



# County of Santa Cruz

## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

POST OFFICE BOX 962, 1060 EMELINE AVENUE SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0962  
(831) 454-4114 FAX: (831) 454-5049 TDD: (831) 454-4123

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE UNIT

### PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY ENTEROVIRUS – D68 (EV-D68)

<b>To:</b>	<b>All Healthcare Providers</b>
<b>From:</b>	<b>Lisa B. Hernandez, Health Officer, Santa Cruz County</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Sept. 18, 2014</b>
<b>Release #:</b>	<b>2014EVD1-2</b>

#### CURRENT SITUATION

- **The California Department of Public Health has confirmed 4 cases of EV-D68 cases in patients in San Diego (3) and Ventura (1) counties. These are the first confirmed cases in California in 2014 due to EV-D68. More cases are anticipated in the coming weeks.**
- From mid-August to Sept. 18, 2014, one-hundred and one people in seven states were confirmed to have respiratory illness caused by EV-D68.
- The majority of hospitalized patients are <5 years of age and most have a history of asthma.
- Patients have presented with wheezing or difficulty breathing with hypoxia. Only ~20% of patients have been febrile.
- Chest radiographs frequently show perihilar infiltrates, often with atelectasis. Several patients have required mechanical ventilation or bilevel positive airway pressure ventilation.
- Contact the Santa Cruz County Communicable Disease Unit IMMEDIATELY at (831) 454-4114 if you suspect a patient has EV-D68. After hours, please call 831-471-1170.

#### INFORMATION

- EV-D68 primarily causes respiratory illness, although the full spectrum of disease remains unclear.
- CDPH has NOT received reports of clusters of severe respiratory illness in young children.
- Early identification of EV-D68 will help in the management of outbreaks and containment strategies so it is vital to test suspect cases.

## ACTIONS

- Consider EV-D68 in children under the age of 18 with severe respiratory illness, especially with wheezing, who present to an Emergency Department and/or are transferred to a PICU or ICU.
- Respiratory specimens (e.g. nasopharyngeal swabs, throat swabs, endotracheal aspirates) should be collected and sent for polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing for multiple viral pathogens, including influenza, rhinovirus and/or enterovirus.
- Specimens that test positive for rhinovirus or enterovirus by PCR should be sent to our local Public Health Laboratory who will forward the specimens to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (VRDL) for further testing. Our local Public Health laboratory can be reached during business hours at 831-454-5445 and after hours at 471-1170.
- Specimens should be accompanied by the following Enterovirus D68 Surveillance Submittal Form available at:  
<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/vrdl/Documents/Enhanced%20Enterovirus%20%20EV-D68%20Surveillance%20140909.pdf>

**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.



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.