

**Health UPDATE**

**Cover Sheet**

**DATE:** September 22, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Severe Respiratory Illness Associated with Enterovirus D68 - Montana

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

**DISTRIBUTE** to your local HAN contacts. This HAN is intended for general sharing of information.

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**For LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT reference only**  
DPHHS Subject Matter Resource for more information regarding this HAN, contact:  
**DPHHS CDCP  
Epidemiology Section  
1-406-444-0273**

**DPHHS Health Alert Hotline:  
1-800-701-5769**

**DPHHS HAN Website:  
[www.han.mt.gov](http://www.han.mt.gov)**

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**Categories of Health Alert Messages:**

**Health Alert:** conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

**Health Advisory:** provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

**Health Update:** provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

**Information Service:** passes along low level priority messages that do not fit other HAN categories and are for informational purposes only.

**Please call DPHHS to update contact information at 444-0919**

# Information Sheet

**Date:** September 22, 2014

**Subject:** Update – Severe Respiratory Illness Associated with Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) – Montana

**Background:** As of Monday, September 22, 2014, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has confirmed, and reported to DPHHS, four additional EV-D68 positive specimens from Montana. The specimens, collected from September 6<sup>th</sup> through September 10<sup>th</sup>, confirm the presence of the virus in **Jefferson, Musselshell** and **Cascade** counties, and a second case in **Yellowstone County**. Additional specimens are pending at CDC and DPHHS expects results to be reported soon.

Individual cases of enterovirus are not reportable; however, DPHHS is continuing to encourage providers to report clusters/outbreaks and individuals who are hospitalized and suspected to be infected with enterovirus to local public health agencies.

**Information:** Please see the attached Sept 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014, CDC Health Advisory on Enterovirus D68. This Health Advisory provides specific information in facility based disinfection not encompassed by the Montana Health Advisory.

The MT DPHHS has received an adequate number of specimens for public health surveillance and typing purposes. Laboratories and health care facilities should not send any additional specimens to the MT Public Health Laboratory (MTPHL) **for surveillance** testing at this time. The need for diagnostic screening for Enterovirus may no longer be warranted in many cases; however, if physician orders for testing are received, MTPHL will continue to offer Enterovirus screening as a fee-for-service test.

## Recommendations:

### Clinical Care:

- Health care providers should consider EV-D68 as a possible cause of acute, unexplained, severe respiratory illness, even in the absence of fever.
- Although the findings to date have been in children, EV-D68 may also affect adults.

### Laboratory Testing:

- Providers should consider laboratory testing of respiratory specimens for enteroviruses when the cause of respiratory infection in severely ill patients is unclear.
- The MT DPHHS has received an adequate number of specimens for public health surveillance and typing purposes. Laboratories and health care facilities should not send any additional specimens to the MT Public Health Laboratory (MTPHL) for surveillance testing at this time.

### Infection Control:

- Routes of transmission for EV-D68 are not fully understood.

# ***DPHHS HAN***

- Infection control guidelines for hospitalized patients with EV-D68 infection should include standard precautions, and contact precautions in certain situations, as is recommended for all enteroviruses (<http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/isolation/Isolation2007.pdf>).
- As EV-D68 is a cause of clusters of respiratory illness, similar to rhinoviruses, droplet precautions also should be considered as an interim recommendation until there is more definitive information available on appropriate infection control.
- As EV-D68 is a non-enveloped virus, environmental disinfection of surfaces in healthcare settings should be performed using a hospital-grade disinfectant with an EPA label claim for any of several non-enveloped viruses (e.g., norovirus, poliovirus, rhinovirus). Disinfectant products should be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for the specific label claim and in a manner consistent with environmental infection control recommendations ([http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/guidelines/eic\\_in\\_HCF\\_03.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/guidelines/eic_in_HCF_03.pdf)).

#### Reporting:

- Providers are asked to report suspected clusters and hospitalized cases of severe respiratory illness to local health departments.

#### **For more information:**

For additional information, please consult the CDC enterovirus D68 website:

<http://www.cdc.gov/non-polio-enterovirus/about/EV-D68.html>

# Keep Your Child from Getting and Spreading ENTEROVIRUS D68



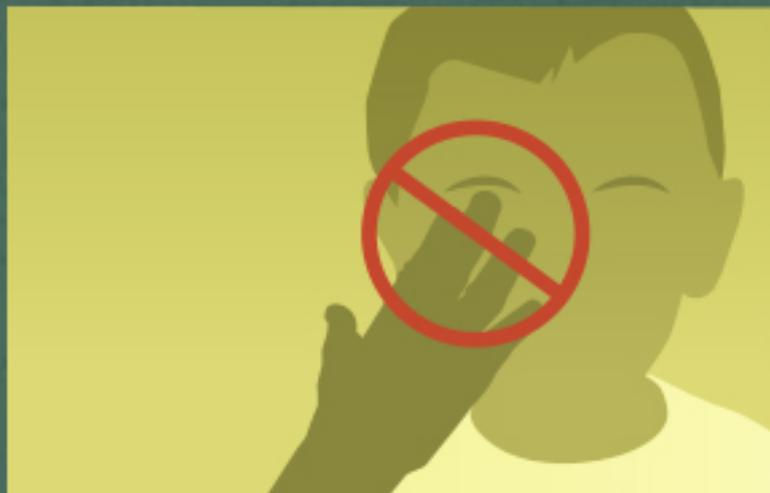
**Avoid close contact with sick people**



**Wash your hands often**



**Cover your coughs & sneezes**



**Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands**



**Clean & disinfect surfaces**



**Stay home when you're sick**

