
Logan County Health District



A Newsletter for the Logan County Medical Community

www.loganhealth.org

July 2011

Logan County Newsletter

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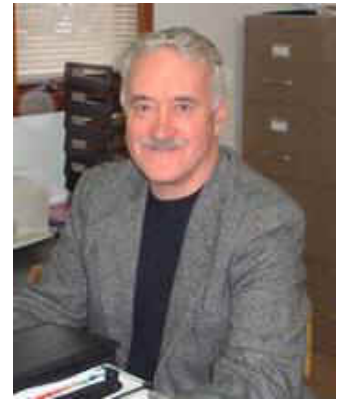
Travis Irvan

After the 2009-2010 H1N1 influenza pandemic and associated mass immunization campaign wound down in the spring, it took several months for our employees to recuperate from the time demands and emotional drain imposed by the whole episode.

More recently, the agency is developing a strategic plan in order to target scarce human and financial resources for the most effective benefit to the county. A community health survey was completed in the summer of 2010. This will help guide the agency to finish the strategic plan this year. Logan County finished

61st out of 88 Ohio counties in "health outcomes" in the Robert Wood Johnson county health rankings. This was particularly caused by a ranking of 71st of 88 in "personal health behaviors". Interestingly, one of the prime needs documented by citizens in the community health survey was a need for education on healthy behaviors. We encourage and need public participation in developing the community health improvement plan.

Your county health district is committed to making Logan County the safest and healthiest community in Ohio.



Dr. Boyd C. Hoddinott,
MD MPH

Health Commissioner

Communicable Disease Report— 2010

The Logan County Communicable Disease team had a busy year in 2010 as it conducted 242 disease investigations, up 41 from 2009. The most prevalent diseases investigated by the Logan County Health District were:

Chlamydia— 133 cases

Hepatitis C— 27 cases

Gonococcal Infections— 16

Other diseases the Logan County Health District investigated in 2010 were: Campylobacter, Dengue, E-Coli, Giardia, Hepatitis B, Legionnaire's Disease, Lyme Disease, Malaria, Mycobacterial Disease other than TB, Pertussis, Salmonella, Shigella, Streptococcal Group A, Streptococcus pneumonia, Tuberculosis and Varicella.

Chlamydia was increased 93% in 2010 compared to 2009.



Lyme Disease and West Nile Virus

Spring has sprung. That means ticks and mosquitoes are out and about and looking for a meal. People and pets working and playing outdoors in woody or weedy areas may be exposed to ticks and, possibly, tick-borne diseases including Lyme disease. Previously believed to not live in our state, there have been reports of black-legged deer ticks, the main vector for Lyme disease, here in Ohio. The Logan County Health District can provide free tick identification if a public health need exists. If you should ever need a tick identified, please do not hesitate to call our office and ask for someone in Environmental Health.

All the rainy weather the central Ohio region has experienced this spring has provided plenty of standing water for mosquitoes to breed. So far in 2011 mosquito pools in Franklin, Lake, Licking, Richland and Summit County have tested positive for West Nile Virus. In 2010 there were five human cases of West Nile Virus reported in Ohio. As of July 8th, there have been zero human cases of West Nile virus reported in 2011 from Ohio.



Scabies

Our Health District has noticed an increase in the number of scabies related phone calls and scabies related ER/Urgent Care visits over the past couple months. Odds are, your practices are seeing a similar increase. As you probably know, scabies is spread by direct skin-to-skin contact with an infested person. The likelihood of transmission may depend on the length and type of contact. Clothing, bedding and personal articles are rarely involved in the transmission of the mites.

Transmission is possible soon after initial infestation, during the asymptomatic period prior to development of sensitization. Therefore, additional persons can be asymptotically infested and capable of transmitting scabies prior to definitive

diagnosis of the index case. Persons should be considered communicable until 24 hours after the initial treatment with a scabicide. A person with scabies must be isolated for twenty-four hours following initial treatment with an effective scabicide.

It is recommended that everyone who had skin-to-skin contact with the index case and with any persons who may be asymptotically infested through such contact be treated as well. This includes all household and sexual contacts of the index case, care providers and those persons who meet the above criteria.

Persons infested with the mite for the first time will not become sensitized for 2-6 weeks. Repeat infestation results in symptoms within 1-4 days.

Experience has shown that failure to implement aggressive control measures can lead to protracted and costly outbreaks. In 2010 alone, there were 28 scabies outbreaks investigated in Ohio. Thankfully, none of these occurred in Logan County. Please remember that any outbreak or unusual incidence of scabies, is required to be reported to the local health department. To report an outbreak of scabies, or any other type of outbreak, please call the Logan County Health District-

937-592-9040- and ask for a member of the Communicable Disease Team.



Hepatitis C Testing

In 2010, there were 27 cases of Hepatitis C reported to Logan County. To help protect the health of our community, the Logan County Health District is going to partner with the Ohio Department of Health and begin offering free Hepatitis C testing.

This project, the HIV/HCV Integration Project, began in July 2003. Twelve sites around the state agreed to participate in this pilot project. The integration con-

cept was derived from the fact that many of the risk factors and prevention messages for HIV and HCV are the same and HIV counseling and testing sites use comprehensive, risk-modifying educational counseling and programs that have been shown to be effective in finding new disease and preventing transmission.

This program has been well received and continues today with 15 sites currently offering HCV counseling and testing.

Counselors assess risk factors for HCV during the same counseling session related to HIV and/or sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). If a client reports a HCV risk factor, the counselor discusses HCV risk and offers testing.

The Logan County Health District hopes to start this important new program soon.



Free HIV Testing

As of December 2008, there were 14 individuals in Logan County living with HIV/AIDS. 67% of Logan County men living with HIV/AIDS reported having male-to-male sexual contact as their HIV transmission. 60% of Logan County women living with HIV/AIDS reported having heterosexual contact as their HIV transmission. To help curb the HIV epidemic going on in the world, the Logan County Health District offers free HIV testing. The agency partners with the [AIDS Resource Center of Ohio](#) to provide confidential and convenient oral HIV/AIDS testing and consultative services at the Health District. This clinic is offered free on the last Monday of each month from 10AM-4PM (excluding holidays). Testing results are known immediately. Any clients should call 1-800-252-0827 to schedule an appointment. Walk-in appointments are also available. The Health District also has free condoms available to our clients.



Logan County Health District

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The mission of the Logan County Health District focuses on:

- Promoting the health and environment of its residents
- Continual evaluation of agency efficiency, roles and competency
- Identification of the on-going needs of the community
- Training staff to improve public health effectiveness
- Educating the public to provide readiness and reassurance
- Fostering collaborative community partnerships

The Health District's mission is to promote an informed healthy community through the programs and services it provides

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Breast Feeding Assistance

The Logan County Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program has exciting news! Due to new federal mandates, there are now two part-time breastfeeding peer helpers in the office. They will provide an extra boost to help promote and support anyone interested in breastfeeding. The purpose of the breastfeeding peer helper program throughout the State of Ohio is to have a WIC mother who lives in the same county and has breastfed to give support to meet the participant's own goals for feeding her baby. The WIC peer helpers can give tips for how to breastfeed comfortably and discreetly, ways to stay close to a baby through breastfeeding after returning to work or school, ideas for getting support from family and friends, ways to get a good start with breastfeeding, secrets for making plenty of breast milk for a baby and help with breastfeeding concerns.

The Peer Helpers are currently working on hosting a ***First Annual Baby/ Toddler Fair***. This event is open to any parents-to-be and parents of an infant or toddler. The purpose of the fair is to bring local resources for parents together in one building so that parents can talk with the local agencies and businesses to discover services available to parents with young children. There will be a lot of local resources to see that day: car seat checks, hyperthermia display, bike helmets, identity for kids, and so much more! This event will be held at the Logan County Solid Waste Management District (1100 S. Detroit St. - Bellefontaine) on August 12, 2011, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Logan County's two breastfeeding peer helpers are eager to help our WIC mommies and mommies-to-be.



Peer helper Paige



Peer helper Renee