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To: Local, Tribal and Regional Health Officials, Infection Control Practitioners, Physicians and other Health Care Providers, Hospital and Laboratory Staff

From: Jeffrey P. Davis, MD, Chief Medical Officer and State Epidemiologist
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**** PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO STAFF INVOLVED IN DISEASE REPORTING ****

Changes to Wisconsin Reportable Communicable Diseases List Take Effect March 1, 2008

Effective March 1, 2008, Wisconsin's list of Reportable Communicable Diseases will change. Revisions to Appendix A of Administrative Rule HFS 145 were adopted by the Department of Health and Family Services and published in the Wisconsin Administrative register on January 31, 2008.

Diseases added to the list (i.e. are now reportable)

Nationally Notifiable Infectious Diseases

1. Influenza-associated pediatric deaths
2. Influenza A virus infection, novel subtypes
3. Poliovirus infection, nonparalytic
4. Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome-associated Coronavirus (SARS-CoV)
5. Vancomycin-intermediate *Staphylococcus aureus* (VISA) infections and Vancomycin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (VRSA) infections
6. Vibriosis (other than toxigenic *Vibrio cholerae* O1 or O139)
7. Varicella (chickenpox) – individual cases are now reportable rather than aggregate counts.

Other diseases not on the national list but of public health importance in Wisconsin

8. Any illness caused by an agent that is foreign, exotic or unusual to Wisconsin and has public health implications. This generic reporting requirement is in lieu of a long listing of individual exotic diseases that are rare but have major public ramifications. It also takes into account the possible emergence of important diseases that are as yet unknown.
9. Lymphocytic Choriomeningitis Virus (LCMV) infections. In 2003, LCMV was transmitted in organs from an infected Wisconsin donor to four organ recipients. Implementation of public health measures upon identification of a case could potentially limit further exposures.

10. Transmissible spongiform encephalopathy in humans (includes all forms of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)). Approximately 50% of states currently mandate reporting of human TSEs and the Division of Public Health already maintains surveillance for human TSEs. Mandatory reporting will simplify the process of obtaining clinical information, especially from out-of-state providers, and will permit the Department to describe more accurately the burden of endemic TSEs of humans.

Diseases deleted from the list (i.e. are no longer reportable)

1. Amebiasis
2. Cat scratch disease (infection caused by *Bartonella* species)
3. Encephalitis, viral (other than arboviral)
4. Genital herpes infection (first episode identified by health care provider)
5. Hepatitis non-A, non-B, (acute)
6. Meningitis, viral (other than arboviral)
7. Reye syndrome
8. Typhus fever

The complete changes are described in detail in the attached document “HFS_145_Disease List Revisions.doc” and the revised rule is posted at:

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/hfs/hfs145.pdf>

http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/hfs/hfs145_app_a.pdf

Guidelines for disease reporting

Wisconsin’s reportable diseases list, reporting guidelines and disease fact sheets are available at:

<http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/diseasereporting/index.htm>

Public health follow-up procedures including surveillance case definitions and case investigation forms can be found in the Wisconsin EpiNet manual at:

<http://hanplus.wisc.edu/epinet/index.htm>.

All notifiable diseases should be reported to the local health officer using the “Acute and Communicable Disease Case Report Form (DPH 4151),” with the exception of HIV/AIDS which should be reported to the state epidemiologist using forms DPH 4264 or DPH 4338. A pdf of DPH 4151 form can be printed from the Report Forms section of the EpiNet manual. Triplicate forms (White\Canary\Blue) can be ordered online at:

<http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/forms/PrintFormsOnline.htm>

A revised version of the DPH 4151 form reflecting the changes in disease reporting will be available in April, 2008. The current form can continue to be used until supplies are exhausted.

Questions regarding disease reporting can be directed to the Bureau of Communicable Diseases general phone number at 608-267-9003.