



Epi Watch

A Monthly Epidemiology Newsletter



Division of Disease Control
Volume 4, Issue 7

Published August 9, 2005

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To report diseases or request information call:

(Mon-Fri, 8-5, Area code 727):	
Epidemiology	824-6932
Hepatitis	824-6932
HIV/AIDS	824-6964
Immunizations	824-6936
STD	824-6911
Tuberculosis	824-6953
Non-business hours	824-6900

Epi Watch is a monthly newsletter produced and distributed by the Pinellas County Health Department Epidemiology Program.

ARBOVIRAL DISEASE ALERT

Jeannine Mallory, MPA, Public Information Director

Florida Department of Health (DOH) Secretary John O. Agwunobi has issued a medical alert for Pinellas County after a human case of West Nile Virus (WNV) was confirmed. Since then two other cases are confirmed and a few others are being investigated and tested.

It takes from 2 to 15 days after the bite of an infected mosquito for an individual to develop symptoms of WNV. Symptoms may include fever, headache, tiredness, and body aches, occasionally with a skin rash (on the trunk of the body) and swollen lymph glands.

Area physicians should contact their county's health department if they suspect a human case of a mosquito-borne illness. DOH laboratories provide testing services for physicians treating patients with clinical signs of arboviral diseases.

To reduce the risk of being bitten mosquitoes, DOH recommends that individuals remain diligent in their personal prevention efforts. These should include the "5 D's" for prevention:

- ◆ Dusk and Dawn – Avoid being outdoors when mosquitoes are seeking blood. For many species, this is during the dusk and dawn hours.
- ◆ Dress – Wear clothing that covers most of your skin.
- ◆ DEET – When the potential exists for exposure to mosquitoes, repellents containing DEET (N, N-diethyl-meta-toluamide, or N, N-diethyl-3-methylbenzamide) are recommended. Picaridin and oil of lemon eucalyptus are other repellent options.
- ◆ Drainage – Remove areas of standing water where mosquitoes can lay their eggs.

Tips on Repellent Use:

- ◆ Read label directions carefully before applying repellent, especially for children.
- ◆ Repellents with up to 30 percent DEET are recommended. Other effective mosquito repellents contain Picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus and are available at local pharmacies.
- ◆ Apply insect repellent to exposed skin, or onto clothing, but *not under clothing*.
- ◆ When protecting children, read label instructions to *be sure the repellent is age-appropriate*. According to the CDC, mosquito repellents containing oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under the age of three years. DEET is not recommended on children younger than two months old.
- ◆ Infants should be kept indoors, or mosquito netting should be used over carriers.
- ◆ *Avoid applying repellents to the hands of children*. Adults should apply repellent first to their own hands and then transfer it to the child's skin and clothing.
- ◆ If additional protection is necessary, apply a permethrin repellent directly to your clothing.

Tips on Eliminating Mosquito Breeding Sites:

Mosquitoes breed in standing water, so check your yard at least once a week.

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| ◆ Clean out eaves and gutters. | Remove old tires or drill drainage holes in them. |
| ◆ Turn over or remove empty pots. | Pick up beverage containers and cups. |
| ◆ Check tarps that may collect water. | Store canoes and small boats upside-down. |
| ◆ Keep screens in good condition. | Replace water in birdbaths & pet dishes frequently. |
| ◆ Change water in plant trays. | |

DOH continues to conduct statewide surveillance for mosquito-borne illnesses, including WNV and Eastern Equine Encephalomyelitis (EEE), St. Louis Encephalitis (SLE), Malaria and Dengue Fever. Residents are encouraged to report dead birds via the web site <http://myfwc.com/bird/>.

For more information on mosquito-borne illnesses, visit DOH's Environmental Health Website at <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/environment/community/arboviral/index.htm>, or the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dybid/westnile/index.htm>. You may also call the WNV Hotline at 1-888-880-5782 or contact the Pinellas CHD at 823-6932.

NA = Not Available

Selected Reportable Diseases in Pinellas County

Disease	2005 July	2005 Year-to-Date	2004 Year-to-Date	2004 Total
AIDS	12	115	108	213
Animal Bite, PEP Recommended	8	30	21	59
Animal Rabies	1	4	7	4
Arboviral Illness (Human):				
Dengue	4	4		
EEE				
SLE	2	2		
WNV	2	2		
CA/LaCrosse				1
Botulism				
Campylobacteriosis	5	30	32	46
Chlamydia	96	964	1,256	2,312
Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD)		2	1	2
Cryptosporidiosis	1	3	2	7
Cyclosporiasis		57		1
<i>E. coli</i> O157:H7				2
Giardiasis	3	13	11	28
Gonorrhea	54	577	745	1,305
<i>H. influenzae</i> :				
Meningitis				
Pneumonia		1		1
Primary bacteremia	1	3	3	5
Epiglottitis			1	1
Hansen Disease		1		
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)		1		
Hepatitis, Acute Viral:				
A		5	9	12
B	3	19	26	48
C		3	10	14
Non-A, Non-B		1	4	5
Hepatitis B: Pregnant woman +HBsAg	2	20	20	26
HIV	24	169	142	247
Legionellosis		3	5	14
Listeriosis		1		
Lyme Disease	1	5	3	4
Malaria	1	1	4	4
Meningitis:				
Group B Strep			1	1
<i>S. pneumoniae</i>		3	1	1
Other bacterial	1	3	2	2
Meningococcal Disease	1	4	3	4
Mercury Poisoning			1	1
Mumps		1		
Pertussis		4	8	15
Plague (Bubonic & Pneumonic)				
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever		1	1	1
Salmonellosis	16	82	73	170
Shigellosis	13	75	11	19
Smallpox				
<i>Streptococcal</i> disease, Inv. Group A	1	8	4	8
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> , Inv. disease (DR)	1	18	13	22
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> , Inv. disease (NDR)	3	22	17	21
Syphilis: Total	4	41	52	126
Infectious (P and S)		19	16	49
Early Latent	1	13	22	39
Late Syphilis(Late Latent; Neurosyphilis)	3	9	14	38
Congenital				
Tuberculosis	1	15	25	35
<i>Vibrio</i> infections	1	3	4	10

Provisional cases reported by the Pinellas County Health Department. Blank cells indicate no cases reported.

For a complete list of reportable diseases and guidelines for reporting please visit:

http://www.myflorida.com/disease_ctrl/epi/surv/lor8_4.pdf

