

PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION

A quarterly newsletter from the Clinton County Health Department

MANDATED COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTING

Reporting of suspected or confirmed communicable diseases is mandated under the New York State Sanitary Code. Visit <https://bit.ly/3mdPS7g> or see attached for the full listing of reportable diseases. Reports should be made to CCHD within 24 hours of diagnosis.

Diseases listed in **red bold type** with the telephone icon must be reported *immediately* to the Health Department (regardless of the time of day or day of the week). Diseases in **black** should be reported to CCHD as soon as possible during regular work days.

During normal business hours (Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm) reports should be called to **518-565-4848**.

During evenings, weekends, and holidays, reports should be called to the after-hours line at **518-565-3270**. This number connects the caller to the Clinton County Office of Emergency Services, who then contacts the appropriate CCHD staff.

Note: A confirmed laboratory report of the disease is not necessary in order to report. Many diseases are diagnosed by clinical criteria only. A suspicion of a communicable disease should also be reported, especially if it is listed in red.

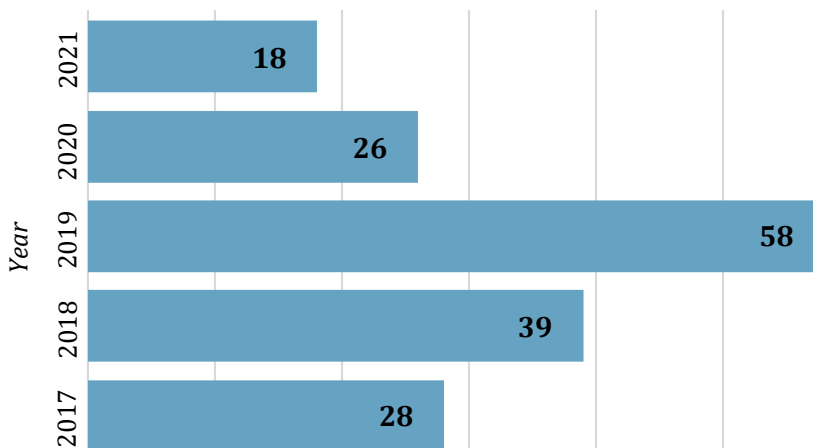
CCHD communicable disease staff are required to investigate all reportable diseases. Staff communicates with physicians via phone and fax to request details of the investigation. Please respond in a timely manner so that staff can identify newly emerging infections, detect outbreaks, and prevent secondary transmissions. Reporting of communicable diseases is permitted under HIPAA; a patient consent is not required. CCHD appreciates your cooperation in protecting the health of our community.

RABIES PREVENTION

The number of individuals requiring post exposure prophylaxis (PEP) following potential rabies exposures in Clinton County has decreased nearly 70% since 2019 (see *Figure 1*). In an effort to further minimize potentially unnecessary PEP, providers are encouraged to:

- Notify CCHD immediately if a patient is bitten by a wild or domestic animal. Access CCHD’s Animal Bite/Exposure Form at <https://bit.ly/3ffgXRR>. Fill the form out as completely as possible to assist CCHD staff in conducting prompt follow-up on potential rabies exposures.
- Educate patients on rabies prevention, prompt notification of an animal bite or potential rabies exposure, and the need for timely PEP. If a patient finds a bat in their house, they should safely capture it and call CCHD at **518-565-4870**.
- Instruct patients to avoid contact with all animals when traveling internationally and to seek medical care immediately if they are bitten or scratched.
- Encourage patients to vaccinate their pets. Patients may visit www.clintonhealth.org for up-to-date information on free rabies clinics offered by CCHD.
- Contact CCHD’s Environmental Health & Safety Division at **518-565-4870** prior to administering any PEP.
- View CCHD’s *Clinton County Profiles in Public Health: Rabies* at <https://bit.ly/312Pbmf>.

Figure 1. Rabies Post Exposure Prophylaxis in Clinton County



Number of individuals who received rabies PEP

COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD WANTS YOUR INPUT!

The Clinton County Community Services Board (CSB) is seeking feedback on behavioral health (BH) and intellectual/developmental disability (IDD) services in our community. Information gathered will be used to identify needs and implement improvements in these service systems. The survey should take less than ten minutes to complete and may be accessed at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSB-2022>.

To learn more about the Community Services Board, visit <http://clmhd.org/about-us/>.

RECREATIONAL WATER ILLNESS

Nationwide there has been an increase in the reported number of Recreational Water Illness (RWI) outbreaks. Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), from 2015-2019 there were 208 outbreaks in 36 states associated with treated recreational waters, resulting in 3,646 cases of illness. Almost all of the cases (199; 96%) were associated with public pools, hot tubs, or water playgrounds. RWIs can be caused by bacteria, parasites or chemicals found in recreational water, including *Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia*, *Shigella*, and/or *E.Coli* 0157. *Cryptosporidium* accounted for 49% of the confirmed outbreaks and 84% of the cases noted above.

Especially during warmer summer months, consider possible RWI if a patient presents with diarrheal illness and has a history of exposure to recreational waters, private or regulated, any exposure to farm animals and if any other household members are symptomatic. Other common symptoms of RWIs include vomiting, stomach cramps, loss of appetite, weight loss and fever. Some RWIs can cause skin, eye, respiratory, or neurological symptoms.

If an RWI is suspected, a stool sample should be obtained for a stool culture. Suspected RWIs can be reported to CCHD at **518-565-4848**. For more information on RWI, visit <https://bit.ly/3NywYmM>.

FREE DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENINGS

Free developmental screenings for children birth to 3 years of age are held on the 4th Monday of each month at CCHD.

Parents and caregivers may call **518-565-4848** for more information and to schedule an appointment.

Additional information is available at www.clintonhealth.org/specialneeds.

CLINTON COUNTY WIC PROGRAM UPDATES

NEW income guidelines for WIC participants through 6/30/23 are now available at www.clintonhealth.org/wic. Applicants can be qualified as income-eligible for WIC based on their participation in programs such as Medicaid, SNAP or TANF. If they do not participate in any of those programs, household income must be assessed to determine eligibility. The Clinton County WIC Program is open Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm. Residents are encouraged to call **518-565-4830** with any questions or to review eligibility.

The infant formula shortage continues to pose an issue for formula feeding families. The NYS WIC Program has temporarily added alternative options for certain formulas. Depending on the formula, participants may be able to temporarily purchase a combination of formula brands and alternate container sizes.

A shopping guide is available at <https://bit.ly/3zknUyK>. WIC families are encouraged to call the program directly with additional questions (**518-565-4830**).

Abbott Nutrition has resumed production at their Michigan plant as of early June but has experienced additional set-backs since that time. The FDA projections indicate that supply will not be fully replenished until later this summer.

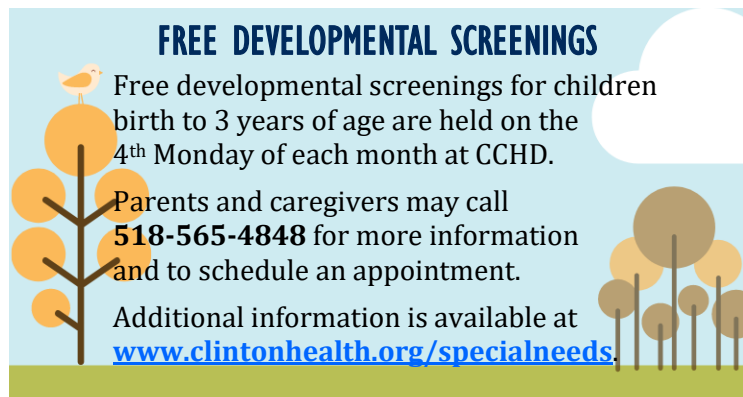
CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

The Clinton County *Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program* (CYSHCN) seeks to support the system of care for children and youth with special health care needs from birth to 21 years of age, and their families. The program is part of a network of statewide CYSHCN programs, and aims to provide additional community resources to help families with wrap-around support.

Currently, CYSHCN staff are developing resource packets on a number of diagnoses, including: autism spectrum disorder; vision/hearing impairment; Down syndrome; OPWDD eligibility; and more. Further information will be available to providers and families.

Children served by the CYSHCN Program have an illness or condition for which they need extra health care and support services. These children might have a serious or chronic: physical condition; intellectual or developmental disability; and/or behavioral or emotional condition.

Families or providers can make a referral to CYSHCN by calling **518-565-4848**.



Communicable Disease Reporting Requirements

Reporting of suspected or confirmed communicable diseases is mandated under the New York State Sanitary Code (10NYCRR 2.10,2.14). The primary responsibility for reporting rests with the physician; moreover, laboratories (PHL 2102), school nurses (10NYCRR 2.12), day care center directors, nursing homes/hospitals (10NYCRR 405.3d) and state institutions (10NYCRR 2.10a) or other locations providing health services (10NYCRR 2.12) are also required to report the diseases listed below.

Anaplasmosis	Cryptosporidiosis	Pregnant hepatitis B carrier	C Monkeypox	C Staphylococcal enterotoxin B poisoning ²
Amebiasis	Cyclosporiasis	Herpes infection, infants aged 60 days or younger	Mumps	Streptococcal infection (invasive disease) ⁵
C Animal bites for which rabies prophylaxis is given ¹	C Diphtheria	Hospital associated infections (as defined in section 2.2 10NYCRR)	C Plague ²	Group A beta-hemolytic strep
C Anthrax ²	E.coli O157:H7 infection ⁴	Influenza, laboratory-confirmed	C Poliomyelitis	Group B strep
C Arboviral infection ³	Ehrlichiosis	Legionellosis	Psittacosis	Streptococcus pneumoniae
Babesiosis	C Encephalitis	Listeriosis	C Q Fever ²	C Syphilis, specify stage ⁷
C Botulism ²	C Foodborne Illness	Lyme disease	C Rabies ¹	Tetanus
C Brucellosis ²	Giardiasis	Lymphogranuloma venereum	Rocky Mountain spotted fever	Toxic shock syndrome
Campylobacteriosis	C Glanders ²	Malaria	C Rubella (including congenital rubella syndrome)	Transmissible spongiform encephalopathies ⁸ (TSE)
Chancroid	Gonococcal infection	C Measles	Salmonellosis	Trichinosis
Chlamydia trachomatis infection	Haemophilus influenzae ⁵ (invasive disease)	C Melioidosis ²	Shigatoxin-producing E.coli ⁴ (STEC)	C Tuberculosis current disease (specify site)
C Cholera	C Hantavirus disease	Meningitis	Shigellosis ⁴	C Tularemia ²
C Coronavirus (severe or novel) 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)	Hemolytic uremic syndrome	Aseptic or viral	C Smallpox ²	C Typhoid
Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)	Hepatitis A	C Haemophilus	Staphylococcus aureus ⁶ (due to strains showing reduced susceptibility or resistance to vancomycin)	C Vaccinia disease ⁹
Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)	C Hepatitis A in a food handler	C Meningococcal Other (specify type)		Vibriosis ⁶
	Hepatitis B (specify acute or chronic)	C Meningococemia		C Viral hemorrhagic fever ²
	Hepatitis C (specify acute or chronic)			Yersiniosis

WHO SHOULD REPORT?

Physicians, nurses, laboratory directors, infection control practitioners, health care facilities, state institutions, schools.

WHERE SHOULD REPORT BE MADE?

Report to local health department where patient resides.
 Contact Person Clinton County Health Department
 Name Communicable Disease Intake Supervisor
 Address 133 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh
 Phone 518-565-4848* (8am-5pm, M-F) Fax 518-565-4509
 *After hours/ weekends/ holidays 518-565-3270

WHEN SHOULD REPORT BE MADE?

Within 24 hours of diagnosis:

- Phone diseases in bold type,
- Mail case report, DOH-389, for all other diseases.
- In New York City use form PD-16.

SPECIAL NOTES

- Diseases listed in **bold type** **C** warrant prompt action and should be reported **immediately** to local health departments by phone followed by submission of the confidential case report form (DOH-389). In NYC use case report form PD-16.
- In addition to the diseases listed above, any unusual disease (defined as a newly apparent or emerging disease or syndrome that could possibly be caused by a transmissible infectious agent or microbial toxin) is reportable.
- Outbreaks: while individual cases of some diseases (e.g., streptococcal sore throat, head lice, impetigo, scabies and pneumonia) are not reportable, a cluster or outbreak of cases of any communicable disease is a reportable event.
- **Cases of HIV infection, HIV-related illness and AIDS are reportable on form DOH-4189 which may be obtained by contacting:**
 Division of Epidemiology, Evaluation and Research
 P.O. Box 2073, ESP Station
 Albany, NY 12220-2073
 (518) 474-4284
 In NYC: New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
 For HIV/AIDS reporting, call:
 (212) 442-3388

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Local health department must be notified prior to initiating rabies prophylaxis.
2. Diseases that are possible indicators of bioterrorism.
3. Including, but not limited to, infections caused by eastern equine encephalitis virus, western equine encephalitis virus, West Nile virus, St. Louis encephalitis virus, La Crosse virus, Powassan virus, Jamestown Canyon virus, dengue and yellow fever.
4. Positive shigatoxin test results should be reported as presumptive evidence of disease.
5. Only report cases with positive cultures from blood, CSF, joint, peritoneal or pleural fluid. Do not report cases with positive cultures from skin, saliva, sputum or throat.
6. Proposed addition to list.
7. Any non-treponemal test $\geq 1:16$ or any positive prenatal or delivery test regardless of titer or any primary or secondary stage disease, should be reported by phone; all others may be reported by mail.
8. Including Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. Cases should be reported directly to the New York State Department of Health Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias Registry at (518) 473-7817 upon suspicion of disease. In NYC, cases should also be reported to the NYCDOHMH.
9. Persons with vaccinia infection due to contact transmission and persons with the following complications from vaccination; eczema vaccinatum, erythema multiforme major or Stevens-Johnson syndrome, fetal vaccinia, generalized vaccinia, inadvertent inoculation, ocular vaccinia, post-vaccinal encephalitis or encephalomyelitis, progressive vaccinia, pyogenic infection of the infection site, and any other serious adverse events.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information on disease reporting, call your local health department or the New York State Department of Health Bureau of Communicable Disease Control at (518) 473-4439 or (866) 881-2809 after hours. In New York City, 1 (866) NYC-DOH1. To obtain reporting forms (DOH-389), call (518) 474-0548.

PLEASE POST THIS CONSPICUOUSLY