

Fungal Meningitis Cases Resulting From Potentially Contaminated Steroid Injections

Target audience: Clinical laboratories

Update #3 Thursday, October 11, 2012

To clarify previous guidance, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is requesting that **only cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) specimens from patients who meet the CDC case definition** for this outbreak be forwarded to CDC for further testing. Please do not send CSF specimens to MDCH laboratory for forwarding to the CDC unless the patient has been appropriately identified as a case **and reported to the MDCH.**

Instructions for clinicians are available at <http://www.cdc.gov/hai/outbreaks/clinicians/index.html>

CDC advises: These instructions are meant to supplement routine laboratory and microbiologic test deemed necessary by the clinical team and should not replace existing diagnostic protocol.

To report a case, the attending physician or Infection Preventionist at the facility must contact the MDCH Communicable Disease Division in the Bureau of Disease Prevention, Control and Epidemiology at 517-335-8165. Approval of CDC specimen testing requires a case report. Approved case specimens will be provided a CDC identification number which is to be included on all laboratory requisition forms.

Updated CDC case definition:

http://www.cdc.gov/hai/outbreaks/clinicians/casedef_multistate_outbreak.html

When sending CSF specimen for this outbreak, please complete both a **CDC request form**

<http://www.cdc.gov/hai/outbreaks/clinicians/pdf/CDC-DASH-Lab-Spec-Form.pdf>

and an **MDCH laboratory request form**

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/DCH-0583TEST_REQUEST_7587_7.pdf

Test requested: **Attn: Dr. Rudrik Forward to CDC**

Indicate test reason: **NECC outbreak**

Questions and Additional Information

For laboratory related questions, please contact

Dr. Jim Rudrik, Microbiology Section Manager

RudrikJ@michigan.gov

(517) 335-9641

For general questions regarding this outbreak or the information requested, please contact

Dr. Jennie Finks in the Bureau of Disease Control, Prevention and Epidemiology

FinksJ@michigan.gov

(517) 335-8165

Thank you for your assistance in this investigation.