

Communicable Disease Reporting newsletter for medical partners

Winter
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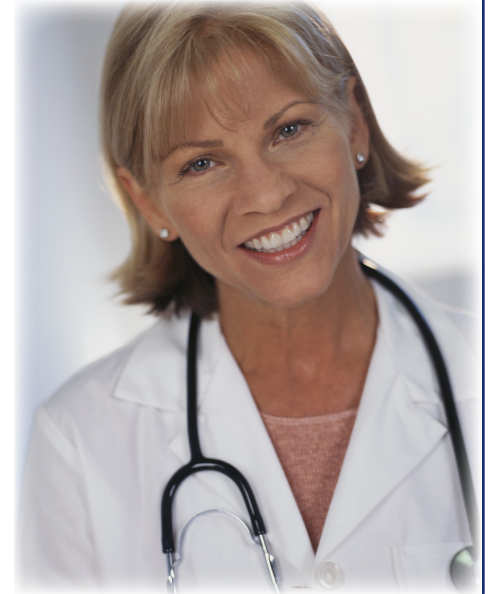
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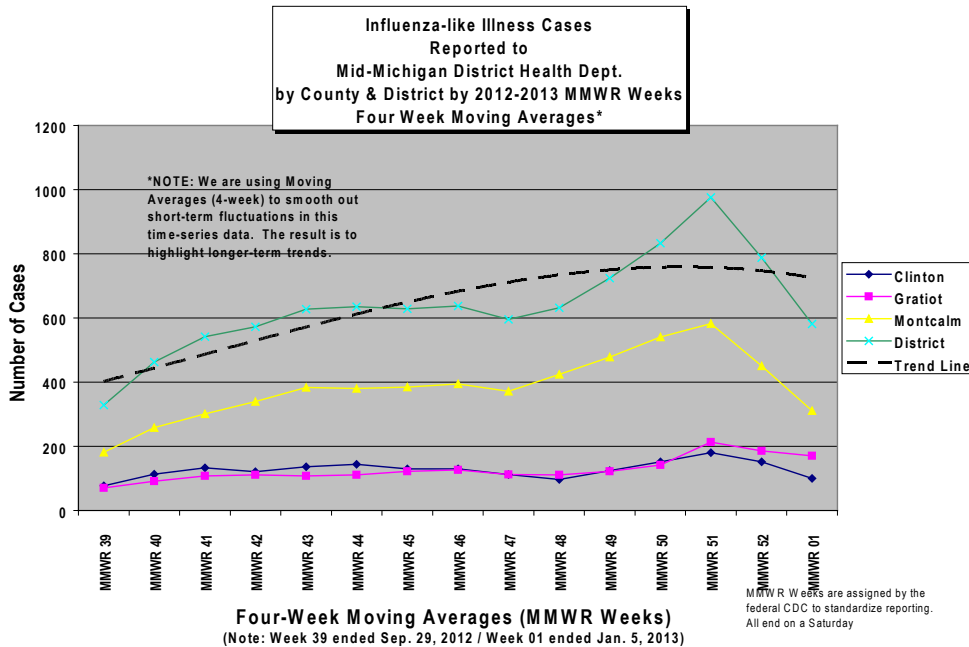


Mid-Michigan District Health Department: Your partner in promoting health

Welcome to another issue of the CD Reporting Newsletter for Medical Partners, brought to you by Mid-Michigan District Health Department. Our continued focus is to foster collaboration and awareness with regards to the prevention and treatment of communicable disease within Clinton, Gratiot, and Montcalm Counties. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform our partners of local, up-to-date data trends related to communicable diseases.



INFLUENZA



Last year's influenza season was relatively mild, but this year's virus is certainly making its presence known. Influenza continues to be a serious, unpredictable threat that can turn deadly.

As you know, the best way to prevent the flu and its potentially life-threatening complications is for everyone, age six months and older, to get vaccinated. Vaccination is especially important for those at high-risk for developing serious flu complications, such as the elderly, young children, pregnant women, those with weakened immune systems, and those with certain health conditions. Continue to protect children less than six months of age by vaccinating those around them, including parents, family members, and those who care for them.

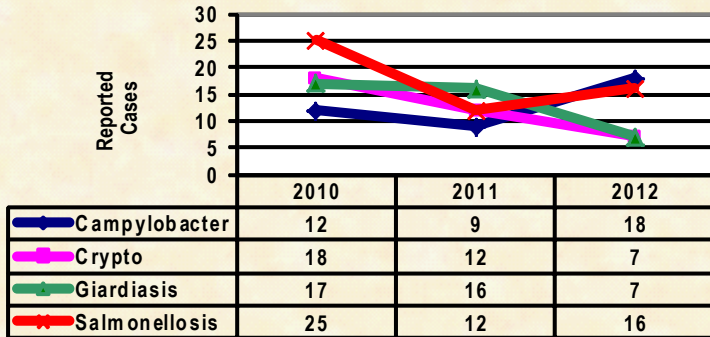
All health care providers are reminded that they are responsible for notifying the Mid-Michigan District Health Department of any reportable illnesses. A complete list of reportable illnesses can be found at:

http://michigan.gov/documents/Reportable_Disease_Chart_2005_122678_7.pdf

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE UPDATE

Communicable diseases account for a large number of illnesses among the populations of Clinton, Gratiot, and Montcalm Counties. There are four major groups of communicable diseases that MMDHD continues to focus on: Enteric illness, sexually transmitted diseases, Hepatitis A, B and C, and vaccine preventable diseases. For a five-year case listing of communicable diseases in Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm counties, please visit www.mmdhd.org.

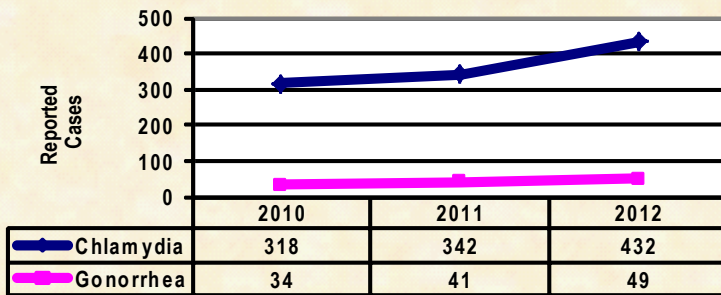
Enteric Illness (MMDHD 2010-12)



Enteric Illness

MMDHD investigates a large number of bacterial enteric illnesses each year, as evidenced by the graph. But viruses (Norovirus family) continue to be the major cause of gastrointestinal illness in the district. Reporting of individual cases is not mandated, so laboratory confirmation is often lacking, making graphing of Norovirus-type illnesses inaccurate. However, our experience with the investigation of group-setting outbreaks has shown the extent of Norovirus enteric illness in our communities. Very few outbreaks have been foodborne: the major mode of spread is airborne and via contaminated surfaces. The predominate genotype in Mid-Michigan is G2.

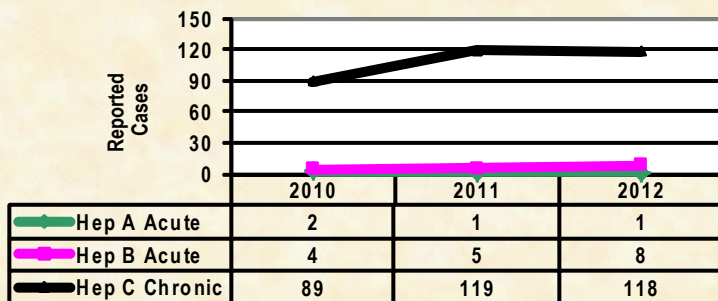
STD's (MMDHD 2010-12)



Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's)

Over the past ten-year period, chlamydia infection continued to increase in our three-county district. Gonorrhea peaked in 2004 and then slowly declined until two years ago. Nearly half of all new STDs occur in teens and young adults. MMDHD provides confidential STD screening and prevention services.

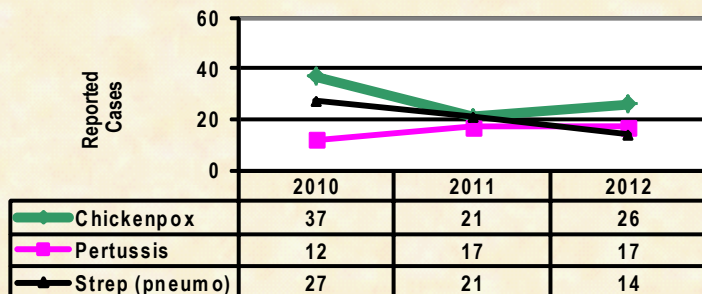
Viral Hepatitis (MMDHD 2010-12)



Hepatitis

Chronic Hepatitis C has become the most frequently reported of the hepatitisidies. The number of newly discovered cases has begun to decline, with the peak in the past ten years having been reached in 2008 when 128 confirmed/probable cases were reported. Forty-seven percent of the cases reported in 2012 were in prisoners. Immunizations for both Hepatitis A & B have significantly decreased the number of new cases of those diseases.

VPD's (MMDHD 2010-12)



Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD)

Pertussis has re-emerged in the past five years as a major vaccine preventable disease (VPD). While the number of cases in our jurisdiction fluctuates considerably year-to-year, the trend has been upward since 2000. Michigan cases were at a fifty-year high in 2010 with 1,581 reported. Investigation of known cases indicates an even larger number of unreported cases in our area. Consider pertussis in the assessment of any patient (adult or child) with prolonged coughing spells. The nasopharyngeal (NP) swab for PCR testing is preferred to confirm infection. Please assess the need for booster immunization in all patients. Note: the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) is recommending all pregnant women receive a Tdap booster in the second or third trimester of each pregnancy.