

# Montana Laboratory Sentinel



Updates from the MT Laboratory Services Bureau  
800-821-7284 [www.lab.hhs.mt.gov](http://www.lab.hhs.mt.gov)

1/27/2012

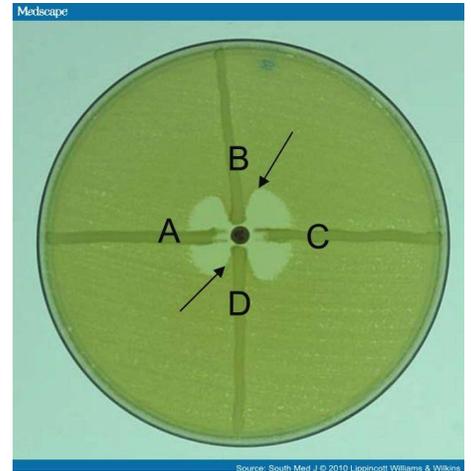
## MODIFIED HODGE TEST FOR CARBAPENEMASE DETECTION IN ENTEROBACTERIACE

Resistance to antibiotic therapy via production of the enzyme carbapenemase by *Enterobacteriaceae* is becoming more common. This resistance is not always detected by conventional antimicrobial susceptibility testing, which may result in inappropriate antimicrobial therapy for the patient. Carbapenemase-producing isolates usually test intermediate or resistant to one or more carbapenems and test resistant to one or more agents in cephalosporin subclass III (cefotaxime, ceftazidime, ceftriaxone). Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) recommends the Modified Hodge Test as the method to detect carbapenemases.

Carbapenemase production is detected by the Modified Hodge Test when the test isolate produces the enzyme and allows growth of a carbapenem- susceptible strain of *E. coli* towards a meropenem (or ertapenem) disk. The result is a characteristic cloverleaf-like indentation.

This test need not be routinely performed on *Enterobacteriaceae* determined to be fully resistant to carbapenems. When newly-revised breakpoints and interpretive criteria have been fully implemented, confirmatory testing such as the Modified Hodge Test will no longer be required.

A discussion of the survey questions with references to CLSI guideline pages may be accessed at [here](#).



### TRAINING & COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP

Reserve BY Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>

To obtain the conference rate, reserve your room NOW

A block of rooms is being held at the Crowne Plaza Billings. You may reserve your room by calling 406-252-7400 and reference Montana Laboratory Services.

This no-cost workshop will provide participants the opportunity to develop a toolkit, specifically for their own laboratories, to enhance their programs for Training and Competency Assessment. Registrations are still being accepted. Lunch will be provided and CEUs will be available. Relevant CLSI guidelines will be provided to participating facilities.

Please access a registration form [here](#).  
Presented by the MTPHL through special funding

### Supply Ordering

Because of the uncertain weather Montana experiences in the winter months, MTPHL encourages you to allow an extra day or two when requesting orders of collection and transport supplies and requisitions. Orders are filled on a daily basis, but we have tracked orders via UPS, and although most packages are received within 24 hours of shipping, some have taken 2-3 days. In the next few months we will be instituting a new inventory system which should allow us to easily monitor and track your shipments.



Celebrate National  
Medical Laboratory  
Professionals Week  
April 22-28, 2012

### ANTIMICROBIAL SUSCEPTIBILITY TESTING UPDATE

February 1, 11:00–12:30 or February 2, 1:00–2:30

The annual presentation of CLSI updated standards for antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) by Janet Hindler has been scheduled for February 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. One of the highlights for 2012 will be revised interpretive criteria (breakpoints) for beta-lactams and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. These breakpoint changes and several other new recommendations found in M02-A11, M07-A9 and M100-S22 will be discussed.

[Registration](#) is online. If you have difficulty with the online registration process, you may email the [registrar](#) or call 240.485.2727 between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM (ET).

The Public Health Laboratory will host the teleconference on February 1st, in room C-205 of the Cogswell building. All are welcome to attend this session. Please notify [Crystal Poppler](#) if you plan to attend.

## Montana Communicable Disease Weekly Update

Release date: 1/27/12



### DISEASE INFORMATION

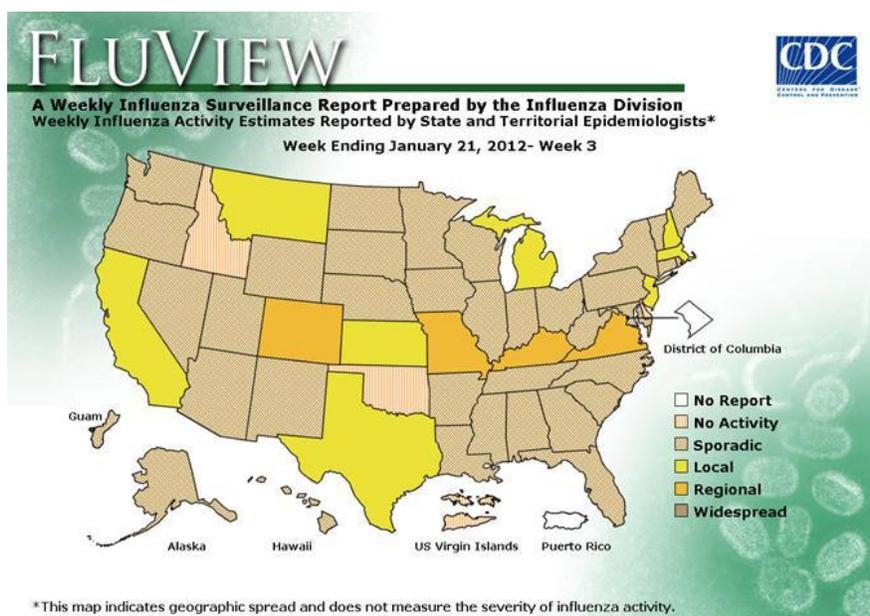
**Summary – MMWR Week 3 - Ending 01/21/2012** – Disease reports received at DPHHS during the reporting period January 15-21, 2012 included the following:

- Vaccine Preventable Diseases: H. influenzae (1), Pertussis (3), Varicella (1)
- Invasive Diseases: Strep Pneumoniae (2), Viral Meningitis (1)
- Enteric Diseases: Campylobacter (2), Giardia (1), Salmonella (1)
- Other Conditions: (0)
- Animal Rabies: (0)
- Travel Related Conditions: (0)

*NOTE: The attached report has multiple pages reflecting the following information: (1) vaccine preventable and enteric diseases YTD; (2) other communicable diseases YTD; (3) cases just this past reporting week; (4) clusters and outbreaks; and (5) an STD summary.*

### HOT TOPICS

**Influenza** – Five new cases were reported last week in Montana (1/21/2012). Three new cases have been reported this week (as of 1/27/12). The national view reveals continued increases in activity with Montana now showing up with “Local” activity levels.



CDEpi will no longer attach the CDC weekly national report but that report is available at CDC [FluView](http://www.cdc.gov/fluview).

**Salmonella** – The CDEpi program received notification that several persons who attended the American Farm Bureau conference in Hawaii January 7-9 have become ill with gastroenteritis caused by the bacteria Salmonella. We are working with local health jurisdictions in notifying persons who have been reported as attending the conference and collecting information on illnesses that may be associated with this possible exposure. There are reports of illness with no details to be reported at this point in time.

**CDC Norovirus Toolkit – Reports still continue from counties.** CDC announced the availability of its new norovirus toolkit. The toolkit is designed to help healthcare providers manage and stop outbreaks of norovirus, one of the most common causes of gastroenteritis outbreaks in the U.S. The norovirus toolkit includes infection control recommendations, as well as tools for outbreak response, coordination, and reporting. It complements the recent *CDC and HICPAC Guideline for the Prevention and Control of Norovirus Gastroenteritis Outbreaks in Healthcare Settings, 2011* and CDC's *Updated Norovirus Outbreak Management and Disease Prevention Guidelines* for the wider community. [http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/norovirus/002\\_norovirus-toc.html](http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/norovirus/002_norovirus-toc.html)

### **INFORMATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CDEpi NORS Reporting** - is developing a transition plan to better use the **CDC National Outbreak Reporting Systems (NORS) Reporting Form** for outbreak reporting. We have been working with several counties on piloting this and want to thank staff there greatly. There are several forms, but the most frequently used is attached and on the TCC. This will help to gather data on outbreaks in Montana. An iLinc presentation on outbreak reporting is planned for later this year. Please continue to notify CDEpi of clusters and outbreaks in your jurisdiction. Please contact Alli Bishop at 444-3049 or [aabishop@mt.gov](mailto:aabishop@mt.gov) with any questions.

**NEW Reporting form - An iLinc on the new reporting form was presented on 1/25/2012. The new forms, as well as the slides from the iLinc presentation are attached and are available on the TCC. A recording of the iLinc is also available on the TCC.** CDEpi has revised the General Case Reporting Form. Beginning on January 1, 2012, this form replaced all other versions of the “Confidential Case Report Form” and can be used by local providers to report to local health jurisdictions and also by local health jurisdictions for initial notification of cases to DPHHS. This form fulfills the ARM requirements for disease reporting; however, keep in mind that supplemental information may be required via a disease specific form.

**CDEpi Deliverables Guidance Clarification** – Please find attached a clarification to help local health jurisdictions fill out the quarterly grants deliverables is attached. Please contact Elton Mosher with comments or questions at [emosher@mt.gov](mailto:emosher@mt.gov) .

### **TCC Update**

**The NEW AND IMPROVED TCC site is here! (<http://www.mttcc.org>) Forms are attached. The power point for the January 25<sup>th</sup> iLink will come under a separate email as will instructions for accessing information, forms etc on the iLink. All materials will be available on the TCC. Contact Stacey Anderson if you have questions on this at [sanderson@mt.gov](mailto:sanderson@mt.gov) .**

### **24/7 AVAILABILITY**

The Communicable Disease Epidemiology program is available 24 hours a day/7days a week/365 days a year but is primarily directed toward you as local health jurisdictions with us as a last resort. If you need us to assist, please call 406.444.0273 if you need immediate communicable disease epidemiology assistance, the answering service will take a message and we will return the call as quickly as possible. Please ensure that your required 24/7 information is up to date and reported to us or PHEP if changes occur AND please ensure that you communicate YOUR local 24/7/365 number to your local providers.

***This update is produced by the Montana Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program. Questions regarding its content should be directed to 406.444.0273 (24/7/365). For more information:***  
<http://cdepi.hhs.mt.gov>