



El Paso County Monthly Communicable Disease Report – November, 2007

(Please distribute to all providers in your office)

Over the past year, multiple national foodborne illness outbreaks and food recalls have made the news. We've seen outbreaks associated with *E. coli* O157:H7 (9/06 – fresh spinach; 10/07 ground beef patties; 11/07 frozen pizza), and with *Salmonella* (2/07 peanut butter; 10/07 frozen pot pies). Some of these outbreaks affected Colorado and El Paso County. The ability of public health to rapidly identify these outbreaks is enhanced by two CDC programs. **FoodNet** (<http://www.cdc.gov/foodnet/>) is an active surveillance network among ten state Emerging Infection Program sites (including CO), USDA and the FDA, which conducts population-based foodborne disease surveillance and related epidemiologic studies. FoodNet serves as the primary source of data on the epidemiology and burden of foodborne diseases in the US and their association with food exposures. **PulseNet** (<http://www.cdc.gov/PULSENET/>) is a national network of state public health laboratories coordinated by the CDC. These labs perform molecular subtyping (or "DNA fingerprinting") of foodborne disease-causing bacteria using pulsed-field gel electrophoresis (PFGE). PFGE is used to distinguish specific strains of *E. coli* O157:H7, *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Campylobacter* and *Listeria*. Any resident of CO with a positive stool culture for one of these pathogens has the isolate typed for its DNA fingerprint, which is then submitted electronically to a dynamic database at the CDC. Nationally, patterns are cross referenced to identify matches. Patients with matching isolates are queried to see if common food exposures can be identified, as well as checking results of food testing that might have been performed. This is how the outbreaks above were identified and a food item implicated. EPCDHE supports these programs through our case investigations, assuring bacterial isolates are collected, and participation in special case control studies.

Vaccine Preventable Diseases	SEP 2007	OCT 2007	2007 YTD	2006 Total
Diphtheria (24 hr)				
Hepatitis B (new chronic & acute)	2	9	40	81
Measles (24 hr)				
Influenza	0	0	0*	26**
Mumps	0	0	2	3
Pertussis syndrome	8	13	50	19
Poliomyelitis (24 hr)				
Rubella (24 hr)				
Rubella, congenital				
Smallpox				
Tetanus				
Varicella	9	9	75	127
Foodborne and Enteric Diseases				
Amebiasis				
Botulism (24 hr)				
Campylobacteriosis	5	4	40	58
Cholera (24 hr)				
Cryptosporidiosis	1	1	7	7
Cyclospora				
E.coli 0157:H7 & other shiga toxin producing E. coli (STEC)	0	1	5	13
Giardiasis	7	5	39	41
Group Outbreaks – all causes including food poisoning (24 hr)	9	9	6	21
Hemolytic uremic synd. If ≤18 yrs	0	0	0	1
Hepatitis A (24 hr)	0	0	1	5
Listeriosis				
Salmonellosis	6	5	40	69
Shigellosis	2	2	6	12
Trichinosis				
Typhoid Fever (24 hr)	0	0	0	1#
Sexually Transmitted Diseases				
HIV infection (newly diagnosed)	2	3	17	23
Chancroid				
Gonorrhea, any site	42	28	420	711
Lymphogranuloma venereum				
Syphilis, early (1°, 2°, early latent) (24 hr)	0	0	5	4
Chlamydia trachomatis	114	72	1421	2491

Zoonotic Diseases	SEP 2007	OCT 2007	2007 YTD	2006 Total
Anthrax (24 hr)				
Brucellosis	0	0	0	1
Hantavirus				
Lyme Disease				
Plague (24 hr)				
Psittacosis				
Q Fever				
Human Rabies (suspected) (24 hr)				
Relapsing Fever				
Rocky Mt. Spotted Fever	0	0	1	0
Tularemia				
West Nile Virus	1	1	4	5
Other Meningitis/Encephalitis & Invasive Disease				
Encephalitis	0	1	3	1
Aseptic Meningitis	17	9	71	44
Haemophilus influenzae invasive disease (24 hr)	0	0	5	3
Neisseria meningitidis invasive disease (24 hr)	0	0	4	2
Transmissible Spongiform encephalopathy	0	0	1	0
Strep. Pneumo Invasive	5	3	35	45
Other Important Reportable Diseases				
Hepatitis C (contact the STD Prog. at # below for data)				
Hepatitis, other viral	0	0	0	1
Kawasaki Syndrome	0	0	2	2
Legionnaire's Disease	0	0	1	7
Leprosy				
Malaria	1	1	3	1#
SARS				
Toxic Shock Syndrome				
Tuberculosis (new active case) (24 hr)	0	0	5	10

*2007-2008 flu season (hospitalized cases & pediatric deaths only)

**2006-2007 flu season # not locally acquired

For questions regarding HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, other sexually transmitted diseases (STD), and blood-borne disease exposures, contact the **STD Program** at: **719-578-3148**

El Paso County Health Department

CD/TB Program: 719 578-3220
 After Hours pager 719 385-9622
Immunizations: 719 578-3272
Environmental Health Info Line: 719 575-8636

Colorado State Health Department (CDPHE):
 Regular Weekday Hours 303 692-2700
 After Hours 303 370-9395

Note: 2007 reported cases are provisional.