

EPI INVESTIGATOR

The Alachua County Health Department
Winter 2012



Happy New Year

“Improving Public Health in Our Community Through Cooperation”

Alachua County Health Department
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Editor
Sheila Griffis

Faces of HIV Mobile Art exhibit visits Gainesville

Many only hear the numbers or ponder the issues of HIV and AIDS. This exhibit brings participants face to face with someone living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). People living with the virus kept daily journals for a month. The original journals were placed under the professionally enlarged photographs. QR codes allowed those with smart phones to view you tube videos of the people living with HIV.

One of the major goals of the project was to reduce stigma. When people meet PLWHA's some of their barriers dissolve. This project allowed them to meet vicariously. The journals give a personal view of the daily life of a PLWHA. Issues of medication side affects, stigma, hospitalizations, worrying about seeing a child grow up, family issues and the myriad of daily things a PLWHA faces were

Submitted by: Bobby Davis
Human Services Program Manager
Alachua County Health Department
discussed.

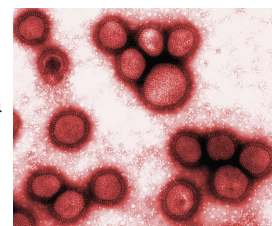
As people toured the exhibit they saw people like their friends, neighbors, family, themselves. They grew to understand PLWHAs are everyday people with everyday lives. They have HIV but they are not only HIV. They have the same humanity as all.

Influenza Update

Influenza activity in the US continues to increase nationwide and is most elevated in the southern region of the country. Nationwide, influenza A H3N2 is the most commonly detected influenza subtype. For week 49, (12/2/12-12/8/2012), Florida moved its statewide flu activity level from Regional to Widespread for the first time this flu season. There have been a total of 16 outbreaks reported statewide as of January 5, 2013. Multiple indicators of influenza activity in Florida show substantial increases. In Alachua County, the flu activity is at a plateau and remains mild.

Reference: <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/floridaflu/>

By: Nadia Kovacevich, MPH
Epidemiologist
Alachua County Health Dept.



Welcome



It is with great pleasure that we welcome

Nadia Kovacevich, our new Epidemiologist, into our Disease Control family. Nadia transferred to us from the Pensacola area working as the epidemiologist in the Escambia and Santa Rosa County Health Departments. Nadia brings several years experience in that area servicing a wide range of clientele. She grew up on the Gulf of Mexico and enjoys any activity that involves the water. From our experience working with Nadia so far, we can tell that she loves staying busy and interacting with her community both during and after work. Nadia stated she has a passion for the study of emerging pathogens and the prevention of disease in the global society. She currently holds a Masters in Public Health with an emphasis in Global Health. Nadia has also

stated that she looks forward to promoting a healthy Alachua County as she gets to know her new community. We feel extremely fortunate to have Nadia as a part of our team !!!!

By: Geneva Saulsberry, RN
Disease Control Supervisor


Alachua County Health Department
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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

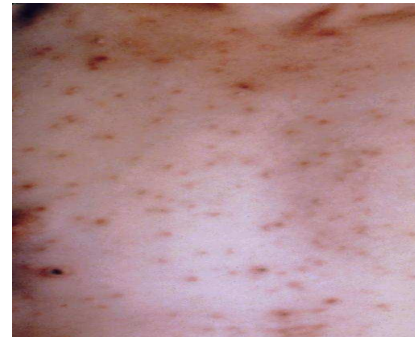
Varicella Outbreak among Unvaccinated in Alachua County

Submitted by: Nadia Kovacevich MPH
Epidemiologist/Hepatitis Coordinator
Alachua County Health Department

There were 77 individuals who became ill during this outbreak. The 77 individuals included 36 females and 41 males. 67 cases out of the 77 total cases, or 87.0%, were unvaccinated. The average age was 9.8 years old, with a range of 0 to 41. The onset dates ranged from January 7 to May 5. Table 1 shows a breakdown of the schools each individual attended if applicable.

Table 1. Individuals by School/Daycare/Other

School/Daycare/Other	Number Ill	Percent of Outbreak
School 1	26	33.8%
School 2	26	33.8%
Did not attend school	7	9.1%
Adult	5	6.5%
Home school	3	3.9%
School 3	3	3.9%
Daycare	2	2.6%
School 4	2	2.6%
School 5	1	1.3%
School 6	1	1.3%
School 7	1	1.3%
Total	77	100.1%



Above: *Varicella* on patient's back

All of the individuals at School 1 were not vaccinated against *Varicella*. They were, however, the only individuals who became ill.

Table 2. Vaccination Status of Individuals, School 1

Vaccination Status	Number Ill	Total Number	Attack Rate
Vaccinated	0	25	0.0%
Unvaccinated	26	27	96.3
Total	26	57	45.6%

Right: Up close image of a Chicken Pox lesion

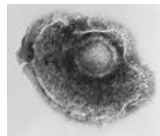


Table 3. Vaccination Status of Individuals, School 2

Vaccination Status	Number Ill	Total Number	Attack Rate
Vaccinated	2	106	1.9%
Unvaccinated*	24	63	38.1%
Total	26	191	13.6%

*One teacher was unvaccinated against *Varicella*. No other vaccination information was available for the other 21 teachers at School 2.

Of the two vaccinated students who became ill, both had received one *Varicella* vaccination.

In School 2, the vaccine efficacy was 95.0%.

The remaining 25 individuals who became ill were spread throughout five schools as well as household contacts and adults. This accounts for 32.5% of the total cases.

Table 4. Vaccination Status of Individuals

Vaccination Status	Number Ill
Vaccinated	8
Unvaccinated*	17
Total	25

Right: Newly developing Chicken Pox rash



Left: Image of Chicken Pox in mouth

It can be concluded that *Varicella* vaccination is the most effective way to avoid becoming ill.

FLORIDA REPORTABLE DISEASES *Alachua County 2 year activity*

Disease Activity	2012	2011	2011	Disease Activity	cont'd	2012	2011	2011
	Jan-Nov	Jan-Nov	Jan-Dec			Jan-Nov	Jan-Nov	Jan-Dec
AIDS	33	30	39	Listeriosis (02700)		0	0	0
Animal Bites to Humans (07101)	60	50	57	Lyme Disease (06959)		3	2	2
Arsenic 98080	1	0	0	Lymphogranuloma Venereum		0	0	0
Anthrax	0	0	0	Malaria (08460)		2	4	4
Brucellosis	0	0	0	Measles (05590)		0	3	3
Campylobacteriosis (03840)	18	19	21	Meningitis, Group B Strep (32040)		0	0	0
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning (98600)	2	0	0	Meningitis other (32090)		3	3	4
Chancroid	0	0	0	Meningitis Strep Pneumoniae (32020)		0	0	0
<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i>	1730	1561	1717	Meningococcal (<i>Neisseria Meningitidis</i>)03630		0	0	0
<i>Cholera</i>	0	0	0	Mercury Poisoning		0	1	1
Ciguatera	0	0	0	Monkey Bite (07103)		0	0	0
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)	0	0	0	Mumps		0	0	0
Cryptosporidiosis (13680)	9	15	15	Neurotoxic Shellfish Poisoning		0	0	0
Cyclosporiasis (00720)	1	3	3	Pertussis (03390)		2	5	7
Dengue (06100)	1	0	0	Pesticide-Related Illness or Injury		2	2	2
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)		5	8	8
Other arboviral	0	0	0	Ricin Toxin		0	0	0
St. Louis	0	0	0	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (08200)		4	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)		100	70	72
<i>Ehrlichiosis/anaplasmosis,HGE, A.</i>	0	2	2	Saxitoxin poisoning psp		0	0	0
<i>Phagocytophilum (08381)</i>				Shigellosis (00490)		10	15	18
<i>Ehrlichiosis/anaplasmosis,hme e chaff. 08382</i>	2	3	3	Smallpox		0	0	0
<i>Escherichia Coli, Shiga Toxin Producing 00800</i>	6	6	6	<i>Staphylococcus aureus, VRSA</i>		0	0	0
<i>E.coli, Other (41603)</i>	0	0	0	<i>Staphylococcus enterotoxin B</i>		0	0	0
Giardiasis (acute) (00710)	19	24	25	Streptococcal Disease grp A inva (03400)		5	4	5
Gonorrhea	610	526	573	<i>Strep pneumoniae</i> invasive Disease, Drug resistant (04823)		7	4	6
H. Influenzae Pneumonia (48220)	0	0	0	<i>Strept pneumoniae</i> invasive Disease, susceptible (04830)		16	10	12
<i>Haemophilus influenzae, inv disease(03841)</i>	7	5	6	Syphilis		17	23	23
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)		0	1	1
Hepatitis A	1	2	2	Trichinosis		0	0	0
Hepatitis B (+HBsAG in preg women or child < 24 months (07039)	5	12	11	Tuberculosis		3	9	9
Hepatitis B Perinatal (07744)	0	0	0	Tularemia		0	0	0
Hepatitis B Acute (07030)	0	1	1	Typhoid Fever		1	0	0
Hepatitis B Chronic (07032)	69	81	80	Typhus Fever		0	0	0
Hepatitis C Acute (07051)	3	1	1	Vaccinia Disease		0	0	0
Hepatitis C Chronic (07054)	334	399	423	Varicella (05290)		103	10	12
Hepatitis E (07053)	1	1	1	<i>V. cholerae</i> Serogroup Non-0-00198		1	0	0
Herpes Simplex Virus in < 6mo of age	0	0	0	<i>Vibrio Vulnificus</i> 00199		0	0	0
HIV	51	56	68	<i>Vibrio Parahaemolyticus</i> 00540		1	1	1
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)	4	1	1					
Legionellosis (48280)	1	2	2					

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

West Nile in 2012

By: Nadia Kovacevich, MPH
 Epidemiologist –Alachua Co. Health Dept.

In 2012, **65 human cases** of West Nile Virus infection were reported as of Dec. 11 in Florida compared to in 2011 where there were 24 human cases. The majority of these cases occurred in Duval County, with a report of 28 human cases. Alachua County was fortunate to have no reported human cases of West Nile Virus.

During any time of the year remember to DRAIN and COVER UP:

To prevent mosquito breeding and mosquito-borne disease.

Drain Standing Water: Drain water from garbage cans, buckets, pool-covers, plastic swimming pools, coolers, toy, flowerpots, and any other containers where water has collected. Discard items not being used and collecting water. Empty and clean birdbaths and pets’ water bowls at least once or twice a week. Protect boats and vehicles from rain with tarps that don’t accumulate water. Maintain swimming pools in good condition and keep appropriately chlorinated.

Cover:

With Clothing.

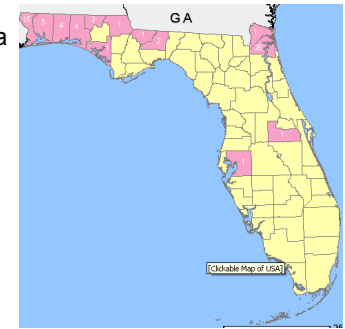
Make sure to wear when mosquitoes are active:

- Shoes
- Socks
- Long Pants
- Long Sleeves

With Repellant.

Use repellents with 10-30% DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, and IR3535 according to label’s instructions.

Use mosquito netting to protect children younger than two months.



Reference: http://diseasemaps.usgs.gov/wnv_fl_human.html

Cover Doors and Windows.

Repair broken screening on:

- Windows
- Doors
- Porches
- Patios

<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Environment/medicine/arboviral/index.html>

For state and county Arbovirus Surveillance Data:
<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/chdalachua/environmental/mosquito.html>

