

Talking Points for Local Health Departments – The Reportable Disease Rule, 64 CSR-7, Revised Effective 8/12/2013

Reportable Disease Rule enables state and local health departments (LHD) to:

- Receive reports of diseases from providers and laboratories
- Take action to prevent and control disease – prevent disease spread
- Investigate and control outbreaks
- Protect the identity of persons and facilities

Tools for rule implementation:

- *Link to reportable disease rule:* <http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/Law/Pages/default.aspx>
- *Wall charts:* <http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/Reporting/Pages/default.aspx>
 - Includes wall chart for electronic reporting from laboratories
- *Reportable disease protocol manual:* <http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/Manual/Pages/default.aspx>
- *Disease Reporting form for providers:*
http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/Reporting/Documents/Report_Card.pdf
- *Outbreak investigation protocols:*
 - General Outbreaks: <http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/ob/Documents/protocols/community-outbreak-protocol.pdf>
 - Healthcare Associated Infection Outbreaks: <http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/hai/documents/hai-protocol.pdf>
- *Veteran's Health Administration (VHA) Directive 2013-008, issued on June 25, 2013:* This directive established mandatory reporting of infectious diseases designated as reportable to local, district, and state public health authorities, and territorial entities legally authorized to receive such reports. The directive was a result of a Legionnaire's Disease outbreak that went unreported over a two year period of time (2010-2012) at a Pittsburgh Veterans Administration facility. Congress is currently debating legislation that would mandate such reporting by law to appropriate jurisdictional public health authorities.

Talking Points for Local Health Departments – The Reportable Disease Rule, 64 CSR-7, Revised Effective 8/12/2013

Category I diseases and conditions - report immediately to LHD:

- Prevent or control disease
- Facilitate laboratory confirmation
- Respond to community concerns
- *Examples:*
 - Category I bioterrorism agents
 - Outbreaks
- *Added:*
 - Rubella
 - Rubella congenital syndrome
- *Report by phone; follow up with written report (providers) or copy of the lab report (labs)*

Category II diseases and conditions -- report within 24 hours to LHD:

- Prevent or control disease
- Facilitate laboratory confirmation
- *Examples:*
 - Animal bites
 - Hepatitis
 - Tuberculosis (TB)
- *Added:*
 - Mumps
- *Report by phone; follow up with written report (providers) or copy of the lab slip (labs)*

Talking Points for Local Health Departments – The Reportable Disease Rule, 64 CSR-7, Revised Effective 8/12/2013

Category III diseases -- report within 72 hours to LHD to:

- Prevent and control disease
- Promptly recognize outbreaks
- Improve recall of food history and other risk factors
- Facilitate molecular typing of selected pathogens
- *Examples:*
 - Foodborne and waterborne pathogens
- *Added:*
 - Non-cholera *Vibrio* species
- *Deleted:*
 - Amoebiasis
 - Yersiniosis
- *Send written report (providers) or a copy of the lab slip (labs)*

Category IV diseases and conditions -- report within 1 week to LHD:

- Facilitate disease surveillance
- *Examples:*
 - Mosquito-borne and tick-borne diseases
 - Legionellosis
 - Aggregate influenza and chickenpox
 - Tetanus
- *Added:*
 - Anaplasmosis
 - Babesiosis

Talking Points for Local Health Departments – The Reportable Disease Rule, 64 CSR-7, Revised Effective 8/12/2013

- From labs only: Carbapenem resistant *Enterobacteriaceae*
- Deleted:
 - Community associated invasive MRSA
 - Death from chickenpox
 - Group A *Streptococcus*, invasive
- Send a written report (providers) or a copy of the lab slip (labs)

Category V reportable conditions -- report within 1 week to Bureau for Public Health (BPH):

- Facilitate disease surveillance at the state level
- Examples:
 - HIV
 - STDs
 - Hepatitis C
- Send a written report (providers) or a copy of the lab slip (labs)

Electronic laboratory reporting:

- In development. Options include direct reporting to the West Virginia Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WVEDSS) or indirect reporting through the West Virginia Health Information Network (WVHIN) (<http://www.wvhin.org/default.aspx>).
- Validated laboratories can substitute electronic laboratory reporting for the required paper reporting.
- Validation requires submission of paper and electronic records until the BPH determines that electronic reporting is at least as complete as paper reporting.
- A wall chart for electronic laboratory reporting is found at:
<http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/Reporting/documents/reportable-disease-charts/e-lab-chart.pdf>

Talking Points for Local Health Departments – The Reportable Disease Rule, 64 CSR-7, Revised Effective 8/12/2013

Additional required reporting:

- All vaccinations administered to children from birth through age 18 must be reported to the West Virginia Statewide Immunization Information System (WVSIS) within 2 weeks of administration whether with public or privately supplied vaccine and whether in public or private setting. Vaccinations administered to older persons are strongly encouraged to be reported, also.
- Outbreaks are immediately reportable to the LHD by phone, regardless of setting.
- Suspect or confirmed disease due to bioterrorism agent must be reported immediately to the LHD.

Summary of health care provider and health care facility responsibilities:

- Providers who suspect, diagnose or treat a reportable condition (including outbreaks) must report it to the state or LHD under this rule.
- Providers must assist in case or outbreak investigation, and public health management of case, including contact tracing and prophylaxis.
- Providers must submit specimens to the Office of Laboratory Services (OLS) if requested.
- Providers must report pertinent negative test results.
- Contact notification for tuberculosis, HIV or STDs can be performed by the State program.

Summary of Laboratory responsibilities:

- Report conditions described in the reportable disease rule.
- Submit specimens/isolates to OLS if requested (see wall chart).
- Outbreak-related specimen/isolate may be requested.
- Electronic laboratory reporting can occur when labs are designated as validated submitters by the BPH.

Talking Points for Local Health Departments – The Reportable Disease Rule, 64 CSR-7, Revised Effective 8/12/2013

Summary of responsibilities of schools:

- Report outbreaks, diseases as required under this rule
- Assist in case and outbreak investigation and management
- Follow control and prevention recommendations
- Contact State program for STD, HIV, TB patient and contact notification
- Schools: Personally identifying information (PII) can be disclosed to public health during case or outbreak investigation; exempt from the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Confidentiality provisions:

- Information collected is confidential and free from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
- Selected information may be released (under certain conditions) to:
 - Patient
 - Patient’s legal representative
 - Patient’s medical provider for purpose of medical treatment
 - Health Department
 - Patient’s employer or school/daycare (only to the extent necessary to prevent spread)

Call for questions:

- Local Health Department
 - County _____
 - Phone _____
 - Fax _____
 - Website _____
- Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology
 - Phone: (800) 423-1271, extension 1 OR (304) 558-5358, extension 1
 - Secure Fax for reporting: (304) 558-8736
 - Website: www.dide.wv.gov

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