

**EPI Update for Friday, December 6, 2013**  
**Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)**  
**Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)**

**Items for this week's EPI Update include:**

- **Shigella activity continues in Woodbury County**
- **Meningococcal disease at Princeton University and the University of California at Santa Barbara**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

**Shigella activity continues in Woodbury County**

Community spread of Shigella is continuing in Woodbury County, with about 150 cases reported since October. More than half of the cases are occurring in children less than 12 years of age. Siouxland District Health Department continues to work with area childcare facilities and schools to limit the spread of the disease, which is usually spread by sick people who haven't washed their hands after using the restroom. The high activity level appears to be primarily impacting Woodbury County, but additional updates will be provided if case reports increase in other areas of the state.

For additional information on Shigella, visit

[www.idph.state.ia.us/CADE/DiseaseIndex.aspx?disease=Shigella](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/CADE/DiseaseIndex.aspx?disease=Shigella) or  
[www.cdc.gov/nczved/divisions/dfbmd/diseases/shigellosis/](http://www.cdc.gov/nczved/divisions/dfbmd/diseases/shigellosis/).

**Meningococcal disease at Princeton University and the University of California at Santa Barbara**

Eight cases of serogroup B meningococcal disease have been reported in Princeton University students or persons with links to Princeton University during the last eight months, including three cases reported since September. One case occurred in a high school student who stayed in a Princeton dormitory and developed illness within one day of returning home; the other seven cases occurred in Princeton University undergraduate students.

Three cases of serogroup B meningococcal disease have been reported among University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB) undergraduate students during November. No epidemiologic links have been identified between the Princeton University and the UCSB cases. Although both outbreaks are caused by serogroup B, additional molecular typing shows that the outbreaks are being caused by two different strains, indicating that the outbreaks are not related.

If a Princeton University or UCSB student or a person who has had close contact with someone from those university communities develops a fever and headache or rash, meningococcal disease should be suspected; empiric treatment should be considered; blood or cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) cultures should be collected; and suspected cases should be reported to public health.

For additional information about cases at these universities, visit [www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/vaccine-serogroupB.html](http://www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/vaccine-serogroupB.html) or <http://emergency.cdc.gov/HAN/han00357.asp>.

For more information on meningococcal disease, visit [www.idph.state.ia.us/CADE/DiseaseIndex.aspx?disease=Meningitis \(Meningococcal invasive disease\)](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/CADE/DiseaseIndex.aspx?disease=Meningitis%20(Meningococcal%20invasive%20disease)) or [www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/index.html).

**Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

None

**Have a healthy and happy week!**

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