



Summer 2006

EPIDEMIOLOGY BULLETIN

Hepatitis C

Hepatitis C is a blood-borne infection caused by hepatitis C virus (HCV). It is contracted through the transmission of infected blood or body fluids by transfusions, needle-sharing, sexual intercourse, or from an infected mother to her baby. According to the World Health Organization estimates, worldwide 180 million people (3% of the population) are infected with this virus of which three quarters (130 million) are chronic carriers. In the US alone there are 3 million cases. Chronic carriers are at very high risk of developing liver cirrhosis and or liver cancer.

The Virus

Hepatitis C virus is an enveloped RNA virus of the flaviviridae family. Humans and chimpanzees are the only known species susceptible to infection and both developing similar disease.

Signs & Symptoms

- Jaundice (Yellow skin and sclera)
- Abdominal pain
- Fatigue
- Dark Urine
- Nausea and
- Loss of appetite

Diagnosis

Commercially available diagnostic tests include:

- Enzyme immunoassay (EIA)
- Recombinant immunoblot assay (RIA)
- Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)
- Branched DNA assay

Treatment

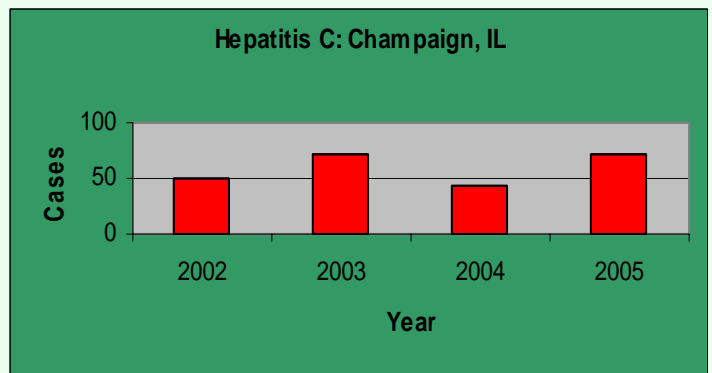
Interferon, an antiviral drug in combination with Ribavirin can be used for the treatment of chronic hepatitis c.

Prevention

There is no vaccine to prevent HCV, therefore education and universal precaution is the only way to prevent the spread of this disease.

Recommendations include:

- Screening and testing of blood and organ donors
- Strict infection control practices in healthcare settings
- Promotion of behavior change in general public and health workers and
- Risk reduction counseling for high risk drug and sexual practices



References: www.who.int, www.cdc.gov, www.nlm.nih.gov

The purpose of this Bulletin is to serve as an information outlet for the residents and professional health providers of Champaign County. We welcome any questions or comments. Contact : Awais Vaid, MBBS, MPH, Epidemiologist at (217)-239-7287 Ext: 44 or email: avaid@cuphd.org. Visit our website at <http://www.cuphd.org>

Communicable Disease: Fact Sheet for Champaign County

April-June 2006

Rate Adjusted per 100,000 population

Selected Reportable Communicable Disease	Champaign Urbana 2006			Champaign County 2006			Champaign Urbana 2003-2005			Champaign County 2003-2005		
	April	May	June	April	May	June	April	May	June	April	May	June
Enteric E Coli	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Foodborne Illness	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pertussis	1	0	1	1	0	0	3	1	1	4	0	1
Streptococcal Infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Blastomycosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Campylobacteriosis	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	3	1	1	0
Chickenpox	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
Chlamydia	64	67	51	22	24	16	97	74	72	34	37	22
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Giardiasis	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1
Gonorrhea	16	14	13	3	7	1	34	30	24	11	9	5
Hepatitis B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	1
Hepatitis C	8	0	0	4	0	1	5	5	4	1	1	1
Histoplasmosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Meningitis, Aseptic	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
Salmonella	1	0	3	1	0	0	1	0	3	0	1	1
Shigellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Strep Pneumonia	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	1	1
HIV	0	0	0	3	3	3	1	1	0	3	1	1
Rabies, Exposure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	3	0
Mumps	6	1	1	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Population : Champaign-Urbana: 103,913 & Champaign County(Outside C-U): 75,756

Please report all suspected communicable diseases to Rachella Thompson, Communicable Disease Investigator at 217-239-7287 ,Ext :43 or email rthompson@cuphd.org

Champaign County Community Health Plan

Champaign-Urbana Public Health District and Champaign County Public Health Department have completed their 2006 Community Health Plan. This plan was developed by a community collaboration of health providers and community residents. This plan will serve as a foundation of information to support evidence based planning and decision-making.

Illinois Department of Public Health requires every local health department in the state to do an assessment of needs and develop a plan once every five years. This year the plan was completed utilizing the MAPP model which was developed by the National Association of City and County Health Officials in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This document will serve as a guide to planning and implementing new programs as well as improving existing ones.

The 10 priority issues identified by the plan are:

- **Access to Health Care**
- **Cancer**
- **Cardiovascular Disease**
- **Domestic Violence, Sexual Abuse, Elder Abuse and Child Abuse and Neglect**
- **Infant Mortality**
- **Mental Health**
- **Obesity**
- **Oral Health**
- **Sexually Transmitted Diseases**
- **Substance Abuse**

The team utilized different methods to compile this document. Telephone survey, focus groups, questionnaires and research were some of the techniques utilized to gather information. Our next step is to build community collaboration to deal with each of the identified priority issues. We hope that this document will serve the community in identifying its strengths and weaknesses and inspire us to work collaboratively to improve Public health in Champaign-Urbana and in Champaign County.

To access the complete document please visit www.cuphd.org and click on the link “ [Public Health Releases 2006 Community Health Plan](#)”

If you have any questions or comments please contact Awais Vaid, Epidemiologist at avaid@cuphd.org or call 217-239-7287 Ext: 44.

We welcome any suggestions to improve the health of Champaign-Urbana and Champaign County residents

Want the latest Information on Emergency Preparedness in Illinois and the US?

On August 7th through the 9th, 2006, the Illinois Public Health Association (IPHA) sponsored the 2006 Illinois Bioterrorism, "Partners Sustaining the Heartland," in Oak Brook, Illinois. There were over 500 registered for the conference represented many career fields across North America. On IPHA's website, <http://www.ipha.com/bioconf.php>, you can check webcasts from the conference on a wide variety of topics including :

- **Animals and Humans: In Sickness and In Health**
- **Building Bridges in Public Health & Emergency Operations**
- **Are We Ready Yet?**
- **Progress in Biodefense**
- **Isolation and Quarantine: Illinois' Approach**

Please check out the webcasts and the website for more information on this conference and other conferences sponsored by the Illinois Public Health Association.

For more information or for local information on Emergency Preparedness and Response Planning, please contact John Dwyer, Emergency Response Planner at jdwyer@cuphd.org or call 217-531-2932



Champaign Urbana Public Health District



Serving Champaign County

Mission: To Improve the health of the Champaign County Community