

Communicable Diseases

Monthly Newsletter

Joplin City/Jasper County

April 2014

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

May is Open Season on Ticks in Missouri.

It's springtime and most of us are spending more time outdoors and likely coming into contact with ticks in grassy and wooded areas. The risk of tick-borne illness is low, but preventing infection is still the best thing to do! While continuing to enjoy the outdoors, Missourians should take precautions to avoid ticks.

At least six different human tick-borne diseases have been reported in Missouri: Rocky Mountain spotted fever, ehrlichiosis, tularemia, Q-fever, [Lyme or a lyme-like disease](#) and the southern tick-associated rash illness.

Prevention measures focus on increasing community awareness about avoiding tick bites, using repellent, doing tick checks, recognizing symptoms, and when to seek health care.

For more information, visit: www.health.mo.gov



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MERS-CoV Cases Reported in the United States

Second US MERS Case

CDC & Florida Dept of Health confirm a traveler to US infected with MERS-CoV

CDC has announced the 2 cases of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus infection (MERS-CoV) in the United States. This virus is relatively new to humans and first reported in Saudi Arabia in 2012.

Both cases had travel history to Saudia Arabia but are not linked. Because of the patients' symptoms and travel history, public health officials tested for MERS-CoV which was thereafter confirmed.

As of May 16, there have been 572 laboratory-confirmed cases of MERS in 15 countries. Most of these people developed severe acute respiratory illness, with fever, cough, and shortness of breath; 173 people died. So far all cases have been linked to countries in the Arabian Peninsula. The virus has spread from ill people to others through close contact.

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Sexually Transmitted Diseases in Jasper County, 2014

The total number of reported cases in 2014 (Jan thru March) indicate a decrease compared with the two previous years, 2012 and 2013.

Chlamydia continues to be the most reported STD.

Source: DHSS/Joplin/Jasper County HDs

	2012	2013	2014
Chlamydia	131	123	118
Gonorrhea	18	23	15
Syphilis	0	1	1
Total	149	147	134

Measles in the U.S.

From January 1 to April 25, 2014, there were 154 measles cases reported in the U.S. to the CDC. Since measles elimination was documented in the U.S. in 2000, annual reported cases have ranged between 37 in 2004 and 220 in 2011.

The Philippines is currently experiencing a large, ongoing measles outbreak (more than 20,000 cases). Outbreaks in countries to which Americans often travel can directly contribute to an increase in measles cases in the U.S. The majority of the people who get measles are unvaccinated.

Measles is still common in many parts of the world. Travelers with measles continue to bring the disease to the U.S.

The illness can spread when it reaches a community in the U.S. where groups of people are unvaccinated.

Source: www.cdc.gov



MERS-CoV Case Reported in the U.S.

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There is no available vaccine or specific treatment recommended for the virus. The CDC has issued Health Advisory regarding the infection and advises Americans to help protect themselves from respiratory illnesses by washing hands often, avoiding close contact with people who are sick, avoid touching their eyes, nose and/or mouth with unwashed hands, and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces.

For more information about MERS Co-V, please visit:

- Middle East Respiratory Syndrome: <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/mers/index.html>
- About Coronavirus: <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/about/index.html>
- Frequently Asked MERS Questions and Answers: <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/mers/faq.html>

Source: CDC

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Communicable Diseases Report: 2014

Table 2. Cumulative Cases in Joplin/Jasper County: January-April: 2013 & 2014
(Data include confirmed, probable and suspect cases)

	JOPLIN		JASPER	
	2013	2014	2013	2014
ANAPLASMA PHAGOCYTOPHILUM	0	0	1	0
CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS	5	4	11	8
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS	0	3	2	1
E COLI SHIGA TOXIN POSITIVE	0	1	0	2
E. COLI O157 H7	1	0	0	1
GIARDIASIS	0	0	1	1
HEPATITIS B (PREGNANCY)	0	0	1	1
HEPATITIS B (ACUTE)	1	2	1	1
HEPATITIS B (CHRONIC)	3	1	7	2
LEGIONELLOSIS	0	0	0	1
MYCOBACTERIUM OTHER THAN TB (MOTT)	1	8	3	7
RABIES POST EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS	0	2	0	2
ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER	0	1	0	0
SALMONELLOSIS	2	1	1	0
SHIGELLOSIS	1	0	0	0
STREP DISEASE (GROUP A INVASIVE)	0	2	0	1
STREP PNEUMONIAE (<5 YRS INVASIVE)	0	1	2	0
TB DISEASE	0	0	1	1
TB INFECTION	6	12	11	7
VARICELLA (CHICKENPOX)	0	1	5	4

Source: DHSS. Analysis: Joplin/Jasper County HDs

Data provided is provisional and may be subject to change

Color Legend

	Cases in 2014 higher than 2013
	Cases in 2014 Lower than 2013

Contact Us



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Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony. ~ Mahatma Gandhi