

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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Update: CDC Recommends Clinicians Immediately Stop Using Liquid Docusate for Certain Patients

DATE:	July 1, 2016
TO:	Health Alert Network
FROM:	Karen M. Murphy, PhD, RN Secretary of Health
SUBJECT:	Update: CDC Recommends Clinicians Immediately Stop Using Liquid Docusate for Certain Patients
DISTRIBUTION:	Statewide
LOCATION:	Statewide
STREET ADDRESS:	n/a
COUNTY:	n/a
MUNICIPALITY:	n/a
ZIP CODE:	n/a

This transmission is a “Health Update” that provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.

HOSPITALS: PLEASE SHARE WITH ALL MEDICAL, PEDIATRIC, INFECTION CONTROL, NURSING AND LABORATORY STAFF IN YOUR HOSPITAL.

EMS COUNCILS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE.

FQHCs: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE.

LOCAL HEALTH JURISDICTIONS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) is sharing the following updated (June 29) information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with you.

Preliminary information continues to indicate that contaminated oral liquid docusate products might be related to *B. cepacia* complex infections in one state. At this time, there is no epidemiologic or laboratory evidence to suggest oral capsules or enemas are affected. Until more information is available, CDC and the PADOH continue to recommend that facilities not use any oral liquid docusate products for patients who are critically ill, ventilated, or immunosuppressed. Facilities that experience *B. cepacia* complex infections among non-cystic fibrosis patients or clusters of *B. cepacia* complex infections among cystic fibrosis patients should sequester all oral liquid docusate products.

Healthcare providers and laboratories should remain on alert for *B. cepacia* complex infections occurring among non-cystic fibrosis patients and should inform infection prevention staff when these infections occur. In addition, clusters of *B. cepacia* complex infections among patients with CF should be reported when infection rates appear above endemic rates. Cases should be reported to state or local public health authorities.

The CDC will provide an update to this announcement by **July 7**.

Any questions or concerns regarding these recommendations should be directed to the PADOH at 1-877-PA-HEALTH or to your local health department.

Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

This information is current as of July 1, 2016, but may be modified in the future.