

**TO:** Vermont Health Care Providers, Hospitals, Clinics and Laboratories

**FROM:** Laura Ann Nicolai, Deputy State Epidemiologist

### **Vermont Reportable and Communicable Diseases Rule Changes**

The Vermont Reportable and Communicable Diseases Rule has been updated effective April 6, 2019. Below are highlights of the key changes. The complete list of reportable diseases and list of reportable laboratory findings follow. They can also be found on the Vermont Department of Health's website at [healthvermont.gov/reportablediseases](http://healthvermont.gov/reportablediseases). If you have questions about reporting requirements, please contact the Health Department's Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program at 802-863-7240 or 800-640-4374 (within Vermont only).

#### **These diseases, syndromes, and treatments are now required to be reported:**

- *Borrelia miyamotoi* infection
- *Candida auris*
- Carbapenem-resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* (CRAB)
- Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE)
- Carbapenem-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (CRPA)
- Glanders\*
- Jamestown Canyon virus disease
- Melioidosis\*
- Powassan virus disease
- Tuberculosis infection, latent
- Vaccinia (disease or adverse event)
- Zika virus infection

(\* ) Indicates immediately reportable

#### **These laboratory findings are now required to be reported:**

- *Borrelia mayonii*
- *Borrelia miyamotoi*
- *Candida auris*
- Carbapenem-resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* (CRAB), including susceptibility results
- Carbapenem-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (CRPA), including susceptibility results
- **All** CD4+ T-lymphocyte counts and percentages
- CSF cultures (all positive findings)
- **All** HIV subtype and HIV nucleotide sequence data from antiretroviral drug resistance testing
- Jamestown Canyon virus
- Positive interferon-gamma release assay (IGRA) test reports for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*
- Powassan virus
- Ricin toxin (*Ricinus communis*)
- **All** confirmatory tests for *Treponema pallidum* (syphilis) that result from an initial positive screening test, regardless of result (positive and negative)
- Zika virus

## REPORT IMMEDIATELY BY PHONE:

Anthrax	Influenza A (novel strain only)	Rabies, human cases
Botulism	Measles	Rubella
Brucellosis	Melioidosis	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
Cholera	Meningococcal disease	Smallpox (variola)
Diphtheria	Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS)	Tularemia
Glanders	Plague	Typhoid fever
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> disease, invasive	Poliovirus infection (including poliomyelitis)	Viral hemorrhagic fever
Hepatitis A		

## REPORT WITHIN 24 HOURS:

AIDS	Gonorrhea	Rubella, congenital rubella syndrome
Anaplasmosis	Guillain-Barré Syndrome	Salmonellosis
Animal bites (reportable to Town Health Officers)	Hantavirus disease	Shiga toxin-producing <i>E. coli</i> (STEC)
Arboviral illness	Hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS)	Shigellosis
Babesiosis	Hepatitis B	Spotted fever rickettsiosis
Blood lead levels	Hepatitis C	Streptococcal disease, Group A, invasive
<i>Borrelia miyamotoi</i> infection	Hepatitis E	Streptococcal disease, Group B, invasive in infants less than one month of age
Campylobacteriosis	HIV	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> disease, invasive
<i>Candida auris</i>	Influenza (report only institutional outbreaks and pediatric influenza-related deaths)	Syphilis
Carbapenem-resistant <i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i> (CRAB)	Jamestown Canyon virus disease	Tetanus
Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE)	Legionellosis	Toxic shock syndrome
Carbapenem-resistant <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> (CRPA)	Leptospirosis	Trichinosis
<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i> infection	Listeriosis	Tuberculosis disease
Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease/transmissible spongiform encephalopathies	Lyme disease	Tuberculosis infection, latent
Cryptosporidiosis	Malaria	Vaccinia (disease or adverse event)
Cyclosporiasis	Meningitis, bacterial	Varicella, chicken pox only
Dengue	Mumps	Vibriosis
Eastern equine encephalitis	Pertussis	West Nile virus illness
Ehrlichiosis	Powassan virus disease	Yellow fever
Encephalitis	Psittacosis	Yersiniosis
	Q Fever	Zika virus infection
	Rabies, animal cases	
	Rabies post exposure treatment in humans	
	Reye syndrome	

**Also reportable:** any unexpected pattern of cases, suspected cases, deaths or increased incidence of any other illness of major public health concern.

**REPORT 24/7: 802-863-7240 or 1-800-640-4374 (VT only)**

Vermont Department of Health, Infectious Disease Program  
[www.healthvermont.gov/reportablediseases](http://www.healthvermont.gov/reportablediseases)

Effective 04/06/2019

## Why are certain diseases and laboratory findings reportable?

The Vermont Department of Health depends on reports of diseases and conditions of public health concern to protect the health of Vermont residents. Timely reporting ensures that cases of communicable disease can be investigated quickly so steps can be taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

Vermont's list of reportable diseases and the time frames in which they are required to be reported to the Health Department are specified in Vermont law (Reportable and Communicable Disease Rule). Both laboratory-confirmed cases and clinical diagnoses are reportable within 24 hours. Immediate reporting is essential for several conditions that require prompt action by public health practitioners and for diseases that might indicate a bioterrorism incident.

## What happens to the information that is collected?

All individually identifying information reported to the Department of Health is confidential and protected by law. Surveillance information without personal identifiers is shared routinely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and with public health partners and practitioners throughout the state.

### Data about reportable diseases and laboratory findings are used to:

- Guide immediate action to prevent the spread of diseases that affect Vermont communities
- Monitor trends in the burden of a disease, including the detection of outbreaks
- Identify needs for programs to prevent and control disease, like immunization recommendations
- Evaluate public policy
- Detect changes in health practices
- Prioritize the allocation of health resources

## How to report suspected or confirmed cases of disease:

Contact the Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program at **802-863-7240** or **800-640-4374** (within Vermont only) from 7:45 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. on business days. An epidemiologist is available 24/7 for diseases that require prompt public health follow-up. In addition, providers can fax paper reports to the Epidemiology Program's confidential fax machine at **802-951-4061**.

**Learn more: [healthvermont.gov/reportablediseases](https://healthvermont.gov/reportablediseases)**

# Reportable Laboratory Findings

## REPORT IMMEDIATELY BY PHONE:

*Bacillus anthracis*  
*Brucella* species ♣  
*Burkholderia mallei* ♣  
*Burkholderia pseudomallei* ♣  
*Clostridium botulinum* ♣  
*Corynebacterium diphtheriae* ♣

*Francisella tularensis* ♣  
Hemorrhagic fever viruses ♣  
Measles virus  
MERS CoV ♣  
*Neisseria meningitidis* (isolated from a normally sterile site) ♣

♣ Specimens or isolates must be sent to the Health Department Laboratory.

Poliovirus  
Rabies virus  
SARS-CoV/SARS-associated virus ♣  
Smallpox (variola)  
*Yersinia pestis* ♣

## REPORT WITHIN 24 HOURS:

*Anaplasma phagocytophilum*  
Arboviruses ♣  
*Babesia microti*  
Blood lead levels (including undetectable)  
*Bordetella pertussis*  
*Borrelia burgdorferi*  
*Borrelia mayonii*  
*Borrelia miyamotoi*  
*Campylobacter* species ♣  
*Candida auris* ♣  
Carbapenem-resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* (CRAB) ♣  
Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) ♣  
Carbapenem-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (CRPA) ♣  
CD4+ T-lymphocyte counts and percentages (all results)  
*Chlamydia psittaci*  
*Chlamydia trachomatis*  
*Clostridium tetani*  
*Coxiella burnetii* ♣  
Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease/transmissible spongiform encephalopathies  
*Cryptosporidium* species  
CSF cultures (all positive findings)

*Cyclospora cayetanensis*  
Dengue virus  
Eastern equine encephalitis virus ♣  
*Ehrlichia* species  
*Haemophilus influenzae* (isolated from a normally sterile site) ♣  
Hantavirus ♣  
Hepatitis A virus (anti-HAV IgM)  
Hepatitis B virus (HBsAg, anti-HBcIgM, HBeAg, HBV DNA)  
Hepatitis C virus  
Hepatitis E virus (IgM anti-HEV)  
HIV (HIV viral load, including non-detectable results, and all HIV subtype and HIV sequence data)  
Influenza A (novel strain only) ♣  
Jamestown Canyon virus ♣  
*Legionella* species  
*Leptospira* species ♣  
*Listeria monocytogenes* ♣  
Mumps virus  
*Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex ♣ (including positive IGRA reports)  
*Neisseria gonorrhoeae*  
*Plasmodium* species  
Powassan virus ♣  
Ricin toxin  
*Rickettsia* species

Rubella virus  
*Salmonella* species ♣  
Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* (STEC) (including O157:H7) ♣  
*Shigella* species ♣  
*Staphylococcus aureus*, vancomycin resistant (VRSA) and vancomycin intermediate (VISA) ♣  
*Streptococcus*, Group A (isolated from a normally sterile site)  
*Streptococcus*, Group B (isolated from a normally sterile site in infants less than 1 month of age)  
*Streptococcus pneumoniae* (isolated from a normally sterile site)  
*Treponema pallidum* (including all results for confirmatory tests for syphilis that result from an initial positive screening test)  
*Trichinella spiralis*  
Varicella virus  
*Vibrio* species  
West Nile virus ♣  
Yellow fever virus  
*Yersinia enterocolitica*  
Zika virus

**Also reportable:** any unexpected pattern of cases, suspected cases, deaths or increased incidence of any other illness of major public health concern.

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Vermont Department of Health, Infectious Disease Program

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Effective 04/06/2019

## Laboratory reporting shall include:

- Patient name
- Patient date of birth
- Patient sex
- Patient address
- Patient telephone number
- Ordering provider name
- Ordering provider address
- Ordering provider telephone number
- Test results
- Specimen type(s) (e.g. serum, swab, etc.)
- Specimen source(s) (e.g. cervix, throat, etc.)
- Diagnostic test(s) performed
- Interpretation of result(s)
- Date(s) of specimen collection
- Performing laboratory name and address

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## How to report laboratory findings:

Laboratories can report results electronically or on paper. Laboratories that are not ready to report electronically can report using a weekly lab report form that is mailed or faxed to the Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program. An epidemiologist is available 24/7 at **802-863-7240** or **800-640-4374** (within Vermont only) for diseases that require prompt public health follow-up.

Specimens or isolates of certain organisms must be sent to the Health Department Laboratory. Contact the Health Department Laboratory at **802-338-4724** or **800-660-9997** (within Vermont only) for information about how to submit cultures and specimens.

**Learn more: [healthvermont.gov/reportablediseases](https://healthvermont.gov/reportablediseases)**