

MIHP Biweekly Update

July 17, 2023



Maternal Infant Health Program

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MIHP Logo Update

As mentioned at the May Coordinator Training meetings, MDHHS has updated all logos to provide consistency among state programs. You may have noticed many of our state-created MIHP materials and website are branded with this new MDHHS-developed logo. However, we have worked with our MDHHS Communications Department to understand the impact on local providers. We have been informed that **MIHP providers may continue using the current MIHP logo (shown below – teal, black, gray)**, provided they have received approval from MDHHS MIHP. Therefore, if your agency received logo approval for the provider logo below, no further action is required. As a reminder, our logo guidelines and logo permission form are available on the [MIHP Promotional Materials website](#).

Logo(s) for Local MIHP Provider Use:



Logo(s) For MDHHS MIHP Use Only:



MIHP Visit Location Documentation

MDHHS MIHP acknowledges that there may be challenges in visit location documentation on the *Professional Visit Progress Note (PVPN)* in relation to telehealth. There is a need to document how a visit was conducted as well as where the visit would typically have occurred if it were an in-person visit. This differentiation becomes particularly relevant for billing purposes. MDHHS MIHP is working on guidance to address this and will update the *PVPN* to support provider documentation. In the interim, please document the visit location in a manner that satisfies program requirements as well as agency billing requirements (if necessary) until additional guidance is provided.

Transition Report

The MDHHS MIHP team is pleased to share the final report on transition planning in MIHP. This evaluation was supported by the Preschool Development Grant Birth Through Five Initiative (PDG B-5), Grant Number 90TP0055-01-00, from the Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Please share with your team and stakeholders.

[PDG Transitions Brief.pdf](#)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Mosquitos positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis found in Bay County; Michiganders should take precautions to prevent mosquito bites

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 3, 2023

MEDIA CONTACT: Bob Wheaton, 517-241-2112, WheatonB@michigan.gov

Mosquitos positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis found in Bay County

Michiganders should take precautions to prevent mosquito bites

LANSING, Mich. – Michiganders are urged to take precautions against mosquito bites as mosquitos recently collected in Bay County have tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Bureau of Laboratories.

Although no cases have been diagnosed in people or animals, it is important to know they can be infected with EEE from one bite of a mosquito carrying the virus. Anyone can become ill with EEE. People under age 15 and over age 50 are at greatest risk of severe disease following an EEE infection.

“This testing information confirms the virus is here in mosquitos in Michigan,” said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, MDHHS chief medical executive. “EEE is one of the most dangerous mosquito-borne diseases in the United States, with a 33% fatality rate in people who become ill.”

Signs of EEE infection include sudden onset of fever, chills and body and joint aches that can progress to severe encephalitis, resulting in headache, disorientation, tremors, seizures and paralysis. Anyone who thinks they may be experiencing these symptoms should contact a medical provider. Permanent brain damage, coma and death may occur in some cases.

Residents can stay healthy by using simple, effective strategies to protect themselves and their families from mosquito bites. The following steps are recommended to avoid mosquito-borne diseases:

- Apply insect repellents that contain the active ingredient DEET or other EPA-approved products to exposed skin or clothing. Always follow the manufacturer's directions for use.
- Wear light-colored, long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors. Apply insect repellent to clothing to help prevent bites.
- Maintain window and door screening to keep mosquitos outside.
- At least once a week, empty water from mosquito breeding sites around the home, such as buckets, unused children's pools, old tires and other water-holding containers where mosquitos can lay eggs.

Horses are also vulnerable to EEE, with a 90% fatality rate in horses that become ill. The disease is not spread by horse-to-horse or horse-to-human contact.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development recommends that owners protect their horses by:

- Talking to their veterinarian about vaccinating horses against EEE and other mosquito-borne diseases.
- Placing horses and other livestock in a barn under fans during peak mosquito activity (from dusk to dawn).
- Using an insect repellent on animals that is approved for the species.
- Contacting a veterinarian if an animal shows signs of illness.

As of June 30, more than 600 mosquito pools had been tested in Michigan during 2023. In addition to the recent discovery in Bay County, a mosquito pool from Saginaw County tested positive for Jamestown Canyon virus.

In 2022, there were no human cases of EEE, however, EEE caused the death of three horses from Eaton, Roscommon and St. Joseph counties and one bird from Houghton County. In 2021, there was one human case of EEE. In 2020, there were four human cases of EEE, two of which were fatal. In 2019, Michigan had 10 cases of EEE, six of which were fatal.

For more information about EEE, visit Michigan.gov/EEE.

[Click here for a printable version of the Press Release.](#)



Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MDHHS provides guidance on protecting your health during air quality events due to wildfire smoke

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 14, 2023

CONTACT: Lynn Sutfin, 517-241-2112, SutfinL1@michigan.gov

MDHHS provides guidance on protecting your health during air quality events due to wildfire smoke *Forecast indicates orange and possibly red Air Quality Index levels in the Upper Peninsula Saturday, could spread statewide Sunday*

LANSING, Mich. – With the weekend forecast predicting unhealthy air quality conditions in parts of the Upper Peninsula and possibly spreading to the rest of the state, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is providing guidance to Michiganders [on how to reduce their risk through its new website.](#)

“We want Michigan families to know how to best take precautions to protect their health and safety during air quality events,” said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, MDHHS chief medical executive. “Smoke from Canadian wildfires continues to affect air quality across the state. We are urging Michiganders to check the Air Quality Index regularly to decide if they should be participating in outdoor activities and using the website to help determine what actions they should take to keep themselves and their families safe.”

The page, Michigan.gov/wildfiresmokeandhealth, has information on the health effects of wildfire smoke, how to sign up for air quality alerts and how to reduce risk based on the [Air Quality Index \(AQI\)](#).

AQI is a color-coded way for residents to see what the levels of some types of air pollution are in their area. The higher the AQI, the worse the air quality is and the more cause for concern. Live color-coded air quality conditions that indicate if air quality is healthy (green) or unhealthy (yellow, orange, red and purple), along with steps to protect your health, can be found at the [AirNow website](#) and mobile app.

Residents can also sign up for alerts through the [EnviroFlash system](#). This subscriber system allows you to choose the area you would like to get alerts for, and it will send alerts directly to email or send a text message.

The AQI for Saturday is predicted to be unhealthy for sensitive groups (AQI orange) with some areas reaching unhealthy of all individuals (AQI red) in the western and central areas of the Upper Peninsula Saturday. It is possible these levels may move south to the rest of the state Sunday.

MDHHS has also set up a hotline for Michigan residents to ask health-related questions related to air quality issues. The number is 800-648-6942, and is available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding holidays.

AQI Basics for Ozone and Particle Pollution			
Daily AQI Color	Levels of Concern	Values of Index	Description of Air Quality
Green	Good	0 to 50	Air quality is satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk.
Yellow	Moderate	51 to 100	Air quality is acceptable. However, there may be a risk for some people, particularly those who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.
Orange	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	101 to 150	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is less likely to be affected.
Red	Unhealthy	151 to 200	Some members of the general public may experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects.
Purple	Very Unhealthy	201 to 300	Health alert: The risk of health effects is increased for everyone.
Maroon	Hazardous	301 and higher	Health warning of emergency conditions: everyone is more likely to be affected.

Anyone can get sick from exposure to wildfire smoke, but some people are more sensitive to particle pollution. Adults aged 65 and older, pregnant people, children, and people with lung and heart conditions may be more likely to get sick if they breathe in wildfire smoke. Symptoms from breathing in particle pollution can include wheezing, coughing and shortness of breath. If you have asthma, follow your asthma control action plan or contact your health care provider if you have symptoms. If you have heart disease and experience these symptoms, contact your health care provider.

The most protective option when air is unhealthy is to stay indoors with air conditioning, reduce strenuous activities and limit outdoor activities. If you must be outside, N95 masks offer enhanced protection when used according to product instructions.

During unhealthy for sensitive groups (AQI orange) to unhealthy for everyone air quality events (AQI red), MDHHS advises the following:

AQI orange

- Everyone can enjoy being outside.
- People living with lung and heart disease, older adults aged 65+, pregnant people, and children should make activities shorter and less intense.

AQI red:

- Everyone should reduce long or intense activities outside.
- People living with lung and heart disease, older adults aged 65+, pregnant people and children are recommended to stay indoors and keep indoor air clean with MERV-13 or better air filtration to prevent breathing harmful particles of wildfire smoke.
- If you are unable to stay inside or you must go outside, consider using a protective N95 mask, especially children and pregnant people. Surgical and cloth masks will not stop you from breathing in the fine particulate matter in wildfire smoke. If you are unable to stay inside your own house, you can seek a temporary shelter location that has clean indoor air.

Michiganders can also help reduce their contributions to unhealthy air conditions during air quality events through the following actions:

- Do not add to indoor air pollution. Do not burn candles or use gas, propane, woodburning stoves, fireplaces or aerosol sprays. Do not fry or broil meat, smoke tobacco products or vacuum.
- Reduce outdoor air pollution. Reschedule any burning or activities that add dust, smoke and particulate matter to the air, including campfires.
- Reduce vehicle trips and vehicle idling as much as possible and reduce how often you refuel vehicles.

Additional helpful resources:

These resources may be helpful to you if you are looking to learn more about air quality in your area, specifically around wildfires and smoke impacts.

- [US EPA Wildfires and Smoke map](#)
- [US EPA Interactive Map of Air Quality](#)
- [US EPA Fires and your health](#)
- [US EPA Particle Pollution](#)
- [EGLE Air Monitoring Information and interactive map](#)
- [Is burning allowed?](#) and [Michigan.gov/OpenBurning](#)

Gearing Up for National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM)



With summer in full swing and flu season right around the corner, it's a great time to remind people in your community to stay up to date on all recommended vaccines. One great way to launch awareness is promoting National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). NIAM is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of routine vaccination for people of all ages. With only 2 short weeks away from August, please dedicate some time to research and plan how your agency plans to promote National Immunization Awareness Month!

Below are some helpful websites to start the brainstorm-planning process:

- [CDC- National Immunization Awareness Month Resources](#)
- [Voices for Vaccines- NIAM Monthly Plan](#)



Digital Storytelling Workshop Deadline Extended

As highlighted in the July 3rd edition of the MIHP Biweekly Update, the MDHHS Maternal Mortality Surveillance Program will be hosting a Maternal Health Digital Storytelling Workshop. The deadline for enrolling in the workshop has been extended to **Wednesday, July 19th**.

If you know of any Michigan families who may be interested in this workshop, they may complete this form: [Michigan Maternal Mortality Surveillance \(MMMS\) Digital Storytelling Workshop Interest Form \(google.com\)](#). Additional reference materials are provided below.

- [Overview - What Is DST_rev 7.13.23.pdf](#)
- [Maternal Health Digital Storytelling_Social .png](#)

Upcoming State of Michigan (SOM) Holidays

September 4
November 10
November 23 and 24
December 22 and 25
December 29

National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month 2023

[Minority Mental Health Disparities Snapshot](#)

- [In 2021](#), it is estimated that only 39 percent of Black or African American adults, 25 percent of Asian adults, and 36 percent of Hispanic/Latino adults with any mental illness were treated, compared to 52 percent of non-Hispanic white adults.
- [One study suggests](#) that Hispanic men who identify as LGBTQI+ experience higher rates of [body image disorders](#) than Hispanic women, Black and African American men and women, and white men and women who identify as LGBTQI+.
- According to the [Veterans Health Administration Department of Veterans Affairs](#), American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans report experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) at double the rate of non-Hispanic white Veterans - 20.5 percent compared to 11.6 percent.
- [In 2020](#), suicide was the leading cause of death among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders aged 10 to 19; it was the second leading cause of death among those aged 20 to 34.

[Additional information can be found on the HHS website or by clicking here.](#)

Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month



Bebe Moore Campbell was a literary trailblazer, who used her words in books including, “The 72-Hour Hold” and “Sometimes My Mommy Gets Angry,” to address the profound impact of racism, mental health and the enduring strength of culture, community and connections. However, her impact extended beyond her literary works.

She co-founded NAMI Urban Los Angeles and became a national change agent whose groundbreaking work revolutionized the way we approach mental health in underserved

communities. She recognized and understood the detrimental consequences of silence rooted in stigma — one of the reasons for the lack of mental health care and treatment within communities of color.

"Once my loved ones accepted the diagnosis, healing began for the entire family, but it took too long. It took years. Can't we, as a nation, begin to speed up that process? We need a national campaign to destigmatize mental illness, especially one targeted toward African Americans...It's not shameful to have a mental illness. Get treatment. Recovery is possible."

– Bebe Moore Campbell, 2005

[To read the article in full please click here.](#)

Previously Released MIHP Updates

To review any previously released MIHP Weekly Updates, they can be found by [visiting the MIHP webpage Michigan.gov/MIHP](http://michigan.gov/MIHP).

Bi-Weekly Update Topic Submission

If you have suggestions for topics to be addressed in future additions of the MIHP Weekly Update, [please submit your ideas here](#).

MDHHS Publications

[Sign up here to receive program updates and communications.](#)

Coordinator Directory

[Please click here to access the most recent Coordinator Directory.](#)

Our communication for the Maternal Infant Health Program has been streamlined to a single email address and phone number. Please forward all emails to MIHP@michigan.gov. For further assistance, contact the state office @ **1-833-MI4-MIHP (1-833-644-6447)**. Thank you.