
"Partnering to promote, protect and preserve health in our community."

HEALTH ALERT NETWORK HEALTH DISTRICT 4

ENTEROVIRUS UPDATE FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Enterovirus D-68 Update, One Confirmed Case in Idaho

September 25, 2014

Human Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) has been confirmed in Idaho. Out of five samples submitted from hospitalized children in eastern Idaho, one was positive for EV-D68, two were positive for a different virus and the remaining two were negative. Samples from Treasure Valley hospitals are still pending. A variety of respiratory viruses, including EV-D68, and bacteria (i.e., *Bordetella pertussis*) are continuing to circulate this fall.

Enteroviruses are very common viruses. However, this specific type, EV-D68, has caused hospitalization of children, especially those with asthma. If a child has trouble breathing or is wheezing, parents should contact their healthcare provider immediately.

Testing

Testing is only being considered for hospitalized children with acute respiratory illness.

Treatment

There is no specific treatment (i.e., anti-viral medications) for EV-D68. Many infections will be mild and self-limiting, requiring only symptomatic treatment. Some people with severe respiratory illness may need to be hospitalized.

Prevention

The following can help reduce the risk of infection with EV-D68:

- Wash hands often, especially after changing diapers;
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands;
- Avoid kissing, hugging, and sharing cups or eating utensils with ill people;
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as toys and doorknobs, especially if someone is sick;
- Stay home if feeling sick.

For additional information contact the Office of Communicable Disease Control at 327-8625 or visit <http://www.cdc.gov/non-polio-enterovirus/about/EV-D68.html> .

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