

Montana Laboratory Sentinel



Updates from the MT Laboratory Services Bureau
800-821-7284 www.lab.hhs.mt.gov

10/12/12

Quantiferon Tube Withdrawal

Cellestis, a Qiagen company, recently informed the Public Health Laboratory of a voluntary market withdrawal of two lots of TB antigen tubes used in the QuantiFERON TB Gold In-Tube (QFT-TB-Gold-IT) test. The tubes are being withdrawn due to a potential contamination issue that may result in a falsely positive result. Negative results from the affected lots are valid.

The MTPHL received a shipment of this lot number in February 2012, with an expiration date of February 2013. Any affected tubes still remaining must be discarded, and clinicians will be informed that any patients testing positive during this time period can be offered a repeat test, if warranted, at no additional charge. Laboratories and clinicians will be contacted directly if they are affected by this withdrawal.

We anticipate that the majority of persons at high risk for TB infection with a positive QFT result during the time the withdrawn lot was in circulation will be confirmed as positive upon retesting.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact the MTPHL at 800-821-7284.

We Are Going Paperless With Send-Out Reports

The Public Health Laboratory has started to electronically attach to our report a scanned copy of the results of referred tests that were performed at CDC and other state public health laboratories (SPHL). From now on, when you are using the webstation to download results, and a result has been tested by CDC (or another SPHL), you will need to use the LINKS button that is on the top of the screen to also download a copy of the CDC report.



Please contact Susie Zanto, 406-444-2839 or szanto@mt.gov if you have any questions.

Influenza Testing Survey

Influenza Testing 2012-13

Please help the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (MTDPHHS) better understand the testing for Influenza that will be performed during the 2012-2013 Influenza Season. An electronic survey was sent to laboratories this week to gather information about current testing practices. This information will be used to determine the extent of laboratory based testing that will occur in Montana and help shape MTDPHHS' surveillance efforts.

If you have any questions about this survey or if you did not receive the link, please contact Susie Zanto in the Montana Public Health Laboratory at 800-821-7284 (ext. 2839) or 406-444-2839 (direct) or by e-mail szanto@mt.gov.

Management of Non-Conforming Laboratory Events and Development and Use of Quality Indicators

The Montana Public Health Laboratory is pleased to offer a third laboratory quality management training opportunity. Lucia Berte will present a full-day workshop covering the management of non-conforming laboratory events and the development and use of quality indicators. CLSI documents GP32-Management of Non-conforming Laboratory Events and GP35-Quality Indicators will be provided to each participating facility. This course is approved for 7 CEUs.

Training will take place November 7, 2012, 8:15 – 4:30 at the Crowne Plaza Billings, 27 North 27th Street, Billings

Registration is limited to 36 participants. Reply by email or phone to [Jan Stetzer](mailto:Jan.Stetzer@mt.gov) 406-444-0695.

Montana Communicable Disease Weekly Update

Release date: 10/12/2012



DISEASE INFORMATION

[The 2011 Montana Communicable Disease Summary Is Now Available at Montana 2011 Communicable Disease Summary](#)

Summary – MMWR Week 40 - Ending 10/6/2012 –Preliminary disease reports received at DPHHS during the reporting period September 23-29 2012 included the following:

- **Vaccine Preventable Diseases:** Influenza (7) Pertussis (3), Varicella (3)
- **Invasive Diseases:** *Haemophilus influenzae* (1), *Strep pneumoniae* (1)
- **Enteric Diseases:** Campylobacteriosis (4), Cryptosporidiosis (1), Salmonellosis (1), Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* (STEC) (1) Yersiniosis (1)
- **HIV Disease*:** (1)
- **Other Diseases:** (0)
- **Animal Rabies:** (2)
- **Travel Related Conditions:** (0)

* A case is included if a new confirmatory test or report was received by DPHHS. Cases include both persons who were newly diagnosed and persons newly reported in Montana who may have been diagnosed in another state or country.

NOTE: The attached reports have 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) a quarterly HIV/STD summary.

HOT TOPICS

Seasonal Influenza: We had one case of flu this week and seven cases last week. **CDC has begun releasing data for the country on [FluView](#)** . Wyoming is reporting cases at the local level. South Dakota has verbally indicated cases to us in the last few days. What this year be as mild as last year? History says not likely.

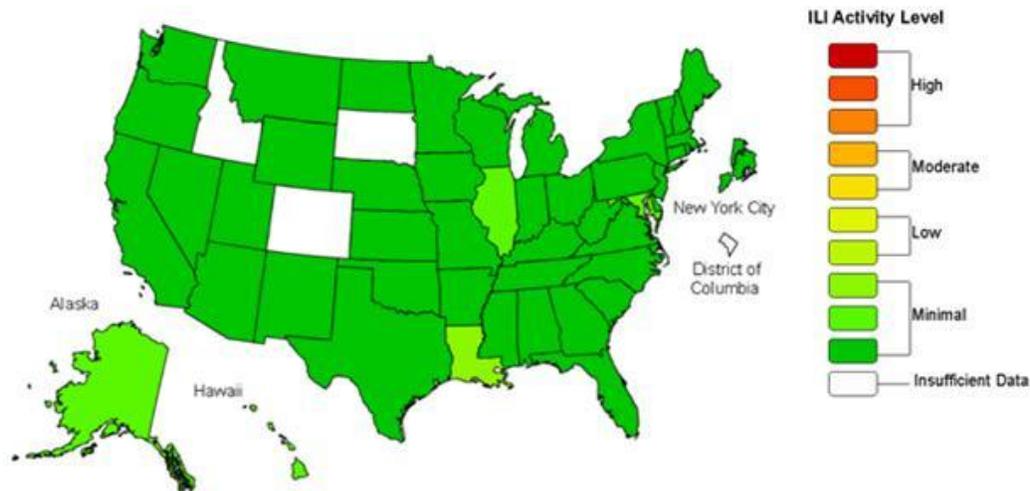
“During week 40, the following influenza activity was reported:

- Local influenza activity was reported by one state (Wyoming).”

Be sure and work with your local providers and get the vaccination messages out.

[CDC What You Should Know For the 2012-2013 Influenza Season webpage](#)

**Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Activity Level Indicator Determined by Data Reported to ILINet
2012-13 Influenza Season Week 40 ending Oct 06, 2012**



WEEKLY REPORTING FOR LOCAL HEALTH JURISDICTIONS has started. Please see weekly reporting information below.

The DPHHS website has last year's final report for influenza in the 2011-2012 season. That can be located at [MT final 2011-2012 influenza report](#)

Nationally, the 2011-2012 season began late and was relatively mild compared with previous seasons (see "[2011-2012 Flu Season Draws to a Close](#)" for more information on the national level). It is not possible to predict how mild or severe the 2012-2013 season will be.

PERTUSSIS (Is it over yet?): We have seven cases reported this week as of 3:30 pm and we had 3 last week. We are continuing to review the state pertussis situation. The CDC final **2011** Pertussis Surveillance Report is attached.

Please submit your completed case reports for pertussis!!!

Pertussis technical guidance pieces will continue to be available in the **DPHHS Epi Technical Guidance** room on the TCC (<http://www.mttcc.org>). Updated Pertussis Activity in Montana for 9/21/12 is attached and is available on the DPHHS website at [DPHHS Pertussis Resources](#).

Rabies Vaccine Issues: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has updated their "Rabies Vaccine" shortage site as of September 11th. More information can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/rabies/resources/news/2012-09-07.html>

INFORMATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Montana Perinatal Hepatitis B Manual with New Reporting Forms - The Montana Perinatal Hepatitis B Manual with new reporting forms has been posted on the DPHHS Immunization website at: <http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/immunization/perinatalhepatitisb.shtml>

The manual provides guidance to local public health professionals and the medical community on the standard practices of the Montana Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program. The manual is based on the current Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations. It is accompanied with newly designed program reporting forms for use by local public health to assist with case reporting and case management of HBsAg positive pregnant women and their infants. Please contact Susan Reeser, Perinatal Hepatitis B Program Coordinator, sreeser@mt.gov, 444-1805 if you have any questions or comments.

PHEP Q1 Progress report DUE OCTOBER 15TH – There have been some questions regarding the PHEP Quarterly Report due on October 15th. For deliverables E1, E4 and E8, you are asked to report on the data that you received in the **most recent** Reconciliation Report from CDEpi. For the report due on October 15th, you will need to use the calendar year Quarter 2 Reconciliation Report that **was sent to you via ePass in late July. This report included cases from April 1 – June 30.**

***Please note that you will be receiving your next Reconciliation Report for calendar year Quarter 3 cases after 10/15.** This report will need to be saved and used for the next quarterly PHEP report (due January 15, 2013).

MIDIS Training - 2012-2013 PHEP Deliverable E3: This deliverable requires that at least one staff person per jurisdiction is trained and using MIDIS, the state communicable disease surveillance system, by March 31, 2013. The MIDIS system will become an asset for tracking your communicable diseases, meet reporting requirements of improving timeliness of reporting, and will assist you with the quarterly reconciliation process. There will be several training opportunities scheduled throughout the fall and winter to help you meet this deliverable. However, before you can attend a MIDIS training, you need to complete an enrollment process.

These are the steps to meet the requirement:

- **Step 1: Enroll**
 - Each jurisdiction will need to decide the staff person(s) to be trained as MIDIS users
 - Read and sign the MIDIS MOA
 - Complete an application form for each user and have signed by a supervisor
 - Fax documents to DPHHS
 - Receive a keyfob and MIDIS login instructions in the mail from DPHHS
- **Step 2: Train**
 - Schedule and attend a MIDIS training (via WebEx or iLinc presentation)
 - Complete at least 2 case reports in the test MIDIS environment (this is to get comfortable with viewing labs and data entry)
- **Step 3: Use MIDIS on a daily basis**

To obtain the forms needed to start this process, please contact Stacey Anderson at 444-3012 or sanderson2@mt.gov

Influenza Weekly Reporting: (FORMS ATTACHED) and on the TCC. State Administrative Rule 37.114.204 states, **“Each week during which a suspected or confirmed case of influenza is reported to the local health officer, the officer must mail or transmit to the department on Friday of that week the total number of the cases of influenza reported.”** This information is what allows us to determine our national reporting status that then is used for state maps showing the impact during the season. Please help us with this.

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 or be linked directly. Please ensure that your required 24/7 information is up to date and reported to us or the Public Health Emergency Preparedness program if changes occur. 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>