Clayton County Board of Health
Monthly Epi News
November 07, 2016

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of Epi News is to keep the residents and visitors of Clayton County informed.

Clayton County Board of Health Epidemiology Department's primary responsibilities include following up on reported infections in the community and conducting disease surveillance to ensure residents of and visitors to Clayton County work and thrive in an environment free of communicable disease. Our goal is to keep individuals well informed of steps to take to remain safe and be at a lower/no risk of contracting infection when communicable diseases are present.

INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- Last Month in Review
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LAST MONTH IN REVIEW

The department received 177 reportable infections in September and 190 in October. The table below shows the two months compared with one another.

DISEASE	September	October
ANIMAL BITE	10	9
ASEPTIC MENINGITIS	-	2
CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS	1	-
CHLAMYDIA	69	83
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS	2	-
GONORRHEA	34	42
HEPATITIS A	1	-
HEPATITIS B	4	7
HEPATITIS C	17	22
HIV	4	7
LEAD BLOOD LEVEL	2	-
LEGIONELLOSIS	1	-
MALARIA	-	2
SALMONELLOSIS	9	1
SHIGELLOSIS	4	1
STREPTOCOCCAL GROUP B	1	1
STREPTOCOCCUS PNEUMONIAE	-	2
SYPHILIS	22	11
TOTAL	177	190

All cases reported are investigated and appropriate follow up initiated as needed.

All cases of animal bites reported to the department is followed up to rule out possible exposure to rabies. Where exposure is determined individuals receive appropriate Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) also called vaccination. This month one animal was tested for rabies, the result was negative.

DISEASE SPOTLIGHT: Syphilis[1]

- Syphilis is also known as the Great Imitator because it has so many possible symptoms, many of which look like symptoms from other diseases
- It is a preventable and curable Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI)
- Transmission of the organism occurs during vaginal, anal, or oral sex.
- Pregnant women with the disease can pass it to the babies they carry.
- Syphilis is not spread through casual contact with toilet seats, doorknobs, sharing clothes, or eating utensils among other things.
- After a number of years of decline, the syphilis rate in the United States is on the rise again.
- From 2014, the U.S. has observed a 19% increase in case rates
- Georgia is nationally ranked 2nd (3rd last year) for primary and secondary syphilis and 6th (12th last year) in Congenital syphilis cases (syphilis in babies)
- Some famous people that have been infected with syphilis are: Al Capone, Beethoven, Christopher Columbus, Adolf Hitler, Henry VIII, Nietzsche, Pope Alexander VI, and Vincent Van Gough

DID YOU KNOW?

AN ESTIMATED 1 IN 2…SEXUALLY ACTIVE PEOPLE WILL GET A SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION BY AGE 25.

Have questions?

Call the Epidemiology department on 678-610-7193

References: 1. http://dph.georgia.gov/STDs