

CD Info

May 2014

CDInfo is a surveillance newsletter intended to promote prevention of morbidity and mortality by providing useful data and practical recommendations for clinicians, laboratories, and infection control personnel who diagnose, treat or report infectious diseases in Chicago.

Communicable Disease Highlights, 2013

B Virus

On March 25, 2013, CDPH was notified of a researcher admitted to the hospital with presumed diagnosis of B virus following exposure to a non-human primate in a research lab. The exposure occurred on March 14, when a macaque scratched the wrist of the researcher breaking the nitrile glove worn as personal protective equipment. No broken skin was observed and the researcher scrubbed the area for 5 minutes with 2% chlorhexidine gluconate but did not request valacyclovir prophylaxis. Workers who have close contact with macaques and their tissues must take appropriate precautions to prevent B virus exposures. If prevention fails, the type and timeliness of response is critical in reducing the risk of infection. All research staff should receive periodic training to ensure they are aware of risks and know the appropriate response to exposures.

Rotavirus

Rotavirus is a common cause of acute gastroenteritis among children, but much less common among adults due to acquired immunity from prior exposures during early childhood. However, in April 2013, CDPH investigated an outbreak associated with genotype G12P[8] rotavirus among medical students, faculty and guests who had attended a dinner at a Chicago hotel. Fifty eight cases were reported, the median age was 24. Peak onset occurred 3 days after the event and the median duration of illness was 2.5 days. Predominant symptoms included diarrhea (100%), fever (91%), abdominal pain (84%) and vomiting (49%). No food item or exposure was implicated as a result of the investigation.

Ongoing *Salmonella* Ser. Typhimurium Outbreak

A multi-jurisdictional outbreak of *Salmonella* Typhimurium cases in northern IL began in July of 2012 and continues presently. There are over 70 cases in this cluster. Most of the cases are among young Hispanic children—cases range from less than one to 68 years old with a median of 6 years. While no source has yet been identified, the leading hypothesis is tainted illegally manufactured cheese being sold by individuals out of vehicles or coolers in parking lots and at train stations.

Morbidity for selected infectious diseases and events, Chicago, 2009–2013

<i>Reportable Disease or Event</i>	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	5-year median
Cryptosporidiosis	16	35	17	23	38	23
<i>E. coli</i> O157:H7 Disease	6	5	9	9	8	8
<i>E. coli</i> , Shiga toxin-producing (non-O157)	5	14	14	11	14	14
Foodborne disease outbreaks ¹	10	7	8	3	1	7
<i>H. influenzae</i> (type b) Disease (invasive)	0	1	0	0	0	0
<i>H. influenzae</i> (non-type b) Disease (invasive)	34	38	42	33	28	34
Hepatitis A (acute)	40	28	33	24	15	28
Hepatitis B (acute)	28	36	33	21	33	33
Hepatitis C (acute)	0	0	0	3	4	0
Histoplasmosis	20	15	47	25	28	25
Legionellosis	31	36	45	56	77	45
Listeriosis	10	4	10	15	14	10
Lyme Disease	3	11	27	12	32	12
Measles	0	0	1	0	0	0
Meningococcal Disease (invasive) ²	7	7	10	7	3	7
Mumps	10	8	9	6	3	8
Pertussis	49	98	94	279	118	98
Pneumococcal Disease (invasive) in child aged < 5 yrs	18	17	15	15	4	15
Salmonellosis	288	292	368	345	368	345
Shigellosis	97	107	103	116	126	107
Streptococcal Disease, Group A (invasive)	87	93	110	118	96	96
Tuberculosis Disease (active)	202	161	166	146	138	161
Typhoid Fever	3	6	6	7	1	6
Varicella	50	59	51	59	66	59
Staphylococcus aureus, VISA	0	0	1	0	1	0
West Nile Virus Infection	1	9	8	60	37	9
Yersiniosis	5	6	3	5	1	5

¹A foodborne disease outbreak is defined as an incident in which two or more persons experience a similar illness and have no other exposures that could account for their illnesses other than consuming the same meal or food item, or consuming items from the same food service establishment.

²Totals include confirmed cases and cases meeting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's definition of a probable case.