

EPI INVESTIGATOR

The Alachua County Health Department
Summer 2011



“Improving Public Health in Our Community Through Cooperation”

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World Hepatitis Day

By: Isabel Anasco, RN

Alachua County Health Dept. Epidemiologist/Hepatitis

It is estimated that more than 500 million people worldwide are living with either chronic hepatitis B or C. Together, hepatitis B and C represent one of the biggest threats to global health, killing approximately 1 million people a year. Yet, awareness on hepatitis B or C is comparatively low, a situation made worse by the fact that a large proportion of those infected with Hepatitis B or C do not know that they carry the virus.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has designated Viral Hepatitis as an important health issue that requires worldwide attention and assigned 28 July as World Hepatitis Day. An officially sanctioned World Hepatitis Day is a powerful way to raise awareness of viral hepatitis and drives forward actions to improve prevention, diagnosis and treatment of hepatitis B and C.

Alachua County Health Department on World Hepatitis Day

Alachua County Health Department (ACHD) plans to participate on the World Hepatitis Day to ensure that the message about hepatitis is brought to all sections of the population. The list of activities in the ACHD campaign will include:

- Hepatitis A, B, and C testing
- Counseling on vaccination and treatment for viral hepatitis
- Vaccination for Hepatitis A and B
- Distribution of materials on Hepatitis B and C
- Hepatitis Awareness at the workplace / factories / drug treatment centers/housing projects
- Referral support for newly diagnosed patients with viral hepatitis
- Community PowerPoint presentation on viral hepatitis

<http://www.myhepatitisday.com/>



Prevent Wildfire and Heat Related Illness!

By: Amethyst Auza, PHAP Associate

There have been more than 4,000 wildfires reported in Florida this year, and Governor Rick Scott declared a state of emergency in Florida on June 13, 2011. In addition, monitoring of Emergency Department visits in Florida for excessive heat related illness has shown increases since March 2011.

In light of current conditions, it is important to remind patients and clients of ways to prevent wildfire and heat related illness:

- **Limit exposure to smoke by**
 - Staying indoors whenever possible
 - Using air conditioners instead of window ventilation
 - Keeping windows closed while driving in a vehicle
 - Doing less strenuous physical activity
 - Minimizing other sources of air pollution (e.g. smoking).
- **Drink plenty of fluids** that do not contain alcohol or large amounts of sugar.
- **Limit outside activity** to morning and evening hours.
- **Rest often** in shady area, or remain inside an air conditioned space.
- **Dress for summer.**
- **Protect your eyes and skin** by wearing sunglasses and sunscreen.
- **Do not leave children or pets in an unattended vehicle.**

Resources to share with patients and clients:

- **Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Wildfires and Health**
<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/chd/volusia/Documents/2011-June-WildfireSmokeFAQs.pdf>
- **Keep Your Cool in Hot Weather**
<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/ExtremeHeat/>
- **Florida's Safe Beaches**
http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Environment/medicine/aquatic/beach_index_indepth.html

<http://www.fl-dof.com/wildfire/information.html>



Summary of School Immunization Requirements for School Year**2011/2012**

By Sherry Windham, HSPM

ACHD Immunization Supervisor

No new vaccines are added to the school immunization requirements for school year 2011/2012 though changes to the polio and Tdap requirement are incorporated. The *Immunization Guidelines for Florida Schools, Childcare Facilities and Family Daycare Homes July 2008* are still effective. The guidelines are available at: <http://www.immunizeFlorida.org/schoolguide.pdf>.

Changes to immunization requirements:

- The last dose in the inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV) series should be administered on or after the fourth birthday and at least 6 months after the previous dose. If a child received all 4 doses prior to their 4th birthday, an additional (fifth) dose should be administered at age 4 through 6 years. This applies ONLY to kindergarten entry. Do not invalidate existing DH 680s on file at schools or recall children who are already attending school.
- Tdap should be administered, when indicated to meet the 7th grade requirement, regardless of interval since the last tetanus- or diphtheria-toxoid containing vaccine. Temporary Medical Exemptions for students who received a dose of Td prior to age 11 are no longer required.

Updates to existing grade phase-in for the following immunization requirements:

- Students entering Kindergarten through grade 3 should have documentation of 2 doses of varicella vaccine.
- Students entering grade 4 through grade 10 should have documentation of 1 dose of varicella vaccine.
- Students entering grades 7, 8, and 9 should have documentation of one dose of Tdap.
- Students entering a Florida school for the first time should have documentation of 2 MMRs.

The following Department of Health internet link can be printed and shared with parents and guardians: http://www.immunizeFlorida.org/files/school_shots_web.pdf.

Staff providing immunizations should review the *Recommended Immunization Schedules for Persons Aged 0 Through 18 Years--- United States, 2011* available on the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6005a6.htm>.

One change in the Recommended Immunization Schedule should be noted for those conducting back-to-school clinics:

- Persons aged 7 through 10 years who are not fully immunized against Pertussis (including those never vaccinated or with unknown Pertussis vaccination status) should receive a single dose of Tdap. Refer to the catch-up schedule if additional doses of tetanus and diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine are needed.
- Tdap can be administered regardless of the interval since the last tetanus and diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine.

Florida SHOTS has been updated to reflect the Tdap recommendation.

If you have any questions regarding vaccine recommendations, please call Laura Rutledge at (850) 245-4342.

Local contact : Sherry Windham 352-334-7951

FLORIDA REPORTABLE DISEASES *Alachua County 2 year activity*

Disease Activity	2011	2010	2010	Disease Activity	cont'd	2011	2010	2010
	Jan-May	Jan-May	Jan-Dec			Jan-Feb	Jan-Feb	Jan-Dec
AIDS	14	17	33	Listeriosis (02700)		0	0	0
Animal Bites to Humans (07101)	19	25	58	Lyme Disease (06959)		1	0	1
Anthrax	0	0	0	Lymphogranuloma Venereum		0	0	0
Botulism	0	0	0	Malaria (08460)		1	0	2
Brucellosis	0	0	0	Measles (05590)		3	0	0
Campylobacteriosis (03840)	12	12	23	Meningitis, Group B Strep (32040)		0	0	0
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning (98600)	0	3	5	Meningitis other (32090)		2	1	2
Chancroid	0	0	0	Meningitis Strep Pneumoniae (32020)		0	0	0
<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i>	778	724	1693	Meningococcal (<i>Neisseria Meningitidis</i>)03630		0	0	0
<i>Cholera</i>	0	0	0	Mercury Poisoning		0	0	0
Ciguatera	0	0	0	Monkey Bite (07103)		0	1	1
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)	0	0	0	Mumps		0	0	0
Cryptosporidiosis (13680)	4	5	8	Neurotoxic Shellfish Poisoning		0	0	0
Cyclosporiasis (00720)	0	0	0	Pertussis (03390)		4	0	4
Dengue (06100)	0	2	3	Pesticide-Related Illness or Injury		0	0	1
Diphtheria	0	0	0	Plague		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)		2	3	10
Other arboviral	0	0	0	Ricin Toxin		0	0	0
St. Louis	0	0	0	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (08200)		0	0	3
West Nile	0	0	0	Rubella		0	0	0
Western Equine	0	0	0	SARS		0	0	0
<i>E.coli</i> 0157:H7 (41601)	0	0	0	Salmonellosis (00300)		15	9	64
<i>Ehrlichiosis/anaplasmosis, HGE, A.</i>	1	0	0	Saxitoxin poisoning psp		0	0	0
<i>Phagocytophilum</i> (08384)				Shigellosis (00490)		2	3	29
<i>Ehrlichiosis/anaplasmosis, hme e chaff. 08382</i>	3	0	3	Smallpox		0	0	0
<i>Escherichia Coli, Shiga Toxin Producing 00800</i>	4	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)	5	8	23	Streptococcal Disease grp A inva (03400)		1	2	7
Gonorrhea	238	166	487	<i>Strep pneumoniae</i> invasive Disease, Drug resistant (04823)		2	7	9
H. Influenzae Pneumonia (48220)	0	0	0	<i>Strept pneumoniae</i> invasive Disease, susceptible (04830)		6	5	13
<i>Haemophilus influenzae, inv disease(03841)</i>	2	0	1	Syphilis		4	10	21
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	0	Toxoplasmosis (acute)		1	0	0
Hepatitis A	1	3	5	Trichinosis		0	0	0
Hepatitis B (+HBsAG in preg women or child < 24 months) (07039)	5	3	10	Tuberculosis		4	1	9
Hepatitis B Perinatal (07744)	0	0	0	Tularemia		0	0	0
Hepatitis B Acute (07030)	1	1	3	Typhoid Fever		0	0	0
Hepatitis B Chronic (07032)	36	32	69	Typhus Fever		0	0	0
Hepatitis C Acute (07051)	0	1	1	Vaccinia Disease		0	0	0
Hepatitis C Chronic (07054)	118	85	244	Varicella (05290)		7	8	7
Hepatitis E (07053)	1	0	0	<i>Vibrio Vulnificus</i> 00199		0	0	0
Herpes Simplex Virus in < 6mo of age	0	0	0	<i>V. cholerae</i> Serogroup 01/ non 01		0	0	0
HIV	26	26	50	Viral Hemorrhagic Fever		0	0	0
Human Papillomavirus (HPV) <12 yrs	0	0	0	Yellow Fever		0	0	0
Influenza A, Novel or Pandemic Strains	0	0	0					
Lead Poisoning (94890)	0	1	7					
Legionellosis (48280)	1	0	0					

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

Sexually transmitted infections and treatment updates

By: Elizabeth Wood, STD Program Intern

Sexually transmitted infections, or STIs, have been on the rise among teens in school and young females, especially among Latin and African American teens (CDC). This could be an indicator that young teens are not being given the proper education about sexual relationships. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there are roughly 19 million new STIs in a given year where among half are between the ages of 15-24.3 (CDC). Most cases of STIs are Gonorrhea and Chlamydia; however, infections such as Syphilis and Genital Herpes are also reported. The 2009 CDC STD surveillance report states 440,000 cases of Chlamydia, 1,000 cases of Syphilis, and 90,000 cases of Gonorrhea were among teens between the ages of 10-19 (CDC). Figure 1 illustrates how Alachua County was above the state's rates for Gonorrhea, Chlamydia, and infectious Syphilis.

Infertility is often a result of severe Chlamydia or Gonorrhea in men and almost any STI can leave a woman infertile. Ectopic pregnancy, or pregnancies outside the uterus, can occur as a result of Gonorrhea and Chlamydia. If a woman goes untreated with an STI she is more susceptible to pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), which can lead to infertility, pain, and ectopic pregnancies. When a woman is pregnant and carries a STI she can infect the newborn. STIs such as Syphilis, herpes, Hepatitis B, or HIV can cross the placental barrier and infect the baby. This often leads to premature births, stillbirth, death after birth, birth defects, and in some cases with viruses; the infection can stay with the child a lifetime. Other health effects include cervical cancer, heart disease, and neurological problems (Vann).

PLEASE NOTE: There have been treatment updates from the 2006 CDC Treatment Guidelines to the 2010 CDC Treatment Guidelines. For updated treatment methods please visit the CDC website below (next column).

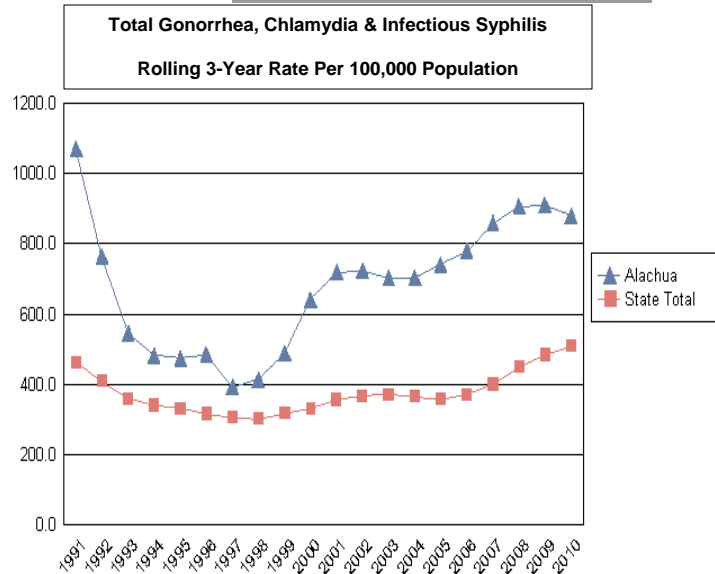


Figure 1 Alachua County STI rates for gonorrhea, Chlamydia, and syphilis.

<http://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/2010/toc.htm>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2010). Sexually Transmitted Disease Surveillance, 2009. Division of STD Prevention. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Atlanta, GA. Accessed online from: <http://www.cdc.gov/std/stats09/default.htm>

Vann, Madeline. "Health Risks of STDs for Women Sexually transmitted diseases can result in long-term health consequences. Find out how to protect yourself and keep from getting STDs in the first place." *Everyday Health* (2009): n. pag. Web. <<http://www.everydayhealth.com/womens-health/health-risks-of-stds-for-women.aspx>>.

Florida Charts <<http://www.floridacharts.com/charts/viewrpt.aspx?>

