

To: Vermont Health Care Providers, Clinical Laboratories, Pharmacists,
and Veterinarians
Date: August 20, 2024
From: Patsy Kelso, PhD, State Epidemiologist

Updates to Vermont's Reportable Diseases Rule

Summary

Vermont's [Reportable and Communicable Diseases Rule](#) has been updated effective August 10, 2024.

Requested Actions

Review the updated rule and report to the Health Department as required. Epidemiologists are available 24/7 at 802-863-7240 option 2.

Key Updates to the Rule

1. The updated rule changes the **required reporting period for positive SARS-CoV-2 results and COVID-19** from "immediately" to "within 24 hours."
2. The following diseases have been **added to the list of reportable diseases/laboratory findings in humans**:
 - a. COVID-19-related pediatric deaths
 - b. Mpox (human monkeypox)
 - c. Blastomycosis
 - d. Infant botulism
 - e. *Salmonella* Paratyphi
 - f. Positive Tuberculin skin test (TST) results
 - g. Non-detectable Hepatitis C nucleic acid results
 - h. Hepatitis C genotype results
 - i. Specific arboviral illnesses:
 - i. Chikungunya virus disease
 - ii. La Crosse virus disease
 - iii. St. Louis encephalitis
3. The following diseases have been **removed from the list of reportable diseases/laboratory findings in humans**:

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- a. Arboviruses (unspecified)
 - b. Negative and indeterminate SARS-CoV-2 results
 - c. Guillain-Barré Syndrome
 - d. Viral hemorrhagic fever
4. The following diseases have been **added to the list of specimens or isolates from humans that shall be sent to the Health Department Laboratory:**
- a. *Bacillus anthracis*
 - b. *Bacillus cereus*, biovar *anthracis*
 - c. *Cryptosporidium* species
 - d. La Crosse virus
 - e. *Legionella* species
 - f. Ricin toxin
 - g. St. Louis encephalitis virus
 - h. *Streptococcus pyogenes* (group A), isolated from a normally sterile site
 - i. *Vibrio* species
 - j. *Yersinia enterocolitica*
5. The following diseases have been **added to the list of reportable diseases/laboratory findings in animals:**
- a. Mpox
 - b. SARS-CoV-2 infection
6. The following diseases have been **removed from the from the list of reportable diseases/laboratory findings in animals:**
- a. Bovine spongiform encephalopathy
 - b. Melioidosis
 - c. Ricin toxin
 - d. Viral hemorrhagic fever
7. Additional relevant clinical and laboratory information shall now be reported if requested by the Health Department.
8. Susceptibility results shall now be reported for these laboratory findings:
- a. *Haemophilus influenzae*, isolated from a normally sterile site
 - b. *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex
 - c. *Neisseria meningitidis*, isolated from a normally sterile site

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9. The rule was also reorganized for clarity, including added tables that align the reportable diseases with their associated laboratory findings.

Additional Resources

- [Reportable and Communicable Diseases Rule](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Patsy Kelso at: patsy.kelso@vermont.gov.

To be removed from the HAN or have your information updated please email the Vermont HAN Coordinator at: vthan@vermont.gov.

HAN Message Type Definitions

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.

Info Service Message: Provides general correspondence from the Vermont Department of Health, which is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.

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