

Communicable Diseases

Monthly Newsletter

July-August 2013

Volume 6, Issue 8



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

2013 Pertussis Season Update



Taken From: cdc.gov

Pertussis, also known as whooping cough, is a highly contagious respiratory disease. It is known for uncontrollable, violent coughing which often makes it hard to breathe. After fits of many coughs, someone with pertussis often needs to take deep breathes which result in a "whooping" sound. Pertussis most commonly affects infants and young children and can be fatal, especially in babies less than 1 year of age. The peak season for Pertussis is during the months of August and September which makes it a high priority for the Health Department.

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West Nile virus is avoidable. Prevention is up to you.

1. **Apply insect repellent.** Put on exposed skin and clothing when you go outdoors.
2. **Cover up!** Wear long sleeve shirts and long pants and socks while outdoors to prevent mosquito bites.
3. **Avoid mosquitoes.** The mosquitoes that spread West Nile virus bite between dusk and dawn. Limit the amount of time you spend outdoors during these hours.

West Nile Virus Activity Update



Taken From: cdc.gov

West Nile virus is an arthropod-borne virus (arbovirus) most commonly spread by infected mosquitoes. West Nile virus can cause febrile illness, encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) or meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain and spinal cord).

Most people get infected with West Nile virus by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds.

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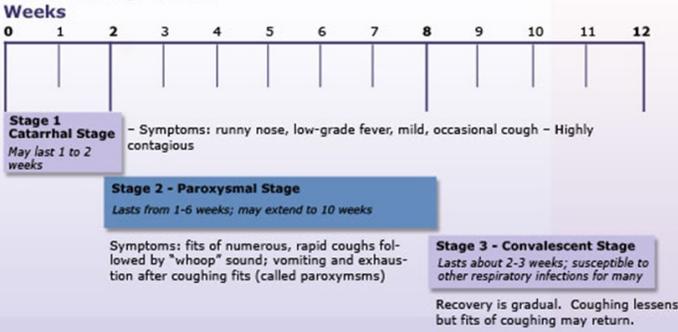
2013 Pertussis Season Update (continued from p.1)

(Continued from page 1)

Pertussis is spread from person to person through coughing or sneezing while in close contact. Symptoms of pertussis usually develop within 7–10 days after being exposed to the germs, but sometimes can take longer.

Prevention:

Disease Progression:



The best way to prevent pertussis is to get vaccinated. The childhood vaccine is called DTaP, and the pertussis booster vaccine for adolescents and adults is called Tdap.

Although pertussis vaccines are effective in protecting you from disease, there is a chance that a fully vaccinated person can catch pertussis if it is circulating in the community.

If you or your child develops a cold that includes a severe cough or a cough that lasts for a long time, the best way to know whether it is pertussis is to contact your doctor.

Three cases of pertussis have been reported in Jasper County and none in Joplin (January through July 2013).

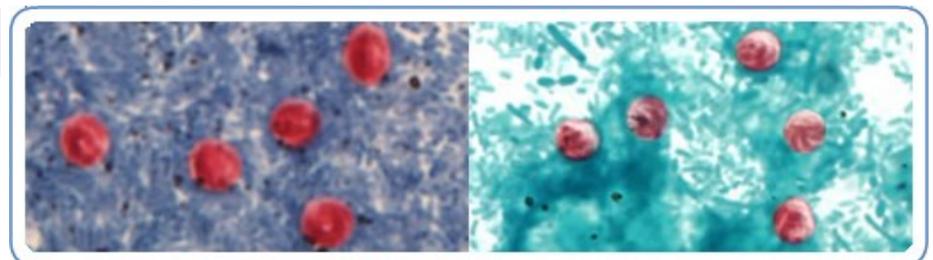
Source: cdc.gov

Cryptosporidiosis

Cryptosporidiosis is a diarrheal disease caused by parasites (*Cryptosporidium*) that live in the intestine of humans and animals and is passed in the stool of an infected person or animal.

An infected person or animal sheds Crypto parasites in the stool. Millions of Crypto germs can be released in a bowel movement from an infected human or animal. You can become infected after accidentally swallowing the parasite.

The easiest way to prevent the illness is by practicing good hygiene. Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before eating or preparing food, after using the toilet or changing diapers, and after handling animal waste. Protect others at recreational water venues by showering before entering the water and by not swimming if you have diarrhea.



Taken From: cdc.gov

West Nile Virus Activity Update (continued from p.1)

(Continued from page 1)

Infected mosquitoes can then spread the virus to humans and other animals.

Outbreaks of West Nile virus have reportedly been occurring every summer since 1999. The time it takes to get sick after exposure (incubation period) ranges from 2 to 14 days.

Signs and Symptoms:

Most people who become infected with West Nile virus do not develop any symptoms. About 1 in 5 people who are infected will develop a fever with other symptoms such as headache, body aches, joint pains, vomiting, diarrhea, or rash. Some people will develop a serious neurologic illness such as encephalitis or meningitis. Currently there is no West Nile virus vaccine available for people.

Prevention:

The most effective way to prevent the illness is to avoid mosquito bites by;

- Using insect repellents when you go outdoors.
- Wear long sleeves and pants from dusk through dawn when many mosquitoes are most active.
- Install or repair screens on windows and doors. If you have it, use your air conditioning.
- Help reduce the number of mosquitoes around your home by emptying standing water from containers such as flowerpots, gutters, buckets, pool covers, pet water dishes, discarded tires, and birdbaths.

No cases of West Nile virus have been reported in Jasper County and Joplin City in 2013.

Source: cdc.gov

Communicable Diseases Report: 2013

**Table 1. Cumulative Cases from January through August 9, in Joplin City and Jasper County: 2012 & 2013
(Data includes confirmed, probable and suspect cases)**

CONDITION / YEAR BY LPHA	JOPLIN		JASPER	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
ANAPLASMA PHAGOCYTOPHILUM	0	0	2	0
ANIMAL BITES	16	5	3	0
CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS	2	12	25	14
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS	2	0	3	3
E. COLI SHIGA TOXIN	0	0	5	2
E. COLI O157 H7	0	1	1	0
EHRlichia CHAFFEENSIS	1	3	4	11
GIARDIASIS	0	1	1	3
HEPATITIS B (PREGNANCY)	2	0	1	1
HEPATITIS B (ACUTE)	3	4	3	3
HEPATITIS B (CHRONIC)	10	6	7	9
HEPATITIS C (CHRONIC)	48	41	24	38
HEPATITIS E (ACUTE)	0	0	1	0
LEGIONELLOSIS	0	0	2	1
LYME	0	0	0	3
MYCOBACTERIUM OTHER THAN TB (MOTT)	0	3	6	5
PERTUSSIS	1	0	9	3
RABIES POST EXPO PROPHYLAXIS	0	0	3	0
ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER	3	0	6	1
SALMONELLOSIS	5	4	14	1
SHIGELLOSIS	7	1	1	0
STREP DISEASE (GROUP A)	0	0	1	0
STREP PNEUMONIAE, (<5YRS)	0	0	1	2
STREP PNEUMONIAE (DRUG RESISTANT)	0	0	1	0
TB DISEASE	1	0	0	1
TB INFECTION	13	22	37	13
TULAREMIA	1	0	0	3
VARICELLA (CHICKENPOX)	2	0	5	6
Total Cases Per Year To-Date	117	103	161	115

Source: DHSS, Joplin/Jasper County Health Departments. Data is provisional & subject to change.

Color key in table 1.

- Number of cases reported in 2013 was higher than those reported in 2012.
- Number of cases reported in 2013 was lower than those reported in 2012.
- Number of cases reported in 2013 and 2012 was equal.

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Cyclosporiasis Outbreak in the U.S.

CDC has been notified of 535 cases of *Cyclospora* infection from 18 states. Most of the illness onset dates have ranged from mid-June through early July. At least 32 persons reportedly have been hospitalized in five states. Four cases have been reported in Missouri.

What is *Cyclospora*?

Cyclospora cayentanensis is a parasite that causes an intestinal illness called cyclosporiasis and it is spread through ingestion of food or water contaminated with the parasite.

Who is at risk for *Cyclospora* infection?

People living or traveling in tropical or subtropical regions of the world may be at increased risk for infection because it is commonly found in some of these regions. In the U.S, foodborne outbreaks of cyclosporiasis have been linked to imported fresh produce.

What are the symptoms of *Cyclospora* infection?

It takes about a week to develop symptoms from the time the parasite is ingested and usually causes watery diarrhea, with frequent, sometimes explosive, bowel movements, loss of appetite, weight loss, stomach pain, bloating, increased gas, nausea, and fatigue. Vomiting, body aches, headache, fever, and other flu-like symptoms may be noted. Some people who are infected with *Cyclospora* do not have any symptoms. If not treated, the illness may last from a few days to a month or longer. Symptoms may relapse.

How is *Cyclospora* infection diagnosed, treated and prevented?

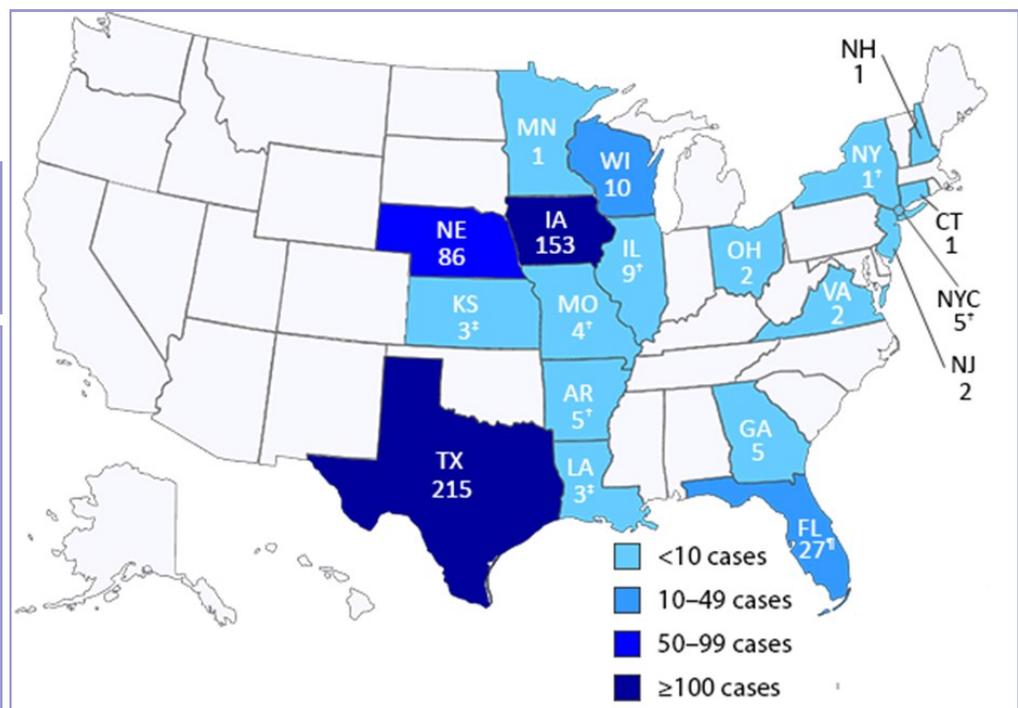
See your healthcare provider for diagnosis and treatment if you develop symptoms. Avoiding food or water that might have been contaminated with stool may help prevent *cyclospora* infection.

Source: http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/cyclosporiasis/gen_info/faqs.html

Cyclosporiasis Outbreak At a Glance (August 9, 2013)

- **Case Count: 535**
- **Reporting:** 18 States and NYC
- **Deaths: 0**
- **Hospitalizations:** 32

Source: CDC



"Friendship is not about who you've known the longest, it's about those that came and never left your side"