

EPI Update for Friday, June 19, 2015

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)

Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **Changes to Liberia traveler screening**
- **Mosquito surveillance begins**
- **Iowa Acute Disease Monthly Update**

Changes to Liberia traveler screening

The CDC has implemented changes to the screening process for persons traveling to the U.S. from Liberia. These changes occurred because Liberia is now more than three incubation periods beyond the last Ebola case from within that country and WHO has declared Liberia to be Ebola-free.

Health care facilities action:

- IDPH no longer considers it necessary to ask screening questions to determine if patients have recently traveled back from Liberia; travelers returning from Liberia should be treated similarly to any other patients who have recently traveled overseas.
- CDC and IDPH continue to recommend screening patients for recent travel from the current Ebola-affected countries of Guinea and Sierra Leone. These patients will continue to be placed under Public Health Orders with the same monitoring and instructions that have been implemented since last fall.
- Local public health and hospital partners are encouraged to share this information with health care providers (including emergency medical services and public safety answering points) in their jurisdictions.
- Because of the rapid changing status of the West African Ebola outbreak, IDPH does not deem it necessary for hospitals or clinics to change any current Ebola-related signs or documents unless desired by the affected health care facility.

If you have any questions on any of these changes, contact the Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology at 800-362-2736.

Mosquito surveillance begins

This month, the Iowa Department of Public Health, in collaboration with the State Hygienic Laboratory, Iowa State University Medical Entomology Department, and local public and environmental health partners, started conducting mosquito surveillance in four counties across the state. Results from this surveillance will be posted weekly on the IDPH West Nile virus page.

For educational purposes, brochures for vector-borne disease (Tick-borne disease, Mosquito-borne disease and West Nile virus) brochures and posters can be ordered at **no cost** to you through the public health clearinghouse (Iowa Substance Abuse Information Center (ISAIC) Clearinghouse). IDPH materials on infectious diseases, environmental health, HIV/AIDS, STDs, hepatitis, immunization, tobacco use

prevention, and the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) supplemental nutrition program are provided and shipped free of charge.

For more information on mosquito surveillance, visit

[http://www.idph.state.ia.us/Cade/DiseaseIndex.aspx?disease=West Nile Virus](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/Cade/DiseaseIndex.aspx?disease=West+Nile+Virus)

For brochures and poster ordering information, visit

[http://healthclrhse.drugfreeinfo.org/cart.php?target=category&category_id=295.](http://healthclrhse.drugfreeinfo.org/cart.php?target=category&category_id=295)

Iowa Acute Disease Monthly Update

The new issue of the Iowa Acute Disease Monthly Update is available by visiting www.idph.state.ia.us/cade/ and scrolling down to 'Reports.' This month's issue can also be accessed directly

at www.idph.state.ia.us/IDPHChannelsService/file.ashx?file=A3BAD344-F358-4F14-B06B-1E068172AEB2 .

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

None

Have a healthy and happy week!

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology

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800-362-2736