
PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY
REPORTS OF ESBL-PRODUCING
***E. COLI* INFECTION IN DESERT PATIENTS**
DECEMBER 28, 2017

Background

The Riverside County Department of Public Health is concerned with the growing number of antibiotic-resistant infections reported in both hospitals and community settings, especially in the medically fragile. After our recent health advisory regarding carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae*, the Department has also received several reports of extended spectrum beta lactamase (ESBL)-producing *E. coli* infections particularly in HIV+ residents of the Palm Springs area, presenting primarily as urinary tract infections and/or prostatitis. To date the Department has not been able to find a clear linkage between the cases reviewed so far.

Actions Requested of Clinicians

Clinicians are asked to submit **cases of ESBL-producing *E. coli* in the Palm Springs/western Coachella Valley region** diagnosed on or after **October 1, 2017**. Please include the culture and sensitivity results on the isolate and relevant clinical information including HIV status; progress notes are acceptable. Complete a Confidential Morbidity Form (CMR) and submit the documentation via secure fax to the Department of Public Health at 951 358 5102. Questions can be addressed to the Disease Control branch during regular business hours at 951 358 5107.

In addition, **licensed physicians at all care levels are reminded that all novel disease outbreaks**, which would certainly include isolates of unusual or extraordinary breadth of antibiotic resistance, **are always reportable to the local health department under existing state law**. A Confidential Morbidity Form (CMR) is minimally required; telephone reporting may also be necessary for novel disease outbreaks of sufficient acuity using the contact numbers above.

We appreciate your help in keeping all residents of Riverside County healthy.

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