

# THE EPI INVESTIGATOR



Alachua County Health Department



Improving Public Health in Our Community Through Cooperation

## Quarterly Epi Newsletter

Winter 2004-2005

Alachua County Health Department  
(352) 334-7900

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

### Director

Tom Belcuore, MS  
Tom\_Belcuore@doh.state.fl.us  
(352) 334-7902

### Environmental Health

Director Paul Myers, MS  
(352) 334-7931

### Epidemiology

Jerne Shapiro, MPH  
(352) 334-7930  
Fax:(352) 334-7935

### HIV/AIDS Surveillance

Rick Trachsel  
(352) 334-7968  
Patti Carnuccio  
(352) 334-7967

### Lead Poisoning

Jerne Shapiro, MPH  
(352) 334-8827

### Sexually Transmitted Disease

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

### Tuberculosis

Gail Beard, RN  
(352) 334-7988  
Fax: (352) 955-6464

## Avian Influenza

Please advise all patients traveling to infected areas to limit their exposure to poultry and poultry contaminated environments. Upon returning home individuals should monitor their health for 10 days for fever, difficulty breathing or cough. Please call the Health Department if you suspect a patient has avian influenza.

To obtain more information on the Alachua County Health Department check out our internet site at  
<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/chdAlachua/index.htm>

## Alachua County Chronic Hepatitis Program



## Hepatitis Vaccine and Laboratory Testing Provided Through the ACHD

By: Mary Jean Linn, RN, MURP  
Hepatitis Program Coordinator

The Florida Hepatitis and Liver Failure Prevention and Control Program, Florida Department of Health, recommends hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccines, as well as hepatitis B and C testing, for adults at increased risk for hepatitis infection, or the serious consequences of infection.

In March 2001, the Hepatitis Program was expanded to make hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccines available in all counties at no cost to adults at increased risk for hepatitis or the serious consequences of hepatitis. The expanded Program also provided chronic hepatitis B and hepatitis C testing for adults.

The vaccines and laboratory testing is available for Florida residents over the age of 18 years, and is offered at no charge through this program. From January to December 2004 the Alachua County Health Department tested on average 130 persons per month through this program. During this same time period over 530 hepatitis B vaccines and over 400 hepatitis A vaccines were administered through the Hepatitis program.

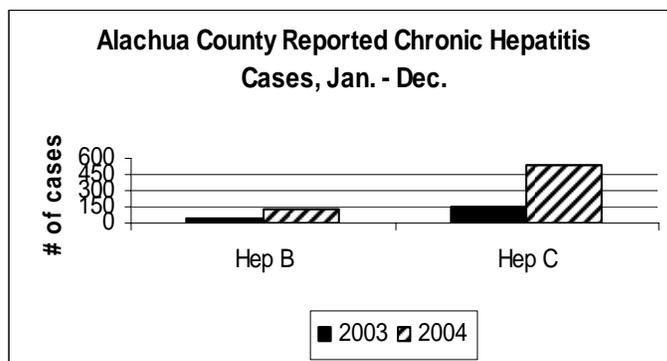
In January 2003 chronic hepatitis B and C were added to the list of nationally notifiable diseases. Florida statute requires that certain conditions and diseases are reportable to the local health department, including hepatitis B and C ([http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease\\_ctrl/epi/surv/lor8\\_4.pdf](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/epi/surv/lor8_4.pdf)). Hepatitis B and C are also reportable laboratory findings ([http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease\\_ctrl/epi/surv/LabList2003.pdf](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/epi/surv/LabList2003.pdf)).

With the change in reporting requirements the number of reported cases of chronic hepatitis B and C has increased. This most likely reflects an artifact of reporting and not a true increase in the incidence of disease. In general there is a decreasing trend in Hepatitis B cases in Florida. In 2003 between January and December Alachua County reported 39 chronic hepatitis B cases and 155 chronic hepatitis C cases. From January through December of 2004 Alachua reported 132 chronic hepatitis B and 546 chronic hepatitis C cases. (see chart)

In the United States it is estimated that 1.25 million people have chronic hepatitis B and 3.9 million have chronic hepatitis C. Florida is estimated to have over 300,000 cases of hepatitis C. The actual number of reported cases is much lower due to many persons not knowing their status or not being reported.

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## Cont. Hepatitis



\* The 2004 increase most likely represents a change in reporting

To get more information about hepatitis vaccine and testing availability, or to schedule a testing appointment please contact the Alachua County Health Department Hepatitis Program at 352-334-8842, <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/chdalachua/epi/hepatitis.htm>, or for general information call the Florida Department of Health at 850-245-4334 [http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease\\_ctrl/aids/hep/index.html](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/aids/hep/index.html). 352-334-8842

## HIV Testing in Local Jail Proves Effective

By: Bobby Davis  
HIV/AIDS, Director

A new collaborative program to test inmates for HIV was established between the Alachua County Health Department (ACHD) and the Alachua County Department of the Jail (ACJ). Staff from the ACHD were housed in the ACJ between July 31 and December 31, 2004 and tested 497 inmates using the new HIV rapid test. Twenty-one (4.2%) were HIV positive. The general demographics of the positive population were: eleven Black males, nine Black females, and one Caucasian female. Nineteen of the positive individuals reported a history of crack, prostitution, and/or sex with HIV positive prostitutes. These positive individuals were referred to ACHD for follow up in the Ryan White case management program (Sharon Anderson (352) 334- 8881 or 1-800-972-6399).

The general positivity rate for those testing at the ACHD is approximately one percent. Alachua county demographics for the AIDS population have been shown to be: 74% male, 26% female: 44% Caucasian, 53% Black, and 2% Hispanic. The HIV demographics have been shown to be: 58% male, 42% female; 27% Caucasian, 70% Black, 2% Hispanic, and 1%

Other. A more complete picture of the Alachua demographics can found at [www.alachuacountyhealth.org](http://www.alachuacountyhealth.org) under the HIV Statistics and Trends section.

The OraQuick rapid HIV-1 antibody test has been CLIA waived and FDA approved. In twenty to thirty minutes preliminary positive and confirmed negative results were produced from a finger stick sample of blood. The test has 100% specificity and 99.6% sensitivity and has a control. A confirmatory Western Blot is required.

In addition to the HIV screening, syphilis screening of 157 inmates found four late latent and one secondary case of syphilis. Many other STD's were found and treated. Additionally, individuals that could not be located in the community for follow up contact tracing have been located by having an ACHD staff member in residence at ACJ. The ACHD staff also has held STD/HIV/sex education classes. These classes have proven to increase the number of people being testing.

Even though this program has existed only for a short while, it has proven effective in locating HIV/STD positive individuals and referring them to care.

# Alachua County's Reportable Diseases



Disease	2005 (Jan- Feb)	2004 (Jan- Feb)	2004 Cum	Disease	2005 (Jan- Feb)	2004 (Jan- Feb)	2004 Cum
AIDS	6	15	55	Hepatitis B	16	9	131
Animal Bites to Humans	2	0	26	Hepatitis C	69	29	545
Anthrax	0	0	0	Hepatitis non-A, Non B	0	0	0
Botulism	0	0	0	Hepatitis, Other (including unspecified)	0	0	0
Brucellosis	0	0	1	Hepatitis B surface antigen + in pregnant women or child < 24 months	3	9	23
Campylobacteriosis	2	1	21	Herpes Simplex Virus in < 6mo of age	0	0	0
Chancroid	0	0	0	HIV	2	6	46
<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i>	166	58	1091	Human Papillomavirus (HPV) <12 years	0	0	0
Ciguatera	0	0	0	Lead Poisoning	1	0	2
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)	0	0	0	Legionellosis	0	1	1
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	0	Leptospirosis	0	0	0
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	1	Listeriosis	0	0	0
Dengue	0	0	0	Lyme Disease	1	0	6
Diphtheria	0	0	0	Lymphogranuloma Venereum	0	0	0
Ehrlichiosis, human	0	0	1	Malaria	0	0	0
Encephalitis				Measles	0	0	0
Eastern Equine	0	0	0	Melioidosis	0	0	0
Non-arboviral	0	0	0	Meningitis (Bacterial & Mycotic)	0	0	0
Other arboviral	0	0	0	Meningococcal ( <i>Neisseria Meningitidis</i> )	0	0	3
St. Louis	0	0	0	Mercury Poisoning	0	0	0
Venezuelan Equine	0	0	0	Mumps	0	0	0
West Nile	0	0	0	Neurotoxic Shellfish Poisoning	0	0	0
Western Equine	0	0	0	Pertussis	0	0	2
<i>E.coli</i> 0157:H7	0	0	2	Pesticide-Related Illness or Injury	0	0	0
<i>E.coli</i> , Other (known sero)	0	0	1	Plague	0	0	0
Epsilon toxin of <i>Clostridium perfringes</i>	0	0	0	Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Giardiasis (acute)	1	1	11	Psittacosis	0	0	0
Glanders	0	0	0	Q fever	0	1	1
Gonorrhea	69	35	522	Rabies Human	0	0	0
Granuloma Inguinale	0	0	0	Rabies Animal	0	4	16
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> , inv disease	1	0	1	Ricin Toxin	0	0	0
Hansen's Disease (Leprosy)	0	0	0	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0	0	2
Hantavirus infection	0	0	0				
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	0	0	1				
Hepatitis A	0	0	3				

## Alachua County's Reportable Diseases Continued

Disease	2005 (Jan- Feb)	2004 (Jan- Feb)	2004 Cum	Disease	2005 (Jan- Feb)	2004 (Jan- Feb)	2004 Cum
Rubella	0	0	0	Tularemia	0	0	0
Salmonellosis	3	7	83	Typhoid Fever	0	0	0
Saxitoxin poisoning paralytic shell- fish poisonings	0	0	0	Typhus Fever	0	0	0
Shigellosis	0	0	4	Vaccinia Disease	0	0	0
Smallpox	0	0	0	<i>Vibrio</i> Infection	0	0	2
<i>Staphylococcus aureus, Vancomycin non-susceptible</i>	0	0	0	<i>V. cholerae</i> Serogroup Type 01 and non-01	0	0	0
<i>Staphylococcus</i> enterotoxin B	0	0	0	Viral Hemorrhagic Fever	0	0	0
Streptococcal Disease group A inva	0	0	0	Yellow Fever	0	0	0
<i>Streptococcal pneumoniae</i> invasive	5	4	19				
Syphilis	0	0	0	<b>Any disease outbreak</b> (e.g., in the community, hospi- tal, or other institution; or foodborne or waterborne)			
Tetanus	0	0	0	<b>Any grouping or clustering</b> of patients having similar diseases, symptoms or syndromes that may indicate the presence of a disease outbreak			
Toxoplasmosis (acute)	0	0	0				
Trichinosis	0	0	0				
Tuberculosis	1	0	5				

06/JS



Alachua County Health Department  
Epidemiology Department  
224 S.E. 24th Street  
Gainesville, FL 32641

Phone: (352) 334-7900  
Fax: (352) 334-7935