



Epi Update

A newsletter for healthcare professionals in Platte County, MO

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Outbreaks associated with raw milk increased 70% from 2007-2009 to 2010-2012
- Review of state blood lead testing guidelines for children
- Platte County flu numbers were up in December, with highest incidence rates in children

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For more information or questions about Epi Update, contact Erin Sanders, PCHD Epidemiology Specialist at: (816) 858-2412

On the Rise: Outbreaks Associated with Nonpasteurized Milk

Though the overall number of foodborne disease outbreaks has decreased in recent years, a new CDC study shows that outbreaks associated with nonpasteurized milk have increased.¹ The total number of outbreaks associated with nonpasteurized milk over a three year period increased from 30 in 2007-2009 to 51 in 2010-2012.¹ Additionally, from 2007-2012 the average number of outbreaks each year (13.5) was four times higher than the average seen from 1993-2006 (3.3).^{1,2}

A large majority of the 81 outbreaks from 2007-2012 were caused by *Campylobacter* pathogens, followed by Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli*.¹ Over half of these outbreaks involved a child under the age of 5. In total, 979 illnesses and 73 hospitalizations were associated with these outbreaks.¹

While the FDA banned the interstate sale or distribution of nonpasteurized milk in 1987, each state determines their own laws regulating intrastate sales. The recent increase in outbreaks associated with nonpasteurized milk coincides with a decrease in the number of states in which sales of nonpasteurized milk is illegal, from 28 states in 2004 to only 20 in 2011.¹ Overall, 81% of the outbreaks associated with nonpasteurized milk in 2007-2012 were reported from states where the sale of nonpasteurized milk was legal in some form.¹

In Missouri it is legal to purchase nonpasteurized milk from farms.³ From 2007-2012, Missouri had 2 reported outbreaks associated with nonpasteurized milk.¹

You can learn more about food safety and nonpasteurized milk at <http://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/rawmilk/raw-milk-index.html>.

Raw Milk Misconceptions:

- **MYTH:** Drinking raw milk cures lactose intolerance.⁴
- **MYTH:** Raw milk can cure or treat asthma and allergies.⁴
- **MYTH:** Raw milk contains beneficial probiotic bacteria.⁴



FACT: Raw (nonpasteurized) milk may contain **harmful**

bacteria, including *Brucella*, *Campylobacter*, *Listeria*, *Mycobacterium bovis*, *Salmonella*, Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli*, *Shigella*, *Streptococcus pyogenes*, and *Yersinia enterocolitica*.⁵ These pathogens can cause **severe illnesses and complications, including kidney failure, paralysis, chronic disorders, and even death.**⁵

Childhood Blood Lead Testing



2014 map of Missouri lead testing areas.⁸

Green indicates universal testing areas and tan indicates targeted testing areas. To see the full state map or the detailed Kansas City map, visit: <http://health.mo.gov/living/environment/lead/maps.php>¹⁰

Testing childhood blood lead levels is a high priority in Missouri, which is the top lead-producing state in the U.S.⁶ Current Missouri guidelines require public health follow-up for children with blood lead levels $\geq 10 \mu\text{g/dL}$.⁷

In Missouri, childhood blood lead testing requirements are based on the geographic area in which a child lives.⁶ A [state map](#) is published annually designating Universal (High Risk) or Targeted (Non-High Risk) areas for blood lead testing.⁸ **Platte County** is

designated as a targeted (non-high risk) area.

Targeted (Non-High Risk) Areas

- Annually screen all children < 6 living in targeted (non-high risk) areas using the [HCY Lead Risk Assessment Guide](#).⁹ If a child screens positive on any question on the risk assessment, the child should receive blood lead testing.⁶
- If a child lives in a targeted (non-high risk) area but spends >10 hours/week in a univer-

sal (high risk) area, the child should receive an annual blood lead test.⁶

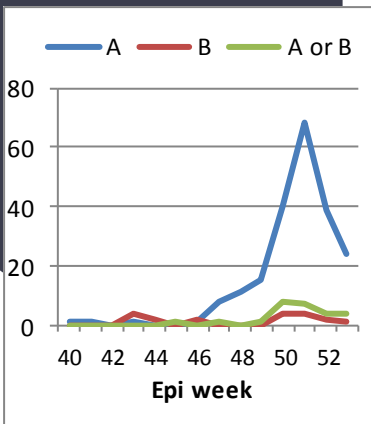
Universal (High Risk) Areas

- All children <6 living in universal (high risk) areas should receive annual blood lead testing.⁶

Physicians can choose between venous or capillary sampling methods. Capillary testing is often used for initial screening. If results of the capillary test are $\geq 10 \mu\text{g/dL}$, venous testing should be done to confirm.⁶

Remember to fax your flu reports weekly to PCHD at (816) 858-2087

2014-15 Influenza Season: Reported Influenza Cases, Weeks 40-53



Platte County Influenza Report

December Flu Report		Epi Week				Month	YTD
Age Group	Type	50	51	52	53	total	(wks 40-53)
0 - 1	Type A	2	3	2	2	9	10
	Type B					0	0
	Type A or B					0	0
2 - 4	Type A	1	5	4	2	12	17
	Type B		1			1	2
	Type A or B			1		1	2
5 - 14	Type A	24	27	8	2	61	69
	Type B			1		1	4
	Type A or B	3	3		1	7	8
15 - 24	Type A	1	9	7	2	19	27
	Type B	1				1	1
	Type A or B				2	2	3
25 - 49	Type A	11	14	8	5	38	42
	Type B	2	2			4	6
	Type A or B	4	4	3		11	11
50 - 64	Type A		2	7	5	14	23
	Type B	1		1	1	3	4
	Type A or B				1	1	1
65 +	Type A	1	8	3	6	17	21
	Type B		1			1	2
	Type A or B	1				1	1

Notable this month:

From Dec 7—Jan 3, Platte County had a total of 205 reported influenza cases.

The peak week for reported influenza in December was the week of Dec 14th (week 51), with a total of 79 cases reported.

Season to date, incidence rates are highest in those aged 5-14, followed by ages 0-4.

Flu totals*

Weeks 50-53:

A	171
B	11
A or B	23

Year to date:

A	209
B	19
A or B	26

*Reflect total reports received as of 1/12/14.

Communicable Disease Report

Notable this month:

Overall, numbers for the month of December reflect expected reporting for this time of year.

Year review:

Total communicable disease numbers for 2014 were similar to those seen in 2013 and on par with the 5 year average. Exceptions were the number of gastrointestinal disease reports and the number of tuberculosis reports, which were each below the 5 year average and down sharply from 2013.

December Reportable Diseases	2014		YTD				5Y AVG
	MO	YTD	2013	2012	2011	2010	
Animal bites	0	27	33	32	36	14	28
Gastrointestinal Diseases	0	20	41	29	39	29	32
Hepatitis	5	62	79	82	77	35	67
Sexually Transmitted Diseases	7	67	26	104	34	87	64
Tuberculosis	1	38	63	54	49	30	47
Other	8	114	86	122	68	37	85
TOTAL	21	328	328	423	303	232	323

Please note that categories are grouped communicable diseases or conditions, most of which are mandatory by law to report (see links below). Totals reported for each category represent total number of reports and inquiries to the health department, not total number of cases.

Categories: Animal bites category includes any type of bite. Gastrointestinal Disease category includes all reportable GI diseases. Hepatitis category could include chronic or acute infections of Hepatitis A, B or C. Sexually Transmitted Disease category includes all reportable STDs other than Hepatitis. Tuberculosis category includes all reports, calls/inquiries, requests for previous records, etc., regarding active or latent cases of TB. Other category includes reports or inquiries regarding individual diseases that do not fit previous categories.

List of Reportable Diseases & Conditions: <http://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/communicabledisease/pdf/reportablediseaselist2.pdf>

Rules of Department of Health and Senior Services - Division 20—Division of Community and Public Health Chapter 20—Communicable Diseases: <http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/19csr/19c20-20.pdf>

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Services Provided

- Disease Surveillance
- Emergency Preparedness
- Environmental Health
 - *Restaurant & Septic Inspections*
- Health Education
- Special Deliveries Program
- Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
- Vital Records
 - *Birth & Death Certificates*
- Family Healthcare Clinic
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 - *Nurse Practitioner*
- Walk-In Clinic
 - *Adult/Child /Travel Vaccinations*
 - *HIV/STD Testing*
 - *Pregnancy Testing*

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