



# What's Up In Public Health: *SC Department of Health Update*

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# Learning Objectives

- Understand the pediatric provider's role in the public health system
- Improved knowledge of testing requirements for vaccine preventable diseases
- Improved knowledge of public health responses



# List of Reportable Conditions

- Moving toward electronic reporting for providers and labs
- Updates for 2025
  - Flu and COVID cases electronic lab reporting only
  - Simplified HIV
  - Clarified syphilis
  - Added syphilis stillbirth



# Vaccine Preventable Disease

- On the rise as vaccination rates decline
- Importance of testing
- Public health actions based on diagnosis
- Your role in the public health system
  - Educating
  - Vaccinating
  - Diagnosing



# Suspect a VPD?

- Vaccine history
- Travel history
- Exposure history
- TESTING!!!!
- Measles-PCR NP or throat swab
- Mumps-PCR buccal swab
- Varicella-PCR lesion swab
- Pertussis-PCR NP swab



# DPH Hepatitis Elimination Plan

- Focusses Hepatitis B and C
- Provides
  - Surveillance
  - Case management for mom and baby



# Perinatal Hepatitis C Infection

- DPH has perinatal hepatitis C surveillance that follows children born to HCV+ mothers
- Early identification of infants who may be infected
  - Screen at 2–36 months of age via HCV RNA testing (or)
  - Screen at 18–36 months of age via anti-HCV Ab testing
  - All results (positive or negative) are reportable to DPH
- Goal of perinatal surveillance is linkage to care for mom and baby
  - Non-pregnant adults can be treated
  - Children can be treated after age 3 years



# Perinatal Hepatitis B

- Increase the percentage of children receiving complete Hep B vaccine series by 24 months to 85% by 2025.
- Preventing Hep B in infants born to mothers with known HBV infection
- Pediatricians are instrumental in providing this care and reporting vaccinations





# Congenital Syphilis

- High syphilis rates in women of childbearing age and insufficient syphilis testing during pregnancy result in vertical syphilis transmission
- Syphilis and HIV status should be known for babies (and mothers) leaving hospital after birth
- Consider syphilis infection when a newborn presents with a rash and/or other physical exam findings consistent with congenital syphilis
- 29 cases of CS reported in 2023
- All follow-up serologic testing for congenital syphilis cases is reportable to DPH



# Inborn Errors in Metabolism

- Initial screening may require further diagnostic evaluation
- Reporting diagnostic outcome is vital
- Maternal and Child Health follows case
  - Ensure appropriate referrals
  - Close a case
- Data is used to determine appropriate cutoffs for screening
- Newborn screening
  - 803-898-3192
  - [Newborn Screening South Carolina DPH](#)



# On the Horizon

- Travel related infectious diseases
- H5N1
- Mpox

# Contact



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