



COLLIN COUNTY HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Epidemiology and Surveillance

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Enterovirus D68: Information for Healthcare Providers

What is enterovirus D68?

Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) is one of many non-polio enteroviruses and is thought to occur less frequently than other enteroviruses.

What are the symptoms of EV-D68?

EV-D68 can present as mild or severe respiratory illness. Mild symptoms include runny nose, sneezing, cough, body and muscle aches, and sometimes fever. More severe symptoms include difficulty breathing and wheezing. Individuals who have a history of asthma or wheezing are more likely to develop the more severe symptoms.

How does EV-D68 spread?

Like other common respiratory viruses, EV-D68 can be found in an infected person's respiratory secretions, including saliva, nasal mucus, or sputum. It can spread person to person through coughing, sneezing, or touching a contaminated surface.

How is EV-D68 diagnosed? What are some treatment options?

Hospitals can test for enterovirus infection, however many hospitals cannot specifically determine the type of enterovirus. Identification of EV-D68 can only be diagnosed using specific lab testing. The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) laboratory has the capability to test for EV-D68. Specimens may be submitted to DSHS for enterovirus testing and typing if the patient meets the following:

- Pediatric patients (<18 years of age) admitted to an intensive care unit with severe respiratory illness with symptom onset no earlier than August 1, 2014, who have tested positive for enterovirus or enterovirus/rhinovirus if such testing has been completed

Nasopharyngeal (NP)/oropharyngeal (OP) swabs are preferred for EV-D68 testing, although any respiratory specimen may be submitted. There is no specific treatment for EV-D68, because of this, testing a patient for the virus will not affect the medical management of their symptoms.

How many people have been confirmed to have EV-68 infection?

As of October 03, 2014 a total of 514 people in 43 states were confirmed to have EV-D68. Collin County has yet to have a confirmed case of EV-D68. If you suspect a patient with EV-D68 please call Collin County Health Care Services.

For the latest information please visit:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<http://www.cdc.gov/non-polio-enterovirus/about/ev-d68.html>