death rates are falling for many types of cancer, but not all www.cnn.com/2021/07/08/health/us-cancer-deaths-decline/index.html

Infographic: Recommendations for managing human rabies exposure



To view in full size, visit idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/Files/Rabies/Animal%20 Rabies Chart 130618.pdf.

#### Have a healthy and happy week!