

EPI Update for Friday, May 4, 2012
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **Toxic vomit can sicken veterinary staff**
- ***Salmonella* Bareilly and Nchanga associated with a raw scraped tuna product**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

Toxic vomit can sicken veterinary staff

Dogs that accidentally eat a commercial poison used to combat gophers and moles can emit a toxic gas that can sicken veterinary staff and others around the dogs. IDPH's Occupational Health & Safety Surveillance program co-investigated one of these situations: see *Occupational Phosphine Gas Poisoning at Veterinary Hospitals from Dogs that Ingested Zinc Phosphide - Michigan, Iowa, and Washington, 2006–2011* (www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/wk/mm6116.pdf). Similar exposures have been reported in vets treating horses. Veterinarians, emergency responders and health care providers should be aware of the potential risks when treating human or animal poisonings.

The American Veterinary Medical Association issued guidelines for vets regarding phosphine products; see www.avma.org/public_health/phosphine_gas/default.asp. Contact the Iowa Statewide Poison Control for assistance or to report pesticide exposures at 800-222-1222.

***Salmonella* Bareilly and Nchanga associated with a raw scraped tuna product**

CDC is currently working with 21 states to investigate a multi-state outbreak involving two separate *Salmonella* serogroups isolated from scraped tuna. No cases have been identified in Iowa, but IDPH is investigating reported salmonella cases for possible connections to this outbreak. For more information about this outbreak, visit www.cdc.gov/salmonella/bareilly-04-12/index.html.

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

IDPH Adult Blood Lead Epidemiology and Surveillance (ABLES) program will present a free webinar on Friday, May 18 from 2 to 3 p.m. called *Adult Lead Exposure in Iowa: It's Not Just the Kids*. The webinar covers information presented at the Iowa Governor's Conference on Public Health. Go to www1.gotomeeting.com/register/545987280, or contact Kathy Leinenkugel at Kathy.leinenkugel@idph.iowa.gov or 515-822-4631/ 800-972-2026 for more information.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy week!

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