



Ebb & Flow

Health & Human Service Tidings

Spring 2019

Recent Memos for Providers

Vitamin K-Dependent Coagulopathy Associated with Synthetic Cannabinoids Use

On December 11, 2018, the Center for Disease Control & Prevention issued an update on the life-threatening coagulopathy associated with the use of synthetic cannabinoids. The memo included the status of the multistate outbreak and information and recommendations on two new clinical scenarios.

State Requirements for Infection Prevention in Health Care Settings

On November 30, 2018, NC Department of Health & Human Services issued a reminder regarding requirements for infection prevention in healthcare settings. The memo included information on Rule .0206 requirements and information about where practitioners can take state-approved infection control courses.

Acute Flaccid Myelitis (AFM)

On October 24, 2018, NC Department of Health & Human Services issued a memo regarding the increased reports of AFM nationally. The information included information to assist providers in the identification, testing and management of AFM cases.

Are you receiving our Blast Faxes?

If not, please contact Kelly Nettin at 252.475.5036 or kelly.nettin@darenc.com to update your contact information. Blast Faxes are also now available on our website. Visit darenc.com/providers to see all recent information pertinent to our medical community.

Opiate Prescribing Challenges & Alternatives for Chronic Pain Management

March 12, 2019 • 5:30 pm - 9:10 pm • Pamlico Jacks
5:30 pm - 6:00 pm Check-in & Dinner • 6:00 pm - 9:10 pm Program

Prescription opioid pain medications are responsible for more deaths in North Carolina than heroin and cocaine combined. And, if current trends continue, unintentional poisoning deaths will surpass motor vehicle deaths as the leading cause of injury death in North Carolina. This program tackles opiate prescribing challenges in practices and alternative therapy for chronic pain management. In addition, a panel will examine the role of integrative therapies in managing chronic pain.

The objectives for this conference include:

- Review the statistics for prescription drug use and overdose in the US
- Explain the psychological basis for drug seeking behaviors
- Provide an algorithm for appropriate safety based opiate prescribing
- Evaluate non-opiate pharmacologic agents for use in chronic pain
- Introduce clinical health psychology as viable treatment options
- Discuss effectiveness and indications for specialized interventions: topical agents, physical medicine, mechanical interventions
- Discuss the role of available non-pharmacological integrative therapies in managing chronic pain

This conference is specifically designed for physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, dentists and pharmacists. To register visit: www.easternahec.net/courses-and-events/57820



April is... STD Awareness Month & Child Abuse Prevention Month

STD Awareness Month

As you already know, when it comes to talking about sexual health with a patient, your relationship is key. We encourage you to work closely and communicate with your patients to give them the tools they need to stay healthy.

Here are a few tips that can help:

- Take a thorough sexual history
- Build trust with your patients
- Reassure your patient that their information is confidential
- Ensure that you and your patient understand each other
- Determine which STD tests your patient needs
- Follow CDC's STD Treatment Guidelines
- Encourage your patients to return for follow-up testing in 3 months

We are also available to see patients who are

concerned about STDs and/or family planning options. Patients can make an appointment by calling 252.475.5003.

Child Abuse Prevention Month

The Family Services Unit offers voluntary family center programs to strengthen and support families. The programs are designed to prevent future problems that could require an intervention from Child Protective Services.

The Family Services staff are able to connect families to needed services and resources, partner with them to build and sustain circles of support, and provide guidance and case management services to families in need. They are able to help with financial, mental health, medical, substance abuse, school or behavior concerns. If you suspect a family is struggling, please refer them to their services. Clients can also make an appointment by calling 252.475.5500.

Communicable Disease	Qrt 3 2018	Qrt 4 2018	Year 2018
AIDS	0	0	0
Campylobacter	1	1	3
Chlamydia	20	29	115
E.Coli (Shiga toxin- Producing)	1	0	2
Gonorrhea	6	2	23
Haemophilus influenza	0	1	2
Hepatitis B —chronic	2	0	5
Hepatitis C—acute	0	0	1
Hepatitis C—chronic	12	12	60
HIV	0	0	0
Latent TB infection	1	1	6
Lyme disease	1	0	4
Meningitis	0	0	1
NGU	0	0	0
Salmonellosis	3	3	12
Syphilis (primary)	1	0	4
TB	0	0	0
Vibrio vulnificus	0	2	3

Mosquitos & Zika

With spring & warmer weather coming, we'd like to remind you to please discuss mosquito control measures with your patients, especially those who are expecting. We have Zika Prevention Rack Cards available for healthcare providers to disseminate to concerned patients. The card is based off of the CDC recommendations, and it is a great tool that patients can take with them to remind them of mosquito and Zika Virus prevention measures. Additional information is always available at darenc.com/zika.

If you would like a supply, please contact our Communications Specialist, Kelly Nettnin, at 252.475.5036 or kelly.nettnin@darenc.com

Who reports communicable disease cases and to whom?

Physicians, school administrators and child care operators, medical facilities and operators of restaurants and other food or drink establishments (G.S. § 130A-135 through 130A-139) must report cases or suspected cases of reportable diseases to their local health department, which in turn reports this information to the N.C. Division of Public Health (NCDPH) (G.S. § 103A-140). Laboratories may report to the local health department, except in the case of syphilis results, which the laboratories must report directly to the Communicable Disease Branch or the nearest regional office (10A NCAC 41A .0102). In North Carolina, hospital emergency department visits also are reported to the NCDPH, which in turn provides the data, as authorized by North Carolina law and in accordance with HIPAA regulations, to the CDC (G.S. § 130A-480). Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) are reported directly by healthcare facilities to the CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN), which then provides the data to N.C. DPH. Reportable diseases are monitored by DPH's Communicable Disease Surveillance Unit (CDSU) and Medical Consultation Unit (MCU).



County of Dare

Department of Health & Human Services

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**After Hours, Nights
& Weekends
252.473.3444**

Ebb & Flow, is a quarterly newsletter for local healthcare providers. Our goal is to share pertinent and current information with you. If you have any suggestions for topics to be covered, please contact:
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