



Philadelphia Department of Public Health
Division of Disease Control

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Health Notification

Public Health Preparedness Recommendations For The Democratic National Convention

July 20, 2016

From July 25 to July 28, the City of Philadelphia will host the Democratic National Convention (DNC), the formal nominating event for the Democratic candidates for President and Vice President. During the week of the convention, several events are planned to take place throughout the City and there is the potential for additional demonstration, marches, and protests. Weather forecasts are predicting hot temperatures in the mid-90s for the week. Healthcare facilities should be prepared for both naturally occurring events that might result in increased illness, as well as the possibility of violence. Because of the heightened potential for terrorism and disease transmission, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health Division of Disease Control (DDC) recommends that healthcare facilities review their emergency response and disaster preparedness plans before DNC activities begin. Specific recommendations include:

- Evaluate facilities and personnel to ensure safety and security.
- Ensure that appropriate staff understand their roles in an emergency and communications protocols.
- Update clinical providers to respond to biological, chemical, and radiological agents.
 - Information for clinical management and protection of healthcare workers is available online under the "Health Hazards" heading at <https://hip.phila.gov/EmergencyResponse>.
 - Additional resources may be found at <http://emergency.cdc.gov/bioterrorism/> and www.atsdr.cdc.gov.
- Review procedures that address medical treatment of mass casualties, including decontamination protocols, the use of personal protective equipment, and triage protocols.
- Review procedures that address medical treatment of blast and bombing injuries.
 - Information can be found at <http://emergency.cdc.gov/masscasualties/blastinjuryfacts.asp>.
- Prepare to treat individuals suffering from heat related illness.

DDC reviews data daily from multiple sources to facilitate the recognition of disease outbreaks. However, DDC relies on clinicians to report **by telephone** conditions that require immediate notification, including any outbreak or unusual presentation or cluster of disease. A list of reportable diseases and conditions in the City of Philadelphia is attached and available online at <https://hip.phila.gov/ReportDisease/WhatToReport>.

Indicators of naturally occurring outbreaks or possible biological terrorism are:

- An unusual temporal or geographic clustering of illness (e.g., persons who attended the same public event or gathering).
- Increase in serious lower respiratory illness with negative tests for common bacteria and viruses.
- Patients presenting with clinical signs and symptoms that suggest an infectious disease outbreak (e.g., ≥ 2 persons presenting with an unexplained febrile illness associated with sepsis, pneumonia, respiratory failure, or rash or a botulism-like syndrome with flaccid muscle paralysis, especially if occurring in otherwise healthy persons).
- An unusual age distribution for common diseases (e.g., an increase in chickenpox-like illness in adult patients).
- Single cases of disease due to uncommon, non-indigenous agents (e.g., anthrax, plague, tularemia) in patients with no history suggesting an explanation for illness.
- Large number of cases of acute flaccid paralysis with prominent bulbar palsies, suggestive of a release of *botulinum* toxin.

Call DDC to report conditions requiring immediate notification, or to obtain public health consultation. DDC will also facilitate diagnostic testing requiring public health laboratory services. During normal business hours, call 215-685-6740; after business hours, contact the DDC on-call personnel at 215-686-4514.

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Philadelphia Department of Public Health

Division of Disease Control • 500 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19146
215-685-6740 (phone) • 215-686-4514 (after hours) • 215-238-6947 (fax) • www.phila.gov/health/DiseaseControl • hip.phila.gov

PHILADELPHIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION OF DISEASE CONTROL (DDC)

Phone: 215-685-6748

Fax: 215-238-6947

For after hours immediate reporting & consultation: 215-686-4514 – ask for Division of Disease Control on-call staff

REPORTABLE DISEASES AND CONDITIONS

Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS/HIV) ‡	Listeriosis
Amebiasis	Lyme disease
Animal bites (wild/stray/domestic)	Malaria
Anthrax *	Measles (rubeola) *
Babesiosis	Melioidosis *
Botulism *	Meningitis (viral, fungal, bacterial)
Brucellosis *	Meningococcal infections *
Campylobacteriosis	Mumps
<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i> including lymphogranuloma venereum	Novel coronavirus (SARS, MERS-CoV) *
Chancroid	Pertussis (whooping cough)
Cholera *	Plague *
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease	Poliomyelitis *
Cryptosporidiosis	Psittacosis (ornithosis)
Cyclosporiasis	Rabies *
Dengue	Rickettsial diseases (including Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, rickettsial pox, typhus fever)
Diphtheria *	Rubella (German Measles) & Congenital Rubella *
Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis	Salmonellosis
Encephalitis including all arboviruses *	Shigellosis
Escherichia coli O157:H7 and Shiga toxin-producing bacteria *	Smallpox *
Food poisoning *	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , vancomycin insensitive
Giardiasis	Streptococcal disease, invasive group A
Gonococcal infections	Streptococcal disease, invasive group B (neonatal)
Guillain-Barré Syndrome	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> , invasive disease
Haemophilus influenzae, invasive disease *	Syphilis
Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome *	Tetanus
Hepatitis A	Toxic Shock Syndrome
Hepatitis B	Trichinosis
Hepatitis C	Tuberculosis §
Hepatitis, other viral	Tularemia *
Histoplasmosis	Typhoid (Salmonella typhi and paratyphi) *
Influenza – novel influenza A *	Vibriosis
Influenza – pediatric mortality and institutional outbreaks *	West Nile Virus *
Lead poisoning †	Varicella, including zoster
Legionnaires' disease	Yellow Fever and other viral hemorrhagic fevers *
Leprosy (Hansen's disease)	Yersiniosis
Leptospirosis	

* Report suspected and confirmed cases within **24 hours** ‡ Report to AIDS Activities Coordinating Office at **215-685-4789**

† Report to Lead Poisoning Prevention at **215-685-2788** § Report to TB Control Program at **215-685-6744 or -6873**

All other cases should be reported within 5 days

All unusual disease clusters, disease outbreaks, and unusual disease occurrences should be reported immediately

To Report a Case to DDC, Call, Fax or Submit through PA-NEDSS the Following Information:
Patient Name | Condition | Age/DOB, Sex, Address & Phone | Clinician Name, Address & Phone | Laboratory Testing

For more information, please visit <https://hip.phila.gov/xv>

Effective 06/14