

EpiNews

Palm Beach County Health Department
Division of Epidemiology & Disease Control
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December 1999

Disease Highlights:

Influenza: Florida: During week 47 (21-27 November 1999) laboratory confirmed isolates of influenza A H3N2/Sydney-like were reported from Duval, Hillsborough and Volusia Counties. Influenza A has also been isolated from Alachua, Brevard, Broward (A H3N2), Collier (A H3N2), Indian River (A H3N2), Lake (A H3N2), Leon (A H3N2), Miami-Dade (A H3N2), Orange, Palm Beach (A H3N2), Pinellas and Sarasota Counties since October 1 1999. Influenza B/Yamanashi-like has been isolated from Indian River County. Antigens from both influenza A/Sydney and influenza B/Yamanashi are included in the 1999-2000 influenza vaccine. Of the total patient visits to sentinel physicians for Week 47, 3% were due to ILI, higher than the influenza activity reported for the 7 previous weeks but within the expected range of 0-3%. This week influenza-like illness was reported from providers in 16 (Brevard, Broward, Collier, Duval, Hillsborough, Indian River, Leon, Marion, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Orange, Palm Beach, Pinellas, Polk, Seminole and Volusia) of the 29 Florida counties participating in the National Sentinel Physicians Surveillance Network.

Source: Carina Blackmore, MS Vet Med., PhD, Epi Update 12/10/99

In the News:

Hepatitis A in Alamance County, North Carolina: The Alamance County Health Department issued a press release on 12/7/99 alerting of a confirmed case of hepatitis A in a food handler at The Cookery Restaurant/Flying J Truckstop. The truckstop is located at I-85/I-40 and Jimmy Kerr Road, Alamance County, near Burlington, NC. Anyone eating at the restaurant on November 24 or any day between November 27 through December 3, 1999 may have been exposed and is advised to get a shot of immune globulin (IG), as soon as possible, as preventative treatment within two weeks of the date they ate at the restaurant. Symptoms of Hepatitis A may appear 2 to 7 weeks after exposure, and can include mild fever, loss of appetite, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, tiredness, abdominal pain, dark urine, light-colored stools and yellowing of the skin and/or white of eyes. For more information, call Alice Rich, R.N., Public Health Nurse, Alamance County Health Department at (336) 513-5535.

Communications:

New Bureau of Epi Location: The Bureau of Epidemiology has moved into a new building, the Capital Center Office Complex (CCOC). Please note that the main Bureau of Epidemiology telephone number has changed to (850) 245-4401 (SC 205-4401). Fax numbers and e-mail addresses will remain the same, and continue to send mail until further notice to 2020 Capital Circle SE, Bin A-12, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1734. A table listing individual staff telephone numbers is provided in the 12/03/99 Epi Update, which can be found on the Internet at <http://www.doh.state.fl.us>.

Epi Updates: Any hospital or facility infection control practitioner still having trouble accessing or not receiving the Epi Updates, please call Denise Pagan at (561) 845-4564.

Hepatitis A: A new CDC Internet site provides hepatitis A rates by state and county. To see the hepatitis A rates for Florida, go on the Internet to:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/a/vax/fl.htm>.

Grand Rounds: Due to the holidays, the Bureau of Epidemiology Grand Rounds presentation scheduled for Tuesday, December 28, 1999 has been cancelled. The next Grand Rounds presentation is set for Tuesday, January 25, 2000. Please mark your calendars.

Happy Holidays! All of us at the Palm Beach County Health Department Division of Epidemiology and Disease Control wish all of you a safe and joyous holiday season. We'll see you in 2000!

**Communicable Diseases and Selected Public Health Indices
Palm Beach County, Florida**

Enteric, Hepatitis, Meningitis, AIDS, HIV, STD, TB,
Live Births, Infant Deaths, Foodborne Outbreaks,
Childhood Lead Testing

3rd Quarter
July - Sept. 1999

	Number This Qtr.	Number To Date This Yr.	Number to Date Last Yr.
<i>Enteric, Hepatitis, Meningitis</i>			
Campylobacteriosis	32	73	54
Shigellosis	46	94	178
Salmonellosis	61	134	144
Giardiasis	17	37	44
Hepatitis A	17	26	28
Hepatitis B	9	22	18
Meningitis & Invasive Disease due to Neisseria Meningitidis	2	8	4
Meningitis & Invasive Disease due to Haemophilus Influenzae	1	2	3
<i>AIDS</i>			
# New AIDS Cases Reported (Adult/Adolescent)	146	369	424
Cumulative AIDS Cases Since 1980 (Adult/Adolescent)	NA	6884	6304
Cumulative AIDS Cases Since 1980 (Pediatric)	NA	199	191
Cumulative AIDS Cases Since 1980 (Total)	NA	7083	6495
<i>HIV***</i>			
# HIV Tested	3662	10941	12076
# HIV Positive	146	454	475
% HIV Positive	4.0	4.1	3.9
<i>STD</i>			
Primary/Secondary Syphilis	8	24	9
Congenital Syphilis	1	1	0
Gonorrhea	217	691	684
Chlamydia	385	1273	776
<i>Tuberculosis</i>			
Total Tuberculosis Cases	22	135	68
Total Tuberculosis Cases <15 Yrs. of Age	0	4	1
<i>Live Births</i>			
Total Infant Births	3386	9522	9633
Infant Births, White	2373	6804	6825
Infant Births, Non-White	1011	2713	2793
<i>Infant Deaths</i>			
Total Infant Deaths	19	68	59
Infant Deaths, White	9	44	31
Infant Deaths, Non-White	10	24	28
<i>Food Related Complaints and Outbreaks</i>			
Number of Complaints	78	268	345
Suspected Foodborne Illness Outbreaks	2	8	22
Confirmed Foodborne Illness Outbreaks	0	3	1
<i>Childhood Lead Testing</i>			
Lead Poisoning (Venous Testing >=10)	18	57	47

Data provided is provisional

N/A = Not Applicable

***Data Representing PBCHD clients only

**Data Unavailable

Palm Beach County Health Department
For Information - Please call (561) 840-4564

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