

AT YOUR SERVICE

NEWS FROM THE BERRIEN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Berrien County Reportable Infectious Diseases 2010-2017

- Please see the second page.
- We continue to be the number one County in Michigan Lyme cases.
- For a comprehensive list of the [2018 Reportable Diseases](#) visit MDHHS web site.

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Gonorrhea continues to be elevated. Gonorrhea can be cured with the right treatment. CDC recommends dual therapy, or using two drugs, to treat gonorrhea. A single dose of 250 mg of intramuscular ceftriaxone and 1g of oral azithromycin. It is important to take all of the medication prescribed to cure gonorrhea. Medication for gonorrhea should not be shared with anyone. Although medication will stop the infection, it will not repair any permanent damage done by the disease. Antimicrobial resistance in gonorrhea is of increasing concern, and successful treatment of gonorrhea is becoming more difficult. If a person's symptoms continue for more than a few days after receiving treatment, he or she should return to a health care provider to be reevaluated.

Please refer to [Gonorrhea Treatment and Care](#)

Rabies 2018

For the third straight year Berrien County has had a confirmed rabid bat-human exposure. Please remain vigilant. In Michigan there are about 40 animals confirmed to have rabies per year. The majority are bats.

Animal Bites and Exposures

If you treat a patient with an animal bite or exposure in your office, the bite or exposure must be reported to the local health department. According to public health rules and regulations, the report shall include the following information:

- Animal species inflicting the bite
- Animal owner's name, address and telephone number
- Vaccination status of the animal
- Date and location of biting incident
- Name, address, and telephone number of person bitten
- Site of the bite on the body
- Name of the reporter of the bite

The Health Department and an Animal Control Officer will follow-up on each bite report to ensure that the aggressor animal is quarantined appropriately, or tested for rabies. Turnaround time for testing and results is normally 48 hours.

Exposures to bats should also be reported, even if there is not an obvious bite or mucous membrane exposure. The CDC suggests that post-exposure rabies prophylaxis be considered in cases where there is a reasonable probability that contact with a bat may have occurred (i.e., a sleeping person awakens to find a bat in the same room, an adult witnesses a bat in a room with a previously unattended child, mentally disabled person, or intoxicated individual), **and a bat is not available for testing**. To find the current animal bite report form visit

[Berrien County Health Department](#) web page or call the Berrien County Health Department at 269-926-7121.

Berrien County Medical Examiner Annual Report 2017

The number of homicides, suicides and vehicular deaths in Berrien County in 2017 remained fairly consistent. However, our overdose deaths were significantly decreased, which most likely reflects a described "Narcarn Effect". Yet opioids accounted for 21 of our 23 overdose deaths! In 6, Fentanyl was the only cause and in 4 more deaths, Fentanyl plus another drug was involved. In 4 deaths Heroin was the sole cause (and was involved in 8 other cases). As a community we still have work to do! Feel free to view the [Medical Examiner Annual Report](#).

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Berrien County: Selected Reportable Diseases 2010-2017

(Number of cases per year)

Enteric Disease	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Campylobacter	35	50	48	44	28	42	29	37
Cryptosporidiosis	11	13	15	5	6	3	5	7
Giardiasis	10	9	6	9	2	8	5	9
Salmonellosis	8	17	15	13	22	18	17	23
Shigellosis	2	1	21	10	7	2	2	7
Hepatitis	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Hepatitis A	0	0	6	8	3	1	0	0
Hepatitis B, Acute	3	2	1	0	0	2	0	0
Hepatitis B, Chronic	9	10	11	15	7	5	6	5
Hepatitis C, Acute	0	0	2	1	3	3	8	5
Hepatitis C, Chronic	91	98	92	73	61	90	117	144
STD	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Chlamydia (Genital)	853	1055	941	814	800	846	837	875
Gonorrhea	275	223	240	186	109	205	281	286
Syphilis - Primary	1	0	0	1	4	3	0	1
Syphilis - Secondary	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	2
Tuberculosis	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Tuberculosis	2	1	4	2	3	2	2	2
Mycobacterium - Other	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	5
Vaccine Preventable Diseases	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Chickenpox (Varicella)	55	23	20	14	17	11	8	7
H. influenza Disease -Inv	0	3	0	2	1	1	5	3
Pertussis	3	4	2	9	1	4	6	3
Vector borne Diseases	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Lyme Disease	9	8	6	11	21	29	22	27
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Meningitis	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Meningitis - Aseptic	15	14	5	8	9	5	7	7
Streptococcus pneumonia, Inv	6	12	10	12	11	10	10	13