



Epi Update

A newsletter for healthcare professionals in Platte County, MO

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 5

DECEMBER 11, 2014

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Tobacco use remains a health concern among U.S. youths
- Be prepared with the most current info about pertussis
- Reported influenza increased in Platte County in the month of November

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Pertussis Info 2
- Influenza Report 2
- November CD Report 3
- References 3

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

Tobacco Use in Middle School and High School Students

Despite progress in reducing cigarette use nationwide, overall tobacco use among youths is still high.¹ A recent report analyzed results of the 2013 National Youth Tobacco Survey, a school-based survey administered to a nationally representative sample of 6th-12th grade students.¹ This survey found that 23% of high school students and 7% of middle school students reported current use of tobacco products (defined as any use in the past 30 days). Additionally, nearly half of all high school students and 20% of middle school students reported having ever used tobacco products. Cigarettes and cigars were the most commonly used tobacco products among U.S. youths, followed by smokeless tobacco and hookahs.¹

The 2014 Missouri Student Survey also surveyed 6th-12th grade students throughout Missouri on the use of various tobacco products.² Among Platte County students, cigarettes and hookahs were most frequently reported as having ever been used, followed by electronic cigarettes.³ Hookahs and electronic cigarettes were also reported to have the highest 30 day use among Platte County students.³

In addition to health risks from long-term tobacco use, nicotine can have adverse effects on adolescent brain development.^{1,4} As a result, tobacco use, including use of electronic cigarettes, remains a concern for the health of Platte County youths.

Prevalence of self-reported tobacco use among students surveyed, 2014 Missouri Student Survey and 2013 National Youth Tobacco Survey

Tobacco Product	Type of Use	Middle School (6th-8th)			High School (9th-12th)		
		Platte Co	MO	US*	Platte Co	MO	US*
Cigarettes	Ever use	7%	10%	13%	18%	26%	35%
	30 day use	3%	4%	3%	6%	12%	13%
Smokeless/chew	Ever use	3%	5%	4%	8%	14%	13%
	30 day use	1%	2%	1%	4%	7%	6%
Hookah	Ever use	4%	3%	3%	18%	18%	14%
	30 day use	3%	2%	1%	12%	11%	5%
Electronic cigarettes	Ever use	5%	9%	3%	14%	22%	12%
	30 day use	3%	5%	1%	9%	14%	5%

*Due to methodological differences between surveys, caution should be used when comparing local rates with national rates. Variations in numbers may not reflect true differences in the population.²

Sources:

National data: Centers for Disease Control, *MMWR*, Tobacco Use Among Middle and High School Students — United States, 2013¹

State and county data: Missouri Department of Mental Health, Missouri Student Survey, 2014³



Learn More

A new CDC continuing education webcast, "Coughing Up the Facts on Pertussis", offers providers the latest information on emerging trends and vaccination recommendations for pertussis.¹²

Find it at:

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/pertussis/default.htm

Things to Know about Pertussis

Pertussis cases in the United States have been on the rise since the 1980's.⁵ Several cases have been reported in Platte County this past year, with a few as recently as October. Here are a few things to know about pertussis.

Vaccination: Pertussis vaccines are not 100% effective and have waning immunity over time.⁵ However, someone who is vaccinated and gets pertussis is less likely to have a severe infection.⁵

Protecting Infants: To protect infants, the CDC recommends women receive a

pertussis vaccine during the third trimester of each of their pregnancies so that protection is passed on to their babies before birth.^{5,6} Additionally, it is recommended that everyone around the infant is immunized and has received their one-time Tdap booster dose.⁵ This includes family members, babysitters, and health-care professionals.

Diagnosis: Traditional signs and symptoms of pertussis include cough illness (particularly lasting ≥ 2 weeks), inspiratory whooping, paroxysms of coughing,

and post-tussive vomiting.⁷ For diagnostic testing, CDC recommends obtaining a nasopharyngeal swab or aspirate for a PCR rapid test and culture confirmation.⁸

Treatment: CDC recommends antibiotic treatment as soon as possible to prevent severe illness and disease spread.⁹ Additionally, all household members and other close contacts, particularly any contacts at high risk of severe illness, should receive postexposure antimicrobial prophylaxis within 3 weeks of exposure to an infectious case.^{10,11}

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

Platte County Influenza Report

November Flu Report		Epi Week					Month	YTD
Age Group	Type	45	46	47	48	49	total	(wks 40-49)
0 - 2	Type A				1		1	1
	Type B						0	0
	Type A or B						0	0
2 - 4	Type A			3	2		5	5
	Type B		1				1	1
	Type A or B	1					1	1
5 - 14	Type A			1	3	3	7	7
	Type B						0	3
	Type A or B						0	0
15 - 24	Type A		1	1	1	2	5	6
	Type B						0	0
	Type A or B			1			1	1
25 - 49	Type A			1		3	4	4
	Type B		1				1	2
	Type A or B						0	0
50 - 64	Type A			1	2	1	4	6
	Type B						0	1
	Type A or B						0	0
65 +	Type A			1		2	3	3
	Type B						0	1
	Type A						0	0

Notable this month:

Influenza has been increasing in Platte County, with 29 reported cases from Nov 16—Dec 6.

Similar to the 2013-14 season, the majority of cases so far have been influenza A. However, at this time last year there were only 25 total influenza cases, less than the 42 reported so far this year.

Flu totals*

Weeks 45-49:

A	29
B	2
A or B	2

Year to date:

A	32
B	8
A or B	2

*Reflect total reports received as of 12/10/14.

Communicable Disease Report

Notable this month:

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

After four reported cases of pertussis in Platte County in October, there were no reported cases of pertussis in the month of November.

DECEMBER Reportable Diseases	2014		YTD				5Y AVG
	MO	YTD	2013	2012	2011	2010	
Animal bites	1	27	31	32	33	12	27
Gastrointestinal Diseases	1	20	40	27	39	28	31
Hepatitis	9	57	76	79	69	30	62
Sexually Transmitted Diseases	7	60	25	96	32	84	59
Tuberculosis	4	37	60	50	41	29	43
Other	3	106	76	119	52	28	76
TOTAL	25	307	308	403	266	211	299

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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Platte County Health Department

North

212 Marshall Road
Platte City, MO 64079
(816)858-2412
Fax (816)858-2087

South

1201 East Street
Parkville, MO 64152
(816)587-5998
Fax (816)587-6028

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
 - *Physician*
 - *Nurse Practitioner*
- Walk-In Clinic
 - *Adult/Child /Travel Vaccinations*
 - *HIV/STD Testing*
 - *Pregnancy Testing*

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