Communicable Disease (CD) Quarterly Report

Napa County Health and Human Services
Public Health Division

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CD Update: Outbreaks of Viral Gastroenteritis

During the 4th quarter of 2007, Napa County experienced an increase in outbreaks of illness characteristic of viral gastroenteritis in long term care facilities. Four outbreaks were reported during this 3 month period, collectively resulting in more than 70 cases of vomiting and/or diarrhea in elderly residents and staff. Although stool specimens and vomitus are not routinely tested, specimens taken during one outbreak did confirm the presence of norovirus.

The incubation period for norovirus-associated gastroenteritis is usually 24 to 48 hours and symptoms of nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea typically last 24 to 60 hours. Dehydration is the most common complication. Medical staff treating patients with suspect viral gastroenteritis should use universal precautions. **Frequent and thorough hand washing is essential for and effective in reducing the spread of infection.** An N95 respirator, gown, and shoe covers are also recommended when in close contact with patients with active vomiting and diarrhea. Contaminated equipment and surfaces can be disinfected using a solution of standard chlorine bleach mixed with water (1:10 dilution) that is changed every 24 hours. Many commercial disinfectant solutions are not active against norovirus.

Table 1. Selected Vaccine Preventable Diseases reported in Napa County Residents.

	2007		2006	
Disease	**4th Qtr**	**YTD**	**4th Qtr**	**YTD**
Hepatitis A	0	6	1	5
Measles	0	0	0	0
Mumps	0	0	0	0
Pertussis	0	1	1	4

Table 2. Selected Sexually Transmitted Diseases reported in Napa County Residents.

	2007		2006	
STDs	**4th Qtr**	**YTD**	**4th Qtr**	**YTD**
Chlamydia	77	238	61	258
Gonorrhea	5	21	13	29
NGU*	1	3	0	4
Total Syphilis	**0**	**5**	0	**5**
primary	0	0	0	0
secondary	0	1	0	1
early latent	0	2	0	0
late latent	0	1	0	1
late, with symptoms	0	0	0	2
latent unknown	0	1	0	1
congenital	0	0	0	0

Table 3. *Salmonella* cases reported in Napa County Residents.

	2007		2006	
Disease	**4th Qtr**	**YTD**	**4th Qtr**	**YTD**
Total *Salmonella*	**6**	**19**	**5**	**14**
S. Enteritidis	0	3	1	6
S. Typhimirium	0	2	0	1
S. Heidelberg	0	0	0	1
S. Newport	0	3	0	0
S. Schwarzengrund	0	2	0	0
Other or Pending	6	9	4	6

Table 4. *Shigella* cases reported in Napa County Residents.

	2007		2006	
Disease	**4th Qtr**	**YTD**	**4th Qtr**	**YTD**
Total *Shigella*	**1**	**3**	**2**	**3**
Shigella Group B	0	1	1	2
Shigella Group D	0	1	1	1
Shigella - Unknown	1	1	0	0

Table 6. Selected CD cases reported in Napa County Residents.

	2007		2006	
Disease	**4th Qtr**	**YTD**	**4th Qtr**	**YTD**
Amebiasis	0	1	2	2
Campylobacteriosis	8	24	8	35
Coccidioidomycosis	0	2	0	2
Cryptosporidiosis	0	1	0	0
Dengue	2	2	0	0
E. coli O157:H7	0	5	2	3
Giardia	2	15	3	23
Lyme Disease	1	3	0	0
Malaria	0	0	1	3
Meningitis - Bacterial	0	1	0	0
Meningococcal Meningitis	0	0	0	0
Meningitis - Viral	0	0	1	4
Meningitis - Fungal	0	0	0	0
MRSA*	0	1	0	0
Scombroid Fish Poisoning	0	1	0	0
Tuberculosis	1	7	3	7

Source: Automated Vital Statistics System (AVSS)
Note: Morbidity is based on date of diagnosis. Totals for past quarters may change due to delays in reporting.
*Not currently a State reportable disease; reported cases may not reflect true incidence.