

# Communicable Disease Reporting newsletter for medical partners



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## Mid-Michigan District Health Department

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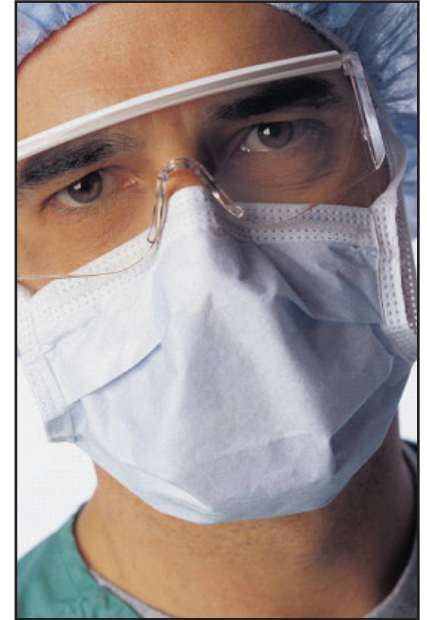
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## Mid-Michigan District Health Department: Your partner in promoting health

Welcome to another issue of the *CD Reporting Newsletter for Medical Partners*, brought to you by *Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD)*! Our continued focus is to foster collaboration and awareness with regards to the prevention and treatment of communicable disease within Clinton, Gratiot, and Montcalm Counties. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform our partners of local, up-to-date data trends related to communicable disease.



## SCREEN YOUNG WOMEN FOR CHLAMYDIA

MMDHD encourages healthcare providers to screen females 25 years of age and younger for chlamydia trachomatis annually, as increasing cases are noted nationwide in this population. The goal of increased screening is to identify and treat women infected with chlamydia to decrease the incidence and disease burden.

Women at highest risk for contracting chlamydia are those under age 26 who have had multiple sexual partners or who have had a partner who has been diagnosed with chlamydia.

Chlamydia may be asymptomatic, or women may notice:

- increased vaginal discharge
- bleeding between menses or after intercourse
- abdominal pain
- burning or pain when urinating
- increased urinary frequency

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) encourages presumptive treatment at the time of screening for those individuals who present with symptoms of infection, or are included in the high-risk group listed above.

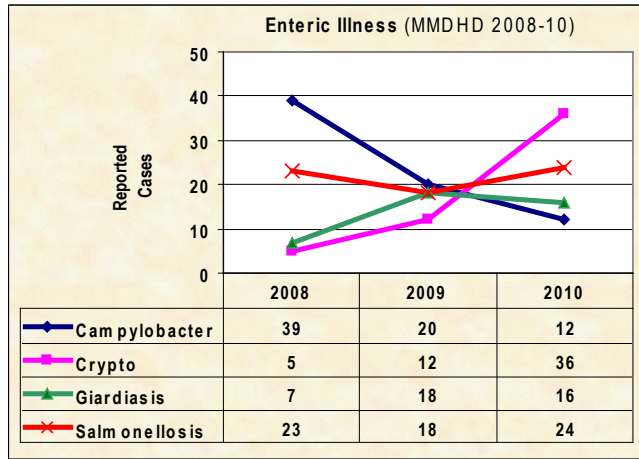
Any patient who tests positive for chlamydia should be considered for re-testing 90 days after treatment to rule out re-infection. Re-testing at shorter intervals is not recommended. Sexual partners should be treated the same day, if possible. The patient should be educated on the importance of partner treatment and the risk of re-infection. The patient should practice abstinence for 10 days after treatment to assure infection clearance.

Preferred treatment is 1 gram of Azithromycin. Healthcare providers are reminded to report all cases of chlamydia to their local health department.

All health care providers are reminded that they are responsible for notifying the Mid-Michigan District Health Department of any reportable illnesses. A complete list of reportable illnesses can be found at: [http://michigan.gov/documents/Reportable\\_Disease\\_Chart\\_2005\\_122678\\_7.pdf](http://michigan.gov/documents/Reportable_Disease_Chart_2005_122678_7.pdf)

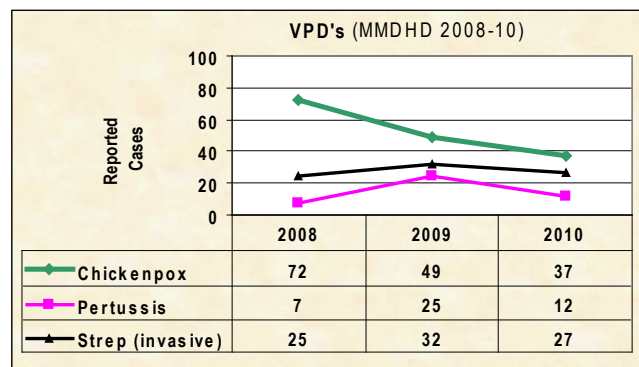
# COMMUNICABLE DISEASE UPDATE

Communicable diseases account for a large number of illnesses among the populations of Clinton, Gratiot, and Montcalm Counties. There are four major groups of communicable diseases that MMDHD continues to focus on: Enteric illness, vaccine preventable diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, and Hepatitis C.



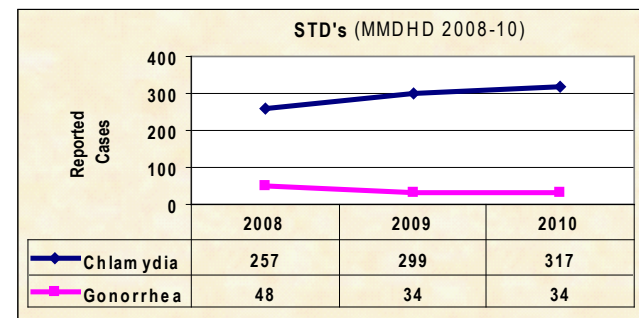
## Enteric Illness

Viruses (Norovirus family) are the major cause of gastrointestinal illness in our district. Individual cases are often not reported or laboratory confirmed, but our experience with the investigation of group-setting outbreaks has shown the extent of its spread in our communities. Very few outbreaks have been foodborne; the major mode of spread is airborne and via contaminated surfaces. The predominate genotype in mid-Michigan is G2.



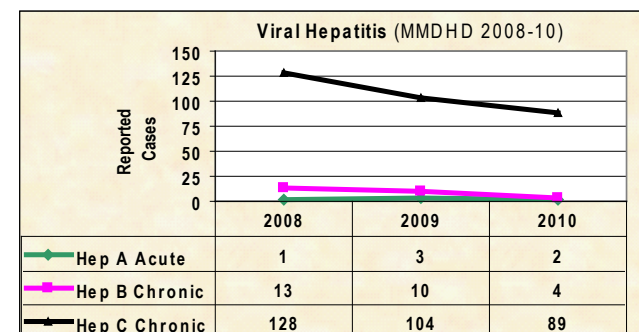
## Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD)

Pertussis has re-emerged in the past five years as a major vaccine preventable disease (VPD). While the number of cases in our jurisdiction fluctuates considerably year-to-year, the trend has been upward since 2000. The total cases in Michigan were at a fifty-year high in 2010 with 1519 reported. Investigation of known cases indicates that there are an even larger number of unreported cases in our area. Consider pertussis in the assessment of any patient (adult or child) who has prolonged coughing spells. The nasopharyngeal (NP) swab for PCR testing is the preferred test to confirm infection. Also, please assess the need for booster immunization in all patients.



## Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's)

Over the past ten-year period, chlamydia infection continued to increase in our three-county district. Gonorrhea peaked in 2004 and has been slowly declining since; however, the number of new cases is still at an unacceptably high level.



## Hepatitis

Chronic Hepatitis C has become the most frequently reported of the hepatitisides. The number of newly discovered cases has begun to decline, with the peak in the past ten years having been reached in 2008 when 128 confirmed/probable cases were reported. Thirty percent of the cases reported in 2010 were in prisons. Immunizations for both Hepatitis A & B have significantly decreased the number of new cases of those diseases.