



For Joplin City, Barton, Dade, Jasper, McDonald, Newton and Vernon Counties

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Human Cases of H1N1 flu Updates

June 5, 2009

U.S.

- 13,217 cases
- 27 deaths
- 52 states, including DC and Puerto Rico

Worldwide

- 21,940 cases
- 125 deaths
- 69 countries

Missouri

- 46 cases
- 1 death

Tick Borne Diseases Season



Tick-borne diseases are infectious diseases that can be transmitted between animals and humans. Ticks become infected with a disease-causing agent by feeding on infected animals and then transmitting the bacteria to other animals or human.

Human tick-borne diseases that have been reported in Missouri include; Rocky Mountain spotted fever, ehrlichiosis, tularemia, Q-fever, Lyme or a lyme-like disease, and the southern tick-associated rash illness.

Tick-borne Disease Prevention

- Walking in the center of trails to avoid ticks attachment from the overhanging brush and tall grass.
- Using an insect repellent that contains DEET on your skin.
- Using Permethrin on clothing to kill ticks.

Ticks attach on people in many area, but most frequently found around the head, neck, underarms, and groin. Light-colored clothing helps you spot ticks more easily and tucking or even taping your pant legs into your socks helps slow their quest for your skin.

Tick removal

Prompt, careful inspection and removal of ticks is important because the longer a tick is attached to your skin, the greater the risk of infection. Tweezers can effectively remove ticks by positioning their tips around the area where the tick mouthparts are attached on your skin and then using a slow and steady motion when pulling the tick away from the skin. Disinfect the skin with soap and water, or other available disinfectants after removing the tick.



Signs and Symptoms of Tick-borne Diseases

The signs and symptoms vary among individuals and by the infecting agent. They include sudden high fever, severe headache, muscle or joint aches, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. Rash or pus-filled wound or a spreading rash after exposure to tick habitat may appear.

Inform the healthcare provider if these symptoms occur after a tick bite, or exposure to tick habitat.

Reporting Tick-borne Diseases

Most tick-borne diseases are reportable in Missouri. Reporting helps DHSS to monitor disease trends, track unusual occurrences or clusters of diseases, and identify possible risk factors that are associated with diseases. For more information contact your local health department.

Ten (10) cases of tick-borne illnesses have so far been reported in the City of Joplin, Newton, Jasper and Vernon Counties as from April 2009.

Communicable Diseases Report

Table 1

Cumulative Cases From January Through End of May 2009, By Local Jurisdiction (2008 & 2009) (Includes confirmed, probable and suspect cases)														
CONDITION / YEAR BY LPHA	JOPLIN		JASPER		BARTON		DADE		MCDONALD		VERNON		NEWTON	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
ANIMAL BITES	53	68	39	56	1		2		1	9	1		13	5
CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS	1	3	8	9	1		1		1		3	3	3	2
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS			1						1	1	3			3
E. COLI SHIGA TOXIN			8	3										1
E. COLI O157 H7							1		1	1				
EHRlichia CHAFFEENSIS		1	1								1			
GIARDIASIS	1			2			1				1			
HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE				1										
HEPATITIS A ACUTE										1				1
HEPATITIS B PREGNANCY		2	2	1									1	
HEPATITIS B ACUTE	1	4	2	3			1	1		1		1	2	1
HEPATITIS B CHRONIC	4	1	2	2	1						2	2	2	1
HEPATITIS C ACUTE		2												
HEPATITIS C, CHRONIC IN	40	21	22	27	3	3	1	3	19	10	9	12	26	17
LEGIONELLOSIS		1				3		1						
MUMPS									1	1				
PERTUSSIS				12									1	6
Q FEVER (ACUTE)		1												1
RABIES POST EXPO PROPHY													1	4
ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED		3		1							1	1	5	4
SALMONELLOSIS	7	6	4	2					2	1	3	1	3	1
SHIGA TOXIN + (NON E. C	1													
STREP PNEUMONIAE, DR							1					1		1
TOXIC SHOCK (STAPH) SY		1				1								
VARICELLA (CHICKENPOX)			7	10				1		2			3	3
Total Cases Per Year To-Date	108	114	96	129	6	7	8	6	26	27	24	22	59	51

Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

January – May 2009

Pertussis cases continue to increase in Jasper County during the month of May. There were 12 cases at the end of May, compared to 4 cases reported by the end of April. This is an increase of 8 cases in May. The community-wide incidence rate in Jasper County in 2009 is 1.9 cases per 10,000 population*. Two other counties that have reported pertussis cases in 2009 are Newton and Vernon Counties. Surveillance, investigations and intervention strategies continue to be undertaken (*-Incidence rate based on 2000 census)

For more information about Pertussis, go to page 3.

Tick-borne illnesses are beginning to be reported in endemic regions. City of Joplin, Jasper, Vernon and Newton Counties have each reported some cases of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever as of April.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD)



Monthly Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD), By County April 2009								
	Joplin	Jasper	Newton	McDonald	Dade	Barton	Vernon	Total
Chlamydia	*	44	16	1	2	1	3	67
Gonorrhea	*	13	0	0	0	0	1	14
Syphilis	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	*	57	16	1	2	1	4	81

Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

Sexually Transmitted Diseases continued to increase according to April reported cases. No syphilis was reported during the month, while Chlamydia was reported in all jurisdictions above. Gonorrhea was only reported in Jasper and Vernon County in April.

* No data was readily available for April.

Pertussis (Whooping Cough): Local Updates

Pertussis (whooping cough) is a highly contagious, vaccine-preventable disease that can cause severe disease in very young children. It is caused by a bacteria found in the mouth, nose and throat of an infected person.

Signs and Symptoms

Pertussis usually starts with cold or flu-like symptoms such as runny nose, sneezing, fever and a mild cough. These symptoms can last up to 2 weeks and are followed by increasingly severe coughing spells. Fever, if present, is usually mild.

Incubation Period

Symptoms appear between 6 to 21 days after exposure. Among older children and adults, the disease usually results in symptoms that can be mistaken for bronchitis and Upper Respiratory Infections, persistent cough, but no whoop. In infants younger than 6 months, apnea (cessation of breathing) is a common manifestation and whoop may be absent. If untreated, the older children and adults can act as a reservoir for pertussis disease and infect younger children.

Transmission

It occurs during close contact with an infected person, most commonly by airborne droplets of respiratory secretions.

Treatment

Pertussis is treated with antibiotics and patients are advised to take all prescribed medication and avoid contact with anyone, particularly small infants and children. Anyone who is exposed to pertussis should receive antibiotics to prevent the disease.

Prevention and Control

The best way to reduce the incidence of pertussis is to have a highly vaccinated population. This should be accomplished through physicians' offices and public health clinics. Five doses of DTaP at ages 2, 4, 6, 12-18 months and 4-6 years are recommended. The vaccine is not given to those 7 years of age and older.

While pertussis is most often considered a young child's disease, it can occur at any age. Twelve (12) cases have been reported in Jasper County April 2009. The age range is 3 weeks to 57 years. Newton County on the other hand has 6 cases reported in 2009.

Source: Missouri Department of Health and Human Services

Health Department Administrators

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Questions/Comments,

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TRAININGS

Principles of Epidemiology Course— July 29-30 & October 21-22, 2009. Contact Rose.Kawieski.dhss.mo.gov or call 573-751-6113 for more information about registration.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Resistant Coalition Meeting (ROC INC.) Meeting on June 24, 2009 at Panera Bread Meeting room (2401 E. 32nd St., Joplin, MO) at 8:00 am. ROC INC. is a collaborative effort of local area hospitals, city/county public health agencies and healthcare providers, aiming to reduce the incidence of multi-drug resistant organisms by increasing awareness and education in the community.



Communicable Diseases Surveillance

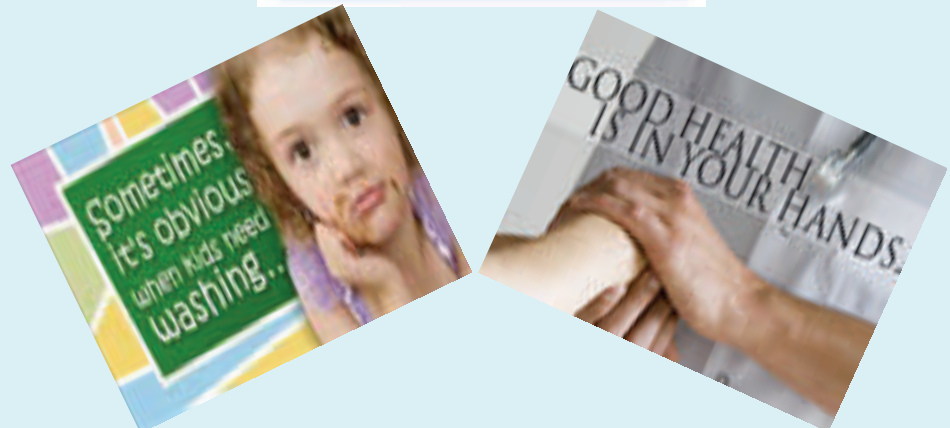
If your institution would like to participate in the Local Communicable Disease surveillance, please contact your local health department for more information.

A surveillance site can be:

- Public/Private school
- College
- Large employer
- Childcare facility
- Physician clinic
- Community clinic

Surveillance helps in the detection of disease trends within the community and using that information to control and prevent diseases as well as promote health.

Spread the Word on Good Health



People grow through experience if they meet life honestly and courageously. This is how character is built.

Eleanor Roosevelt, US diplomat & reformer (1884 - 1962)