FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN PINELLAS COUNTY

EPI WATCH

Monthly Epidemiology and Preparedness Newsletter

August 2016

Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County
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Division of Disease Control and Health Protection

Disease Reporting
To report diseases and clusters of illness:
Phone: (727) 824-6932
Fax: (727) 820-4270
(excluding HIV/AIDS)

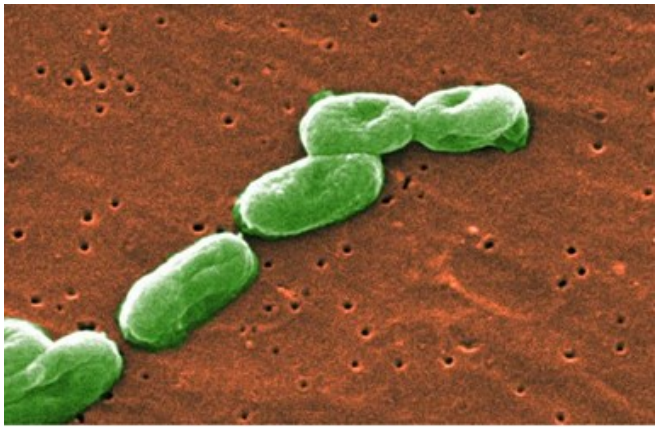
To Report HIV/AIDS by mail:
Surveillance Room 3-138
205 Dr. MLK Jr St. N
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Animal Bite Reporting:
Phone: (727) 524-4410 x7665

Multistate Outbreak of *Burkholderia cepacia* Nosocomial Infections, June 2016

By Kevin Baker, MPH, CPH, CHES

On June 24, 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced a joint investigation with the Food and Drug Administration on a multistate outbreak of *Burkholderia cepacia* infections in non-cystic fibrosis (CF) patients in healthcare facilities. *B. cepacia* is a group of gram-negative bacteria commonly found in soil and water that are known to cause healthcare-acquired infections and for their resistance to common antibiotics[1].



Scanning Electron Micrograph of *Burkholderia cepacia*.
Source: CDC

Populations most vulnerable to this type of bacteria include those who are immunocompromised, critically ill, or have chronic lung diseases, as this group of bacteria can case fatal respiratory tract infections. These bacteria can be transmitted through infected individuals, environmental exposures, and contact with contaminated surfaces (e.g. medical devices such as sublingual probes) and contaminated liquids such as mouthwash, nasal spray, and most recently, liquid docusate (stool softener). Antibiotic treatment for this infection is handled on a case-by-case basis due to drug resistance.

The CDC reported an initial case count on July 8 of 47 *B. cepacia* cases that matched one of the outbreak strains identified within five states. As of August 10, that number has grown to 60 cases across eight states. As a proactive measure, the CDC released a voluntary recall statement of liquid docusate sodium products and recommended using alternative medicines as needed in the interim. Additionally, the organization requested any healthcare facilities that have identified *B. cepacia* infections among non-CF patients to cease use of docusate products and save them for investigation purposes. At this time, any cases of *B. cepacia* infection should be reported upon laboratory confirmation and all healthcare facilities follow infection prevention guidelines as established by the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee. The CDC will update their guidance on liquid docusate products as the investigation progresses.

Updates on this outbreak can be found at:
https://www.cdc.gov/hai/outbreaks/b-cepacia/index.html

References:

[1] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2010, November 24). Burkholderia cepacia *in healthcare settings*. Retrieved from: https://www.cdc.gov/HAI/organisms/bCepacia.html

Zika Virus Updates

as of August 17, 2016

The Florida Department of Health (DOH) has tested more than 3,536 people in Florida which has resulted in the identification of 461 travel related infections, 33 non-travel related infections, and 63 infections involving pregnant women.

- DOH encourages all providers to continue following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and DOH guidance to assess patients and recommend Zika testing as appropriate.
- Risk factors for Zika include travel to areas with active transmission or having sexual contact with a partner who traveled to an area with active transmission. Those individuals who develop symptoms should consult with their healthcare provider for evaluation and testing recommendations.
- Out of an abundance of caution, the Governor directed Zika testing be made available to all pregnant women at no cost at all health department locations. It is important that healthcare providers counsel women on the risks associated with testing outside of CDC and DOH guidelines, as this may result in false positives and false negatives.
- If a physician suspects Zika based on evaluation of risk and clinical symptoms, Zika testing can also be ordered through commercial laboratories such as Quest and Labcorp .
- Pregnant women and women trying to conceive should avoid travel to countries with active Zika transmission. A sexual partner of a pregnant woman with history of travel to a country with active Zika transmission should abstain from sex or use condoms for the duration of the pregnancy. A list of countries with active Zika transmission can be found at http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices.
- DOH believes that local active transmission is only occurring in a one mile square radius in a neighborhood in Miami-Dade County.
- Proactive steps to prevent mosquito bites can prevent Zika infection. These steps include draining standing water weekly, using screens on windows, and using mosquito repellent while outdoors.

DOH maintains a Zika Virus Information Hotline at 1-855-622-6735. DOH continues to issue a Zika virus update each weekday which can be found at http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/zika-virus/index.html.

Influenza Season 2016 –2017

Flu season is approaching! Epidemics of seasonal influenza occur each year in the United States during the fall and winter months. Most of the activity peaks between December and March, but can last as late as May. The severity and timing of the flu season is not possible to predict and flu viruses circulating are constantly changing.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to recommend the annual flu vaccination for everyone 6 months and older. This recommendation is the same even during years when the vaccine composition remains unchanged from the previous season.

For the US 2016-2017 influenza season, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) committee recommended that the trivalent formulation contain the following:
•an A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)-like virus;
•an A/Hong Kong /4801/2014 (H3N2)-like virus
•a B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus (B/Victoria lineage).
The committee also recommended that quadrivalent influenza vaccines contain the above three strains and the following additional B strain:
•a B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus (B/Yamagata lineage)

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) determined that live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV), also known as the “nasal spray” flu vaccine, should **NOT** be used during the 2016-2017 flu season. More information can be found here: http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2016/s0622-laiv-flu.html.

More information on the 2016-2017 flu season can be found here: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm.

Selected Reportable Diseases in Pinellas County

	Pinellas		YTD Total		Pinellas County Annual Totals		
Disease	**July 2016**	**July 2015**	**Pinellas 2016**	**Florida 2016**	**2015**	**2014**	**2013**
A. Vaccine Preventable							
Measles	**0**	**0**	**0**	**5**	0	0	0
Mumps	**0**	**0**	**0**	**10**	0	0	0
Pertussis	**2**	**0**	**11**	**201**	17	19	17
Varicella	**3**	**3**	**56**	**482**	38	35	19
B. CNS Diseases & Bacteremias							
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)	**0**	**0**	**1**	**6**	3	0	0
Meningitis (Bacterial, Cryptococcal, Mycotic)	**0**	**0**	**5**	**69**	6	4	5
Meningococcal Disease	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9**	1	0	1
C. Enteric Infections							
Campylobacteriosis	**11**	**20**	**73**	**1139**	104	103	63
Cryptosporidiosis	**6**	**6**	**17**	**256**	49	240	19
Cyclosporiasis	**5**	**0**	**5**	**27**	3	0	5
E. coli Shiga Toxin (+)	**0**	**1**	**1**	**94**	2	6	7
Giardiasis	**3**	**0**	**19**	**661**	30	42	34
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)	**0**	**0**	**0**	**6**	0	0	1
Listeriosis	**0**	**0**	**1**	**20**	2	0	0
Salmonellosis	**18**	**22**	**78**	**2515**	196	216	203
Shigellosis	**1**	**49**	**13**	**386**	174	21	5
D. Viral Hepatitis							
Hepatitis A	**0**	**2**	**2**	**64**	4	2	6
Hepatitis B: Pregnant Woman +HBsAg	**2**	**1**	**18**	**256**	37	21	17
Hepatitis B, Acute	**5**	**2**	**36**	**355**	57	44	39
Hepatitis C, Acute	**7**	**0**	**30**	**163**	32	19	17
E. VectorBorne/Zoonoses							
Animal Rabies	**0**	**0**	**2**	**43**	1	2	0
Rabies, possible exposure	**14**	**7**	**74**	**1865**	114	190	193
Chikungunya Fever	**0**	**0**	**1**	**8**	2	10	0
Dengue	**1**	**0**	**2**	**39**	3	1	2
Eastern Equine Encephalitis	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	0	0	0
Lyme Disease	**2**	**0**	**7**	**75**	6	5	8
Malaria	**0**	**0**	**0**	**33**	2	3	1
West Nile Virus	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	1	0	0
Zika Virus	**0**	**0**	**6**	**334**	0	0	0
F. Others							
AIDS**	**16**	**14**	**87**	**n/a**	118	129	114
HIV**	**21**	**32**	**178**	**n/a**	252	171	157
Chlamydia	**332**	**330**	**2393**	**n/a**	4147	3853	4141
Gonorrhea	**123**	**141**	**916**	**n/a**	1438	1295	1424
Hansen's Disease	**0**	**0**	**0**	**8**	0	0	0
Lead Poisoning: Children < 6 years:	**2**	**0**	**4**	**90**	6	8	4
Legionellosis	**1**	**1**	**7**	**142**	18	13	10
Mercury Poisoning	**0**	**1**	**0**	**15**	1	2	0
Syphilis, Total	**27**	**24**	**219**	**n/a**	283	186	114
Syphilis, Infectious (Primary and Secondary)	**12**	**15**	**112**	**n/a**	151	75	52
Syphilis, Early Latent	**12**	**5**	**80**	**n/a**	83	61	37
Syphilis, Congenital	**0**	**1**	**1**	**n/a**	3	0	0
Syphilis, Late Syphilis (Late Latent; Neurosyphilis)	**3**	**3**	**26**	**n/a**	52	50	25
Tuberculosis	**2**	**0**	**10**	**n/a**	14	25	30
Vibrio Infections	**2**	**2**	**4**	**91**	11	10	11

n/a = not available at this time. Blank cells indicate no cases reported. Reportable diseases include confirmed and probable cases only. All case counts are provisional. Data is collected from the Merlin Reportable Disease database, surveillance systems maintained at the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County, and Florida CHARTS http://www.floridacharts.com/charts/default.aspx.

*STD data in PRISM is continually updated. Please note, data from the previous month takes up to an additional month or more to be correctly updated.

**Current HIV Infection data by year of report reflects any case meeting the CDC definition of 'HIV infection' which includes all newly reported HIV cases and newly reported AIDS cases with no previous report of HIV in Florida. If a case is later identified as being previously diagnosed and reported from another state, the case will no longer be reflected as a Florida case and the data will be adjusted accordingly. Data from the most recent calendar year (2015 or 2016) are considered provisional and therefore should not be used to confirm or rule out an increase in newly reported cases in Florida.