Public Health Advisory
Enterovirus EV-D68
September 9, 2014

Situation:

On September 8, 2014, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released the following information about two clusters of severe respiratory illness associated with Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) in Missouri and Illinois. The Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) conducts year-round surveillance for enteroviruses, including EV-D68, as part of the Pediatric Early Warning Sentinel Surveillance (PEWSS) system.

Guidance for Clinicians:

As of September 8, 2014, there has been no increase in enterovirus in Southern Nevada identified through the PEWSS system. Clinicians should report all suspected clusters or outbreaks of respiratory illness to the SNHD Office of Epidemiology at 702-759-1300, option #2 (available 24/7).

To help SNHD reduce the risk of infection with EV-D68, healthcare professionals should recommend the following:

1. Wash hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds (alcohol-based hand sanitizers are not effective against EV-D68), especially after changing diapers;
2. Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands;
3. Avoid kissing, hugging, and sharing cups or eating utensils with people who are sick;
4. Disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as toys and doorknobs, especially if someone is sick;
5. Stay home when feeling sick, and obtain consultation from your health care provider.

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Resources:

   http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm63e0908a1.htm?s_cid=mm63e0908a1_w