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Subject: Broadcast - Infectious Tidbits: The Quarterly Infectious Disease Newsletter from Tri-County Health Department

Message ID: 9/15/2017 9:00:00 AM

Recipients: HAN Community Members

From: CO – TRI-COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT – COUNTY
Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas County, Colorado

Recipient Instructions: For your information. No response required.

You have received this message based upon the information contained within our Health Alert Network Notification System. If you have a different or additional e-mail or fax address that you would like us to use or if you have additional questions, please call 720-200-1477.

Categories of Health Alert Network Messages:

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

Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

Info Service/Public Health Brief: Provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.

**You may download a copy of this HAN from the TCHD website at
<http://www.tchd.org/259/Health-Alert-Network>**

Infectious Tidbits

The Quarterly Infectious Disease Newsletter from Tri-County Health Department

Disease Highlight: Increase in Hepatitis A cases —Get Vaccinated!

Colorado has had 54 cases of hepatitis A virus (HAV), as of August 30, 2017, more than double the number Colorado sees for an entire year; 16 of the cases have been in TCHD's jurisdiction. One of the cases died and approximately 50% were hospitalized. We're seeing more cases among men who have sex with other unvaccinated men.

Hepatitis A, a vaccine preventable disease that affects the liver, can cause jaundice, fatigue, abdominal cramping, and fever. Persons infected with the virus are infectious for up to two weeks prior to symptom onset, and one week after jaundice. HAV is spread through fecal oral transmission when an infected person:

- does not thoroughly wash their hands prior to preparing foods for others
- has oral or anal sex with others
- contaminates an object with feces that is ingested by others

The vaccine is recommended for most people over the age of one, but especially for:

- men who have sex with men
- people with chronic liver disease
- people traveling to countries where HAV is common
- people who use injection and non-injection street drugs



For more information on where you can get a low cost, confidential vaccine, call 303-451-0123 or go to vaccinefinder.org

World Rabies Day: September 28, 2017

<https://www.cdc.gov/worldrabiesday/>

Contact Information:

Report infectious diseases or outbreaks to TCHD within 24 hours to help prevent further spread of illness!

www.tchd.org or

call Disease Control at (303) 220-9200

After hours: 303-461-2342

Did you know? National Lead Awareness Week is October 22-28, 2017

For more information go to: www.tchd.org/lead

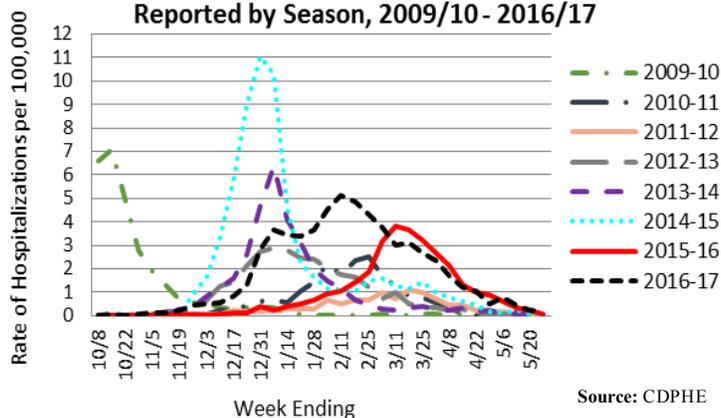
Flu Season is around the Corner!

Recap: According to CDPHE's data for the 2016-2017 season, there were a total of 3,340 hospitalized flu cases in Colorado, with 26% of the cases from the Tri-County Health Department jurisdiction of Adams, Arapahoe, and Douglas counties.

Recommendations: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends annual flu vaccination for all individuals 6 months or older, with rare exception (<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/whoshouldvax.htm>). High risk groups such as, children 6 months to 4 years, adults 50 years and older, immunosuppressed individuals, and healthcare personnel are particularly encouraged to receive annual vaccination. As shown in the graph below, the timing of peak hospitalization rates vary by season. Due to this variance, the recommendation is to get your flu vaccine as soon as it's available.

Reminder: Beginning in the 2016-2017 season, the ACIP released guidance against using a live attenuated influenza vaccine due to concerns about its effectiveness. ACIP guidelines for flu and other vaccines are available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/flu.html>.

Rates of Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations Reported by Season, 2009/10 - 2016/17



Source: CDPHE



Eleven offices along the front range serving the residents of Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas Counties
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