

<b>DATE:</b>	September 30, 2016
<b>TO:</b>	Health Alert Network
<b>FROM:</b>	Karen Murphy, PhD, RN, Secretary of Health
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Non-respiratory <i>Burkholderia cepacia</i> in Pennsylvania</b>
<b>DISTRIBUTION:</b>	Statewide
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Statewide
<b>STREET ADDRESS:</b>	Statewide
<b>COUNTY:</b>	Statewide
<b>MUNICIPALITY:</b>	Statewide
<b>ZIP CODE:</b>	Statewide

**This transmission is a “Health Advisory”: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.**

**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 currently investigating an outbreak of *Burkholderia cepacia* (*B. cepacia*) bloodstream infections possibly associated with intravenous (IV) infusions.

The Department of Health recommends the following:

**Health care providers should consider *B. cepacia* in patients presenting with bloodstream infections, especially those with a history of IV infusion treatment. Providers are reminded to obtain blood cultures in patients who have been receiving intravenous therapies in whom infection is suspected.**

**All non-respiratory *B. cepacia* positive cultures since July 16, 2016, should be immediately reported to PADOH at 1-877-PA-HEALTH or to the local health department where the patient resides. Additionally, all non-respiratory *B. cepacia* isolates should be held until further notice.**

*B. cepacia*, typically associated with respiratory infections in individuals with cystic fibrosis and other respiratory diseases can also be transmitted from contaminated medications and devices. *B. cepacia* is frequently resistant to many common antibiotics and decisions on the treatment should be made on a case-by-case basis.

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

More information about *B. cepacia* can be found at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention webpage: <http://www.cdc.gov/HAI/organisms/bCepacia.html>

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

<p>This information is current as of September 30, 2016, but may be modified in the future. We will continue to post updated information regarding the most common questions about this subject.</p>
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