



Livingston County

Department of Public Health

Communicable Disease Update

Dianne McCormick, RS, MSA
Director/Health Officer

Donald W. Lawrenchuk, MD, MPH
Medical Director

MEASLES GUIDANCE

Linda Weiman, RN, BSN
Public Health Nurse Supervisor

With the recent increase in the incidence of measles in the United States, the Livingston County Department of Public Health (LCDPH) wants to remind health care providers to maintain a high index of suspicion for measles in cases of febrile rash illness and to provide guidance on appropriate laboratory testing procedures for a suspect case. Suspect cases of measles **should be reported immediately** to LCDPH for further investigation.

Clinical Case Definition

An illness characterized by all of the following:

- Generalized rash* lasting at least 3 days, and
- Temperature of 101°F (38.3°C) or higher, and
- Cough, coryza, and/or conjunctivitis

*Measles rash typically begins on the face and then becomes generalized.

Incubation Period

From exposure to prodrome (symptoms preceding rash) the average is 10-12 days. From exposure to rash onset the average is 14 days (range 7-18).

Period of Communicability

From 4 days before rash onset to 4 days after.

Laboratory Confirmation

- Serum for measles IgM
- Throat, nasopharyngeal, and/or nasal swab in viral transport media for PCR testing**

**Viral transport media is available through LCDPH.

If you have questions or suspect measles in one of your patients, call the LCDPH Communicable Disease Line at (517) 552-6882. Additional information on investigation guidelines for measles can be found at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/Measles_388976_7.pdf

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ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES FOR IMMUNIZATION WAIVERS

Michele Bunyak, RN
Immunizations Program Coordinator

On January 1, 2015 changes to the Administrative Rules became effective. The Administrative Rules now require parents/guardians requesting an immunization waiver to receive education about the benefits of vaccination and the risk of disease from the local health department. The local health department will issue a certified waiver once the education session is completed. Medical waivers for medical contraindications to vaccinations are still issued by the physician. This change applies to children attending licensed preschools or daycares, children entering kindergarten, children entering the 7th grade, and students changing school districts. Please make clients choosing not to vaccinate their children aware of this new requirement. LCDPH has begun offering waiver education appointments on Wednesdays. Appointments are limited and clients wishing to sign a waiver are encouraged to schedule an appointment as soon as possible.

EXPEDITED PARTNER THERAPY FOR CHLAMYDIA AND GONORRHEA

Kris Moyer, BS, RN, MSPH
STD Program Coordinator

Chlamydia trachomatis (CT) and Neisseria gonorrhoea (GC) continue to be significant public health problems in Michigan, with more than 55,000 cases reported annually. In Livingston County in 2014, there were 278 and 25 reported cases of CT and GC, respectively. This represents an increase in both of these sexually transmitted infections from 2013. Reported cases of disease represent only a small percentage of the number of actual cases of diseases present, typically 10% or less, per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Patients diagnosed with CT or GC cannot be considered adequately treated until their partners have also been treated, and, thus, the CDC has recommended treatment of sex partners for years. A new tool has recently become available to facilitate treatment of partners: Public Act 525 of 2014 was passed by the Michigan legislature and allows clinicians to provide their patients with medication or a prescription for the treatment of his or her sex partner(s) without a medical examination of those partners. This is called Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) and under PA 525, health care providers or pharmacists who dispense EPT in accordance with this law shall not be subject to liability, unless the action is considered gross negligence. In brief, under EPT, sexual partners of patients with CT, but not GC, are recommended to receive azithromycin (Zithromax), 1 gram, orally, once. Sexual partners of patients with GC, regardless of the CT test result, are recommended to receive cefixime (Suprax), 400mg orally, once, PLUS azithromycin 1 gram orally.

Concerns expressed about EPT have included adverse reactions and antibiotic resistance. EPT has been used in other states since 2005. Adverse reactions are rare; the most common reaction to these antibiotics is mild gastrointestinal intolerance. California was the first state to use EPT and established a hotline to monitor adverse reactions. Zero reports were made in ten years and the hotline was discontinued. After years of use, there is no evidence that EPT leads to drug resistance.

TUBERCULOSIS CASE TABLE

The Tuberculosis Case Table (2010-2014) will be available at www.lchd.org on May 1, 2015.

Call LCDPH at (517) 546-9850 to report or consult about a communicable disease. We are available 24/7. If it is after business hours, call 911 and they will contact the appropriate staff.