

Public Health Points

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Reportable Conditions Summary Report for Year 2012

City of York, Pa.

Overall, the total number of Reportable Conditions in the City of York, Pa., increased in 2012 according to records compiled by the York City Bureau of Health. In 2012 there was a total of 1,172 reports received compared to 1,047 reports in 2011, a 12% increase.

The most frequently reported group of conditions in the City of York in 2012 continued to be the Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's): Chlamydia – 540 reports, Gonorrhea – 292 reports, and Syphilis – 4 reports. Chlamydia showed only a 2% increase, whereas Gonorrhea jumped 109% from 2011 to 2012. Syphilis cases increased from 3 cases to 4 in the same year period. Sexually active teens and young adults in their 20's comprise the bulk of STD cases. Behavioral studies show that this age group is more likely to engage in unprotected intercourse and have sex with multiple partners. Case investigations in past years also revealed the Internet as a frequent source for anonymous sex partners, particularly among men who have sex with men (MSM).

After Chlamydia and Gonorrhea, Hepatitis C was the third most frequently reported condition. Hepatitis C cases decreased from 110 in 2011 to 85 in 2012, a 23% decrease. Hepatitis B cases decreased from 10 to 3 from one year to the next, a 70% decrease. No cases of acute Hepatitis A were reported in 2012.

Animal bites decreased in 2012 by a slight 2% from 85 in 2011 to 83 in 2012. Public awareness efforts such as dog bite prevention programs for children and dog law enforcement efforts by the City Police Department's Animal Enforcement Officer continue.

Lead poisoning in children remains one of our most serious environmental health problems in York. Forty-two children 6 years of age and younger with elevated blood lead levels were added to the City's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program caseload in 2012, 11 more cases than reported in the previous year, for a 35% increase. In 2012 the federal Lead Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) suffered a severe budget cutback, basically eliminating the Lead Program Office at CDC. The impact of this change will be seen at the State level beginning July 1, 2013, as the State Lead Program morphs into a scaled back Lead and Healthy Homes Program with less emphasis on lead screening and more emphasis on various environmental threats in the home.

Bacterial and parasitic infections that lead to vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, as well as other gastrointestinal symptoms, increased by only 5% in 2012 compared to 2011. Cases of *Campylobacter* enteritis, Cryptosporidiosis, Giardiasis, Salmonellosis and Shigellosis totaled 19 in 2012 compared to 18 in 2011. No food poisoning episodes were reported to the Health Bureau in York City in 2012.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) infection increased by 6 cases, up from 49 in 2011 to 55 in 2012, a 12% increase. RSV causes an acute febrile, respiratory illness, occasionally severe enough to require hospitalization and is especially harsh on infants and children under two years of age. It is the major known etiologic agent of bronchiolitis and is a cause of pneumonia, croup, bronchitis, otitis media and febrile upper respiratory illness. RSV may cause symptomatic disease also in adults, particularly the debilitated elderly.

There were 15 cases of HIV infection reported in York City residents in 2012, 14 fewer cases or a 48% drop compared to the previous year. Individuals reported include males and females, whites and African-Americans, Latinos and non-Latinos, a wide range of adult ages, IV drug users, heterosexuals, and men who have sex with men (MSM). This diverse group is a far cry from 25 years ago when AIDS cases were primarily white, non-Latino MSM's. Also in contrast to those early days of this epidemic, HIV infection has now become a treatable rather than a fatal disease. Regrettably, however, HIV infection still remains incurable.

Lyme Disease cases decreased in York City residents – 4 cases in 2012 compared to 9 cases in 2011, a 56% decrease. This infection results from tick bites and most frequently causes arthritic and neurological symptoms. Prompt antibiotic treatment can prevent or mitigate

Reportable Conditions – City of York, Pa Summary Report 2011-2012			
Reported Cases	2011	2012	% Change
Animal Bites	85	83	↓2%
Campylobacter Enteritis	4	6	↑50%
Chlamydia	527	540	↑2%
Cryptosporidiosis	2	2	0%
Giardiasis	1	0	↓100%
Gonorrhea	140	292	↑109%
Hepatitis B	10	3	↓70%
Hepatitis C	110	85	↓23%
HIV Infection	29	15	↓48%
Influenza Type A	17	16	↓6%
Influenza Type B	3	3	0%
Invasive B. Strep Disease	6	2	↓67%
Lead Poisoning	31	42	↑35%
Legionnaire's Disease	4	2	↓50%
Lyme Disease	9	4	↓56%
Malaria	0	1	↑
Meningitis - Aseptic (Viral)	0	1	↑
Meningitis - Bacterial	0	2	↑
Meningitis - Fungal	1	0	↓100%
Pertussis	1	2	↑100%
Rabies (Animal)	1	0	↓100%
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Infection	49	55	↑12%
Salmonellosis	11	9	↓18%
Shigellosis	0	2	↑
Syphilis - Primary/Secondary	3	4	↑33%
Tuberculosis	0	0	0%
Varicella	2	0	↓100%
West Nile Virus Infection	1	1	0%
Total Case Reports	1047	1172	↑12%

Reportable Conditions – 2012 City of York, Pa		
Reported Cases	Dec.	Total
Animal Bites	2	83
Campylobacter Enteritis	0	6
Chlamydia	46	540
Cryptosporidiosis	0	2
Gonorrhea	7	292
Hepatitis B	0	3
Hepatitis C	5	85
HIV Infection	0	15
Influenza, Type A	15	16
Influenza, Type B	0	3
Invasive Group A Beta-Strep Disease	0	2
Lead Poisoning	3	42
Legionellosis	0	2
Lyme Disease	0	4
Malaria	0	1
Meningitis – Aseptic	0	1
Meningitis – Bacterial	0	2
Pertussis	0	2
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Infection	13	55
Salmonellosis	2	9
Shigellosis	1	2
Syphilis – Primary/Secondary	1	4
West Nile Virus – Human	0	1
Total Case Reports	95	1172

many complications. Lyme Disease is a much more frequent problem in rural and suburban areas elsewhere in York County than in urban York City.

Meningitis cases in the City increased from 1 case in 2011 to 3 cases in 2012. One case of viral meningitis and 2 cases of bacterial meningitis were reported in 2012. There were no cases of fungal meningitis this year.

Influenza cases reported to the City Health Bureau remained close to the same from 2011 to 2012 – 16 cases of Influenza type A compared to 17 in 2011, and 3 cases of Influenza type B in each year 2011 and 2012. Many more influenza cases, of course, occurred in York but were not reported to the Health Bureau since a laboratory test for influenza was not performed.

In 2012 there were no cases of active Tuberculosis disease reported in the City of York. The occurrence of active TB in the City remains very low due to aggressive surveillance and prevention strategies at our local level. In the past 27 years since the beginning of the City Health Bureau, this is the fifth annual occurrence for zero cases (1997, 2007, 2008, 2011 and 2012).

Invasive Group A Beta Streptococcal Disease occurred 2 times in 2012 compared to 6 in 2011. Each case is thoroughly investigated in attempt to find a common source, but none could be determined.

Legionnaire’s Disease occurred twice in City residents in 2012 compared to four times in 2011. Again, no local common source could be located and none appeared to be linked to outbreaks in other parts of the state or region.

No case of Varicella (chickenpox) was reported in 2012 compared to 2 in 2011. It is likely that chickenpox cases occur infrequently but perhaps are mild and not felt to be reportable. Two cases of Pertussis (Whooping Cough) were reported in 2012 compared to 1 case in 2011. One case of each of the following diseases was also reported in 2012: Malaria (in a foreign traveler) and West Nile Virus infection (asymptomatic and discovered at the time of blood donation).

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