



Epi Watch

A Monthly Epidemiology Newsletter



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Pinellas County Health Department
205 Dr. M.L King Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 824-6900
www.PinellasHealth.com

Director

Claude Dharamraj, MD, MPH, FAAP
claude_dharamraj@doh.state.fl.us

Disease Control Division Director

Patricia L. Ryder, MD, MPH
pat_ryder@doh.state.fl.us

**Disease Control Operations Mgr.
HIV/AIDS Program Manager**

Lisa Cohen, BS
lisa_cohen@doh.state.fl.us

Epidemiology Program Manager

Dongming Cui, MD, MPH, DrPH
dongming_cui@doh.state.fl.us

Surveillance Program Manager

Andrea M. Dopico, MPH
andrea_dopico@doh.state.fl.us

STD Program Manager

Sherry Lewis, BS
sherry_lewis@doh.state.fl.us

TB Program Manager

Robert Berger, BA
robert_berger@doh.state.fl.us

To report diseases by phone call:
(727) 824-6932

To report diseases by fax
(other than HIV/AIDS) use:
(727) 820-4270

Epi Watch is a monthly newsletter from the Pinellas County Health Department. For more information, or to add your e-mail address to the distribution list, please contact Andrea Dopico:
andrea_dopico@doh.state.fl.us

“The reason for collecting, analyzing and disseminating information on a disease is to control that disease. Collection and analysis should not be allowed to consume resources if action does not follow.”

Foege, W.H. et al. (1976). *Int. J of Epidemiology*, 5:29-37.

Immunizations: Disease Prevention at Its Best

Susan E. Heller, RN, BSN, Epidemiology Nursing Program Specialist

The Pinellas County Health Department provides a comprehensive Immunization Program for children and adults. Vaccines are given according to CDC recommendations. The Vaccine for Children Program (VFC) provides all required vaccines for children under the age of 18 years free of charge. The health department also provides adult vaccines for influenza (during flu season), boosters for tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis, rabies prevention, foreign travel, and others as needed. There is a charge for adult vaccines.

For many years, diseases such as measles, mumps, rubella and tetanus caused significant morbidity and mortality. Fortunately, great strides have been made towards eliminating such diseases. Recently there has been a resurgence of measles and mumps particularly in Europe, especially the UK and Germany. In the last few years, the United States has also had large outbreaks of measles and mumps disease in many states. Some of this is due to lower vaccination rates among various groups due to fear of the side effects of vaccines. Also, foreign travelers exposed in other countries may transmit disease to those who have never been vaccinated or those with incomplete protection. As seen with SARS, diseases can spread over a large area within hours.

Many colleges and some high schools require the meningococcal vaccine, MCV4 (brand name Menactra) for entry. The VFC program provides this vaccine at no charge for those entering high school and for 17 and 18 year olds entering college.

Several combination vaccines have recently been approved. The most recent are Kinrix – DTaP/IPV (licensed June 24, 2008) by GlaxoSmithKline for children ages 4 to 6 years and Pentacel-Hib/DTaP/IPV (licensed June 20, 2008) by Sanofi-Pasteur for children ages 2, 4, 6 and 15-18 months. Use of these vaccines will reduce the number of injections given at one time.

Information about these vaccines and the diseases they prevent can be found in “Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine Preventable Diseases” available online at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/default.htm>

For more information, please call the Pinellas County Health Department at: **727-824-6932.**

Selected Reportable Diseases in Pinellas County

Disease	2008 June	2008 Year-to-Date	2007 Year-to-Date	2007 Total
AIDS	16	114	95	171
Animal Bite, PEP Recommended	4	20	16	42
Animal Rabies				1
Arboviral Illness (Human):				
Dengue	1	1	2	2
EEE				
SLE				
WNV				1
CA/LaCrosse				
Campylobacteriosis	2	16	24	48
Chlamydia	298	1855	1490	3468
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)			1	2
Cryptosporidiosis		2	2	15
Cyclosporiasis	3	3		1
<i>E. coli</i> O157:H7		1	1	1
<i>E. coli</i> Shiga Toxin (+)		3	10	12
Giardiasis	1	10	11	27
Gonorrhea	123	710	665	1521
<i>H. influenzae</i> :				
Meningitis				
Pneumonia		1	2	2
Primary Bacteremia	1	3	2	5
Epiglottitis				
Hansen's Disease			2	2
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)				
Hepatitis, Acute Viral:				
A		1	3	6
B		16	13	22
C		6	1	7
Hepatitis B: Pregnant Woman +HBsAg	5	19	16	33
Hepatitis, Chronic Viral				
B	18	134	125	265
C	136	805	867	1743
HIV	24	190	147	250
Lead Poisoning:				
Total:		18	10	28
Children < 6 years:		2	1	6
Legionellosis	1	2	6	8
Listeriosis		1		1
Lyme Disease	1	2		4
Malaria		1		1
Meningitis:				
Group B Strep				
<i>S. pneumoniae</i>		1	2	5
Other Bacterial	1	3	3	6
Meningococcal Disease	1	4	1	3
Mercury Poisoning		1		
Mumps				
Pertussis	1	5	3	8
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever				
Salmonellosis	17	80	72	220
Shigellosis		2	19	39
Streptococcal Disease, Inv. Group A		2	8	15
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> , Inv. Disease (DR)	2	15	26	39
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> , Inv. Disease (Suscept)		8	14	24
Syphilis:				
Total	6	55	47	139
Infectious (P and S)	1	19	24	68
Early Latent	2	24	17	45
Congenital				
Late Syphilis (Late Latent; Neurosyphilis)	3	12		26
Tuberculosis	1	15	16	39
<i>Vibrio</i> Infections	1	4	5	11

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.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/epi/index.html