

EPI Update for Friday, October 13, 2006
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **Watch for health care influenza campaign mailing coming soon**
- **Fact or fiction: mutant mumps?**
- **New assessment, prevention, and treatment guidelines for Lyme disease, human granulocytic anaplasmosis, and babesiosis**
- **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

Watch for health care influenza campaign mailing coming soon

Attention local public health agencies, hospital infection control practitioners, long term care facilities, and vaccine for children (VFC) providers. Watch the mail in the upcoming week for a packet from IDPH's Immunization Program containing materials to promote health care workers getting the influenza vaccine.

A key cause of influenza outbreaks in health care settings is linked to a majority of health care workers not getting the influenza vaccine. The Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends all health care workers, including those in acute care hospitals, nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, physician's offices, urgent care centers, and outpatient clinics, and persons who provide home health care and emergency medical services be vaccinated annually against influenza. There are many benefits of health care worker influenza vaccination, but the benefits to patients are even greater. Get your influenza vaccine. Patients are counting on you!

Fact or fiction: mutant mumps?

Fiction, there is no such thing as mutant mumps or a variation of the mumps strain that caused the largest outbreak in over 20 years. Several individuals who have been recently diagnosed with mumps have been calling local public health agencies, media outlets, health care providers, and college health clinics indicating that they have a mutant strain of the mumps, which is a bunch of fiction.

New assessment, prevention, and treatment guidelines for Lyme disease, human granulocytic anaplasmosis, and babesiosis

Evidence-based guidelines for the management of patients with Lyme disease, human granulocytic anaplasmosis (formerly known as human granulocytic ehrlichiosis), and babesiosis were prepared by an expert panel of the Infectious Diseases Society of America. These updated guidelines replace the previous treatment guidelines published in 2000 (Clinical Infectious Disease 2000; 31[Suppl 1]:1-14). The guidelines are intended for use by health care providers who care for patients who either have these infections or may be at risk for them. For each of these *Ixodes* tickborne infections, information is provided about prevention, epidemiology, clinical manifestations, diagnosis, and

treatment. Tables list the doses and durations of antimicrobial therapy recommended for treatment and prevention of Lyme disease and provide a partial list of therapies to be avoided. A definition of post-Lyme disease syndrome is proposed.

The new guidelines are available at

www.journals.uchicago.edu/CID/journal/issues/v43n9/40897/40897.web.pdf.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Breast cancer is the second most commonly diagnosed cancer among American women, behind skin cancer. It is second only to lung cancer as the most common cause of death among women. According to the *U.S. Cancer Statistics: 2002 Incidence and Mortality* report, which includes incidence data for about 93% of the U.S. population and mortality data for the entire country, more than 180,000 women were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2002, and more than 41,000 died from the disease. For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/.

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

Conference

What: The 2006-2007 Influenza Update

Where: Iowa Communication Network (ICN)

When: 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 1

Who: Iowa's influenza surveillance clinicians, health care workers, laboratorians, public health workers and infection control professionals.

For more information, please visit the University Hygienic Laboratory Web site at www.uhl.uiowa.edu/educationoutreach/conferencesevents/influenzaworkshop/index.xml.

Teleconference for health care providers

“Seasonal Influenza, Antivirals and *Clostridium difficile*” (A call in telephone number will be provided following receipt of registration form)

Nov. 9, 2006, 12–1:00 p.m.

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Objectives:

- To discuss clinical aspects of seasonal influenza, including vaccine and antivirals.
- To understand the connection of *Clostridium difficile* to antibiotic use and seasonal influenza.

Registration form:

www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/common/pdf/cade/grandround_2006_registration.pdf.

Have a healthy and happy week!

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