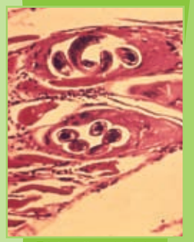
PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTING FOR CLINICIANS

Oregon Public Health Division



Trichinella spiralis in muscle tissue

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Most reptiles carry and excrete *Salmonella*

Mediastinal widening from inhalational anthrax

Smallpox—eradicated?

By law,[1] Oregon clinicians must report diagnoses of the specified infections, diseases, and conditions. Both lab-confirmed and clinically suspect cases are reportable. The parallel system of lab reporting does not obviate the clinician's obligation to report. Some conditions (e.g., Uncommon Illnesses of Public Health Significance, animal bites, HUS, PID, pesticide poisoning, disease outbreaks) are rarely if ever identified by labs. In short, we depend upon clinicians to report.

Reports should be made to the patient's local health department[2] and should include at least the patient's name, home address, phone number, date of birth, sex, the diagnosis, and the date of symptom onset. Most reports should be made within one working day of the diagnosis, but there are several important exceptions.

Disease reporting enables appropriate public health follow-up for your patients, helps identify outbreaks, provides a better understanding of morbidity patterns, and may even save lives. Remember that HIPAA does not prohibit you from reporting protected health information to public health authorities for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease, including public health surveillance and investigations; see 45 CFR 164.512(b)(1)(i).

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

For a list of local health department phone numbers go to:
www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/acd/reporting/counties.shtml

DHS
Oregon Department of Human Services
Office of Disease Prevention and Epidemiology
971-673-1111 (phone) • 971-673-1100 (fax)
www.oshd.org/acd

IMMEDIATELY

- Anthrax
- Botulism
- Diphtheria
- Marine intoxications[3]
- Plague
- SARS-coronavirus
- Any outbreak of disease[4]
- Any uncommon Illness of potential public health significance[5]

WITHIN 24 HOURS

- *Haemophilus influenzae*
- Measles (rubeola)
- Meningococcal disease
- Pesticide poisoning
- Polio
- Rabies
- Rubella
- *Vibrio* infection

WITHIN ONE WORKING DAY

- Animal bites
- Any arthropod-borne infection[6]
- Brucellosis
- Campylobacteriosis
- Chancroid
- *Chlamydia* infection[7]
- Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) and other prion illnesses
- Cryptosporidiosis
- *Cyclospora* infection
- *Escherichia coli* (Shiga-toxigenic)[8]
- Giardiasis
- Gonorrhea
- Hantavirus infection
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C
- Hepatitis D (delta)
- HIV infection and AIDS
- Hemolytic-uremic syndrome (HUS)
- Legionellosis
- Leptospirosis
- Listeriosis
- Lyme disease
- Lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV)
- Malaria
- Mumps
- Pelvic inflammatory disease (acute, non-gonococcal)
- Pertussis
- Psittacosis
- Q fever
- Rocky Mountain spotted fever
- Salmonellosis (including typhoid)
- Shigellosis
- Syphilis
- *Taenia solium* infection/Cysticercosis
- Tetanus
- Trichinosis
- Tuberculosis
- Tularemia
- West Nile virus
- Yersiniosis

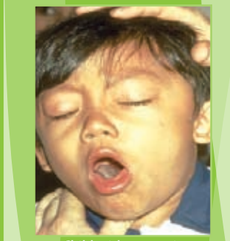
WITHIN ONE WEEK

- Lead poisoning
- Diabetes in a person ≤18 years old[9]

FOOTNOTES

1 ORS 433.004; OAR 333-018-0000 to 333-018-0015.
2 Refer to *www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/acd/reporting/disrpt.shtml* for a list of local health departments and more details about what to report.
3 Paralytic shellfish poisoning, scombroid, domoic acid intoxication, ciguatera, etc.
4 Outbreaks are ≥2 cases from separate households associated with a suspected common source.
5 We can't list every exotic disease in the world. Ask yourself "Might there be public health implications from a case of possible Ebola, smallpox, melioidosis, or whatever?" If the answer is "yes"—or even "maybe"—then pick up the phone. There are no penalties for overreporting.
6 Including any viral, bacterial, and parasitic infections typically spread by ticks, mosquitos, fleas and their ilk (e.g. relapsing fever, typhus, babesiosis, dengue, filariasis, Colorado tick fever, ehrlichiosis, yellow fever, Chagas disease, leishmaniasis, SLE, WEE, EEE, CCHF, etc.)
7 STDs, trachoma, TWAR, psittacosis—all of 'em—even if they're renamed *Chlamydophila*.
8 *E. coli* O157:H7 is the exemplar of this group.
9 Fax all childhood diabetes cases to 971-673-0994 (Forms available at *www.healthoregon.org/diabetes).*

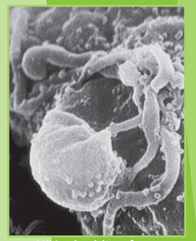
Big brown bats (*Eptesicus fuscus*) can carry rabies



Child with pertussis

© Bill Keene

A potential source of several enteric pathogens



HIV-1 budding from cultured lymphocyte