



Changes to Reportable Disease Rule (WV Code § 16-3-1; 64 CSR 7)

TO: West Virginia Healthcare Providers, Hospitals and other Healthcare Facilities
FROM: Rahul Gupta, MD, MPH, FACP, Commissioner and State Health Officer, WVDHHR, Bureau for Public Health
DATE: December 7, 2015

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS, LABORATORIES, MICROBIOLOGY SUPERVISORS, LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES, LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES' MEDICAL DIRECTORS, HOSPITAL-BASED PHYSICIANS, INFECTION CONTROL PREVENTIONISTS, AND OTHER APPLICABLE PARTNERS

This alert is to notify providers, facilities, and laboratories of amendments, additions, and deletions to the Reportable Disease Rule. In accordance with provisions of Legislative Rule 64 CSR 7, Reportable Disease, Events and Conditions, the Commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health has approved the following changes to the Reportable Disease Rule effective immediately:

- Suspect and confirmed cases of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) are now immediately reportable to the local health department.
- Influenza-like illnesses (numerical totals) are no longer reportable to the local health department. Information on influenza reporting requirements for the 2015-16 Influenza Season was included in a HAN released on September 29, 2015 and available at: www.dide.wv.gov.
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)-related death in an individual ≤ 5 years of age is now reportable to the local health department within one week.
- Acute flaccid myelitis (AFM) is now reportable to the local health department within one week. Information on acute flaccid myelitis was included in a HAN released on September 9, 2015 and available at: www.dide.wv.gov.
- All spotted fever group rickettsioses (previously only Rocky Mountain spotted fever) are reportable to the local health department within one week.
- *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* by Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) is now reportable to the local health department within one week.

Changes to the Reportable Disease Rule are necessary to update our reportable diseases and conditions list in accordance with current science and national surveillance efforts. For resources for reporting diseases and to view more on the changes made to the Reportable Disease Rule, please visit the DIDE website, Resources for Reporting Diseases, at: <http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/Reporting/Pages/default.aspx> or contact DIDE at 304-558-5358 (in WV) or 1-800-423-1271 ext. 1.

This message was directly distributed by the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health to local health departments and professional associations. Receiving entities are responsible for further disseminating the information as appropriate to the target audience.

Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance. Warrants immediate action or attention.

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