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NH-HAN 20161028



Cluster of Invasive Group A Streptococcus Infections

Key Points and Recommendations:

- The New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services (NH DPHS) has been notified of four cases of invasive Group A Streptococcal bacteremia, all males, and all active injection heroin users from Southern/Central New Hampshire, who presented to healthcare in the last 10 days.
- It is unclear if these cases are connected; however, injection drug use is a risk factor for invasive bacterial infections, including Group A Streptococcus. NH DPHS is investigating further to determine if these infections are related.
- We are requesting that healthcare providers ask patients with invasive Group A Streptococcal infections about any illicit injection drug use history, in particular heroin use, and report cases to the NH DPHS at 603-271-4496 (after hours 603-271-5300).

For any questions regarding the contents of this message, please contact NH DHHS, DPHS, Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at 603-271-4496 (after hours 603-271-5300).

To change your contact information in the NH Health Alert Network, contact Thom Flynn at 603-271-7499 or email thomas.flynn@dhhs.state.nh.us.

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From: Benjamin P. Chan, MD, MPH – State Epidemiologist
Originating Agency: NH Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services
Attachments: None

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