

EPI INVESTIGATOR

The Alachua County Health Department
Spring 2010



“Improving Public Health in Our Community Through Cooperation”

**Alachua County
Health Department**
(352) 334-7900

**To report a disease,
phone or fax the
appropriate office below:**

Director
Jean Munden, R.N., M.P.H., M.P.A.
Jean.Munden@doh.state.fl.us
(352) 334-7903

Assistant Director
Paul Myers, MS
(352) 334-8892

Environmental Health
Director Anthony Dennis
(352) 334-7931

HIV/AIDS
Richard Willis, Surveillance
(352) 334-7968
Martha Buffington, Ryan White
(352) 334-7967

Epidemiology/Hepatitis
Isabel Anasco, R.N.
(352) 334-7981
Fax (352) 955-6464

Immunizations
Sherry Windham, HSPM
(352) 334-7951
Fax: (352) 334-7943

Sexually Transmitted Disease
George Gibbs
(352) 334-7900 ext 3471 or 3470
Fax: (352) 334-8818

Tuberculosis
Anne Allen, RN
(352) 334-7988
Fax(352) 955-6464

Editor
Sheila Griffis


**Alachua County
Health Department**
www.alachuacountyhealth.org


FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH

Preventing Norovirus illness

By: Isabel Anasco, RN

Alachua County Health Dept. Epidemiologist

Noroviruses, sometimes called “stomach flu”, are a group of highly contagious viruses that cause nausea, abdominal cramps, vomiting, and diarrhea and can spread at a rapid rate. In Alachua County, we are seeing an increase in the Norovirus activity. Although symptoms usually persist for only 1 or 2 days, the illness can make the infected person very sick.

As part of an ongoing effort to help our community, the Alachua County Health Department wants you to take these necessary precautions to avoid this illness:

- Wash hands frequently, especially after going to the bathroom, changing diapers, before eating, and prior to preparing food.
- Carefully wash fruits and vegetables, and cook foods thoroughly before eating them.
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect contaminated surfaces immediately after an episode of illness by using a bleach-based household cleaner.
- Immediately remove and wash clothing or linens that may be contaminated with the virus after an episode of illness (use hot water and soap).

Flush or discard any vomit and/or stool in the toilet and make sure the surrounding area is kept clean.

Persons infected with norovirus should not prepare food while they have symptoms and for three days after they recover from their illness. Food that may have been contaminated by an ill person should be thrown away.

Please be advised that outbreaks must be reported to the Alachua County Health Department pursuant to Chapter 381, Florida Statutes and Chapter 64D-3, Florida Administrative Code. For any questions or concern, please call the Epidemiology Program of the Alachua County Health Department, telephone number 352-334-7981 or 8842.

Reference: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/id_norovirusFS.html

Hepatitis Awareness Day

By: Isabel Anasco, RN

ACHD Hepatitis Coordinator



The Alachua County Health Department Hepatitis Program participated in Hepatitis Awareness Day on March 18, 2010. “Hepatitis” is a word that means inflammation of the liver. The Florida Hepatitis and Liver Failure Prevention and Control offers annual blood testing to see if individuals are infected with Hepatitis A, B, and C. The test is offered to individuals who are 18 years old and older. The program also offers vaccines against Hepatitis A and B viruses. There is no charge for these services. A display table was set up in the lobby and hepatitis A, B, and C information (brochures), poster, and incentives were made available for clients.

2010 National STD Prevention Conference

By: George Gibbs, MPH

The 2010 National STD Prevention Conference was held on March 8 – 11, 2010 in Atlanta, GA.

Since the early years of the 20th century, STD prevention efforts have been a cornerstone of communicable disease control programs. While this longstanding focus has resulted in many public health successes, STDs continue to have substantial population impact. Today's economic crisis demands new considerations in approaching all aspects of public health, including STD prevention.

- It is more apparent than ever that the challenges of STD prevention cannot be separated from problems arising from our fragmented health care system with its rising costs and unequal access.
- On-going challenges in prevention of STDs, such as racial disparities in disease rates, call for public health programs to find new approaches that can reach disproportionately affected populations.

It is essential to find ways to move beyond our longstanding societal reticence to openly discuss sexual health issues and to normalize conversations around STD prevention.

George Gibbs, STD Regional Program Manager and Randy Jefferson, STD First Line Supervisor of the Alachua County Health Department attended the conference.

Immunization update

By: Sherry Windham, HSPM

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices [ACIP] recently changed the recommendation for the inactivated poliovirus vaccine series.

The ACIP is now **recommending** that the last dose in the series be given on or after the 4th birthday with at least 6 months from the previous dose. This new ACIP recommendation will be a **requirement** for Kindergarten entry and attendance with the **2011-2012** school year.

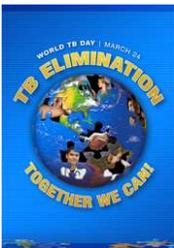
“Kindergarten Round-Up” for the **2010-2011** school year begins for Alachua County Schools on Wednesday, April 21st. For the **2010-2011** school year all Kindergarten through 2nd grade children will need to have **two** valid doses of the chicken pox vaccine or documentation of the disease; children 3rd grade through 9th grade need only one valid dose of chicken pox or documentation of the disease. The Tdap requirement for the **2010-2011** school year will include 7th and 8th grade.

As a reminder, all children 6 months of age through 9 years of age need **2 doses** of the HINI. HINI vaccine is still available should you still have patients needing the vaccine. You can contact Brad Caron at 352/334-7913 or our pharmacy at 353/ 334-8811 to arrange pick up or delivery of the HINI vaccine.

World TB Day 2010

By: Johnny Lloyd

TB Elimination: Together We Can!



World TB Day is March 24. This annual event commemorates the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacteria that cause tuberculosis (TB).

World TB Day provides an opportunity to communicate TB-related problems and solutions and to support worldwide TB-control efforts. CDC and our partners are committed to eliminating TB in the United States.

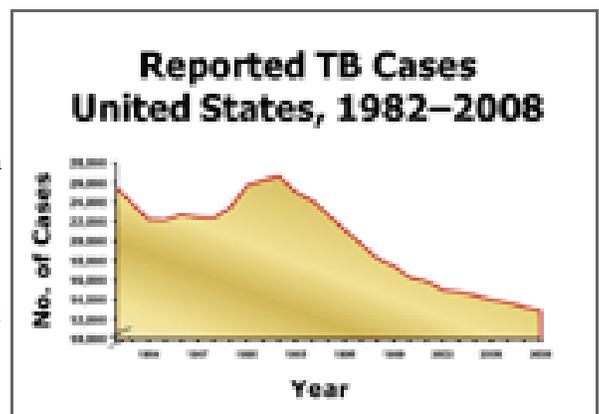
In the United States, the theme for World TB Day 2010 is “TB elimination: Together We Can!”

Data and Statistics

Tuberculosis (TB) is one of the world's deadliest diseases:

- One third of the world's population are infected with TB.
- Each year, over 9 million people around the world become sick with TB.
- Each year, there are almost 2 million TB-related deaths worldwide.
- TB is a leading killer of people who are HIV infected.

In total, 12,904 TB cases (a rate of 4.2 cases per 100,000 persons) were reported in the United States in 2008. Both the number of TB cases reported and the case rate decreased; this represents a 2.9% and 3.8% decline, respectively, compared to 2007.



FLORIDA REPORTABLE DISEASES *Alachua County 2 year activity*

Disease Activity	2010	2009	2009	Disease Activity	cont'd	2010	2009	2009
	Jan-Feb	Jan-Feb	Jan-Dec			Jan-Feb	Jan-Feb	Jan-Dec
AIDS	43	30	35	Listeriosis (02700)		0	0	0
Animal Bites to Humans (07101)	9	5	56	Lyme Disease (06959)		0	0	2
Anthrax	0	0	0	Lymphogranuloma Venereum		0	0	0
Botulism	0	0	0	Malaria (08460)		0	0	1
Brucellosis	0	0	0	Measles (05590)		0	0	0
Campylobacteriosis (03840)	2	2	21	Meningitis, Group B Strep (32040)		0	0	0
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning (98600)	3	0	0	Meningitis other (32090)		1	1	7
Chancroid	0	0	0	Meningitis Strep Pneumoniae (32020)		0	0	0
<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i>	259	292	1805	Meningococcal (<i>Neisseria Meningitidis</i>)03630		0	0	2
Cholera	0	0	0	Mercury Poisoning		0	0	0
Ciguatera	0	0	6	Mumps		0	0	1
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)	0	0	0	Neurotoxic Shellfish Poisoning		0	0	0
Cryptosporidiosis (13680)	1	2	13	Pertussis (03390)		0	2	9
Cyclosporiasis (00720)	0	0	1	Pesticide-Related Illness or Injury		0	0	0
Dengue (06100)	0	0	1	Plague		0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	Poliomyelitis		0	0	0
Encephalitis	0	0	0	Psittacosis		0	0	0
Eastern Equine	0	0	0	Q fever		0	0	0
Non-arboviral	0	0	0	Rabies Animal (07102)		1	2	7
Other arboviral	0	0	0	Ricin Toxin		0	0	0
St. Louis	0	0	0	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (08200)		0	0	0
Venezuelan Equine	0	0	0	Rubella		0	0	0
West Nile	0	0	0	SARS		0	0	0
Western Equine	0	0	0	Salmonellosis (00300)		3	8	88
<i>E.coli</i> 0157:H7 (41601)	0	0	0	Saxitoxin poisoning psp		0	0	0
<i>Ehrlichiosis/anaplasmosis, undet</i> (08384)	0	0	0	Shigellosis (00490)		3	0	3
<i>Ehrlichiosis/anaplasmosis,hme e chaff. 08382</i>	0	0	2	Smallpox		0	0	0
<i>Escherichia Coli, Shiga Toxin Producing 00800</i>	0	0	3	<i>Staphylococcus aureus, VRSA</i>		0	0	0
<i>E.coli, Other</i> (41603)	0	0	0	<i>Staphylococcus enterotoxin B</i>		0	0	0
Giardiasis (acute) (00710)	1	4	32	Streptococcal Disease grp A inva (03400)		0	0	3
Gonorrhea	60	55	393	<i>Strep pneumoniae</i> invasive Disease, Drug resistant (04823)		4	1	10
H. Influenzae Pneumonia (48220)	0	0	0	<i>Strept pneumoniae</i> invasive Disease, susceptible (04830)		1	5	19
<i>Haemophilus influenzae, inv disease</i> (03841)	0	2	4	Syphilis		0	9	31
Hansen's Disease (Leprosy)	0	0	0	Syphilis in pregnant women & neonates		0	0	0
Hantavirus infection	0	0	0	Tetanus		0	0	0
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome 42000	0	0	1	Toxoplasmosis (acute)		0	0	0
Hepatitis A	2	0	6	Trichinosis		0	0	0
Hepatitis B (+HBsAG in preg women or child < 24 months) (07039)	1	4	7	Tuberculosis		0	0	3
Hepatitis B Perinatal (07744)	0	0	0	Tularemia		0	0	0
Hepatitis B Acute (07030)	0	0	1	Typhoid Fever		0	0	2
Hepatitis B Chronic (07032)	12	16	56	Typhus Fever		0	0	0
Hepatitis C Chronic (07054)	34	55	224	Vaccinia Disease		0	0	0
Herpes Simplex Virus in < 6mo of age	0	0	0	Varicella (05290)		1	6	30
HIV	51	49	59	<i>Vibrio Vulnificus</i> 00199		0	0	1
Human Papillomavirus (HPV) <12 yrs	0	0	0	<i>V. cholerae</i> Serogroup 01/ non 01		0	0	0
Influenza A, Novel or Pandemic Strains	0	0	90	Viral Hemorrhagic Fever		0	0	0
Lead Poisoning (94890)	0	0	6	Yellow Fever		0	0	0
Legionellosis (48280)	0	0	1					

Any disease outbreak (e.g., in the community, hospital, or other institution; or foodborne or waterborne) presence of a disease outbreak. All cases suspected and confirmed are included in this report. Any grouping or clustering of patients having similar diseases, symptoms or syndromes that may indicate the



HIV/AIDS update

By: Richard Willis, Surveillance

Alachua County

	Jan-Dec 2009	Jan-Feb 2010	Jan-Feb 2009
HIV	56	12	6
AIDS	49	7	11

*HIV and AIDS data are not mutually exclusive, so cases can be counted in each.

Important Dates

- March 20 National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
- May 18 HIV Vaccine Awareness Day
- May 19 National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
- June 8 Caribbean American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
- June 27 National HIV Testing Day

The Epidemic in Florida

2009

Population: 18.8 million →
(4th in nation)

Cumulative Aids Cases: 118,283
(3rd in nation)

Cumulative pediatric AIDS cases: 1,540
(2nd in nation)

Cumulative HIV (not AIDS) cases: 45,597
(since July 1997)

Persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHAs): 96,241
(reported cases)

HIV prevalence estimate: 125,000

60% White

16% Black

21% Hispanic

3% Other*

*Other=Asian/Pacific Islanders; American Indians/Alaskan Natives; multi-racial.

DOH urges all Floridians to educate themselves, know their HIV status, and support those in their community battling the virus, talk about HIV/AIDS where they live, work, play, and worship. For more information about HIV/AIDS, visit www.FloridaAids.org or www.WeMakeTheChange.com or the Alachua County Health Department call 352/334-7960.

