



MARYLAND Department of Health

Public Health Preparedness and Situational Awareness Report: #2019:18

Reporting for the week ending 05/04/19 (MMWR Week #18)

May 10, 2019

CURRENT HOMELAND SECURITY THREAT LEVELS

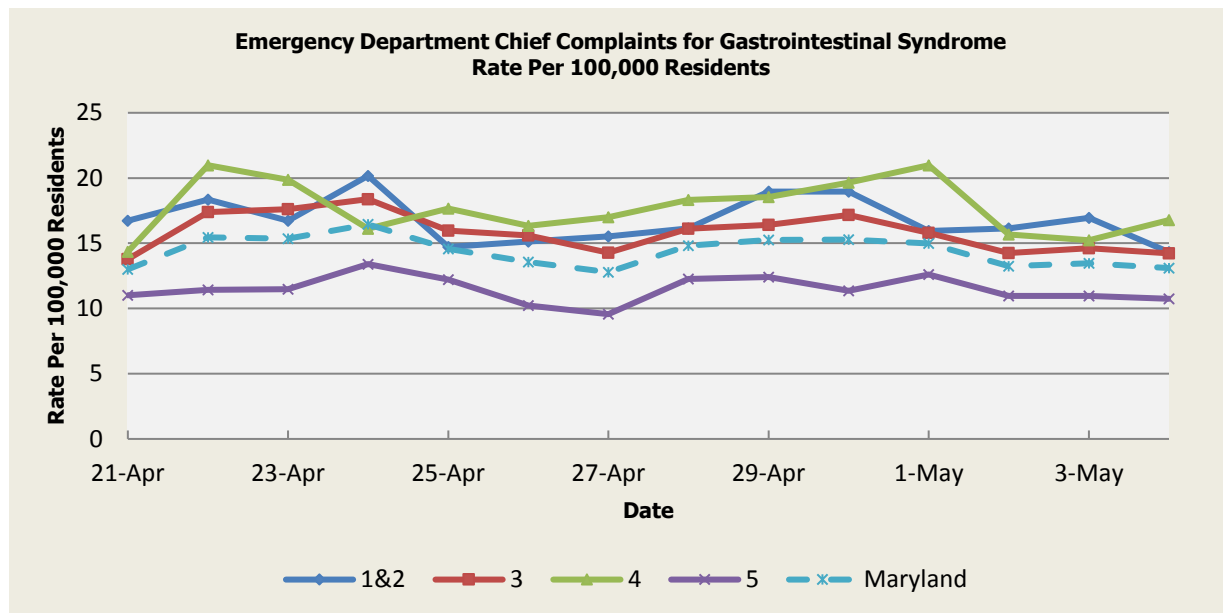
National:	No Active Alerts
Maryland:	Normal (MEMA status)

SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

ESSENCE (Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics): Graphical representation is provided for all syndromes (excluding the “Other” category; see Appendix 1) by Health and Medical Regions (See Appendix 2). Emergency department chief complaint data is presented as rates per 100,000 residents using data from the 2010 census. Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics (ESSENCE). Baltimore, MD: Maryland Department of Health; 2019.

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Gastrointestinal Syndrome



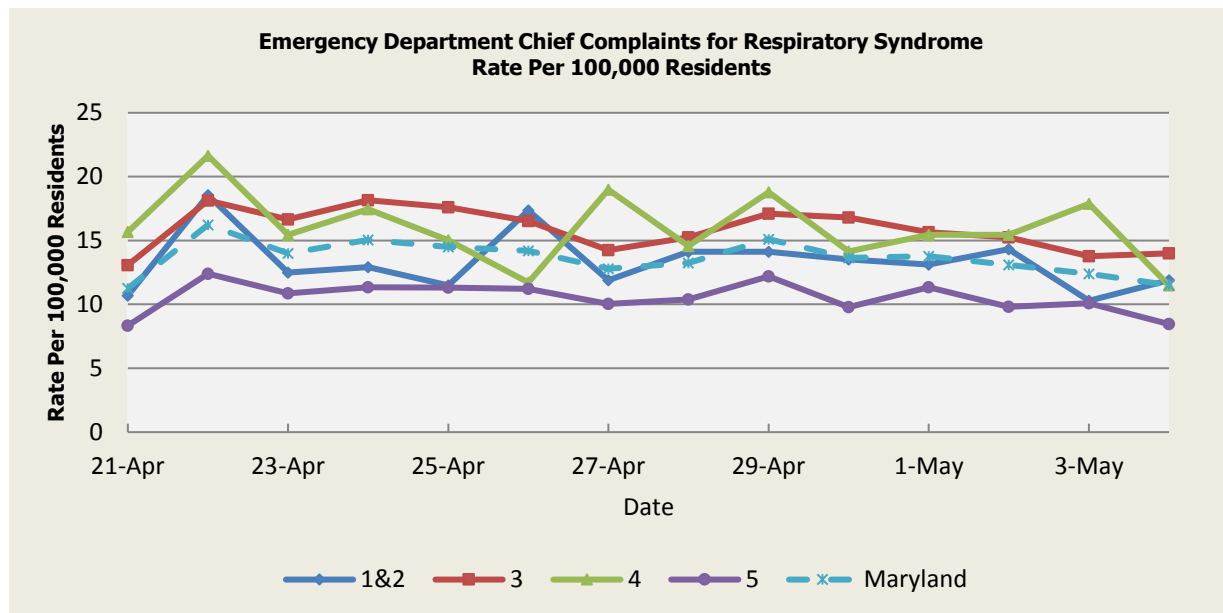
There was one (1) Gastrointestinal Syndrome outbreak reported this week: one (1) outbreak of Gastroenteritis/Foodborne associated with a Restaurant (Region 3).

Gastrointestinal Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	13.26	15.14	15.91	10.25	13.17
Median Rate*	13.11	14.87	15.46	10.13	12.98

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Respiratory Syndrome



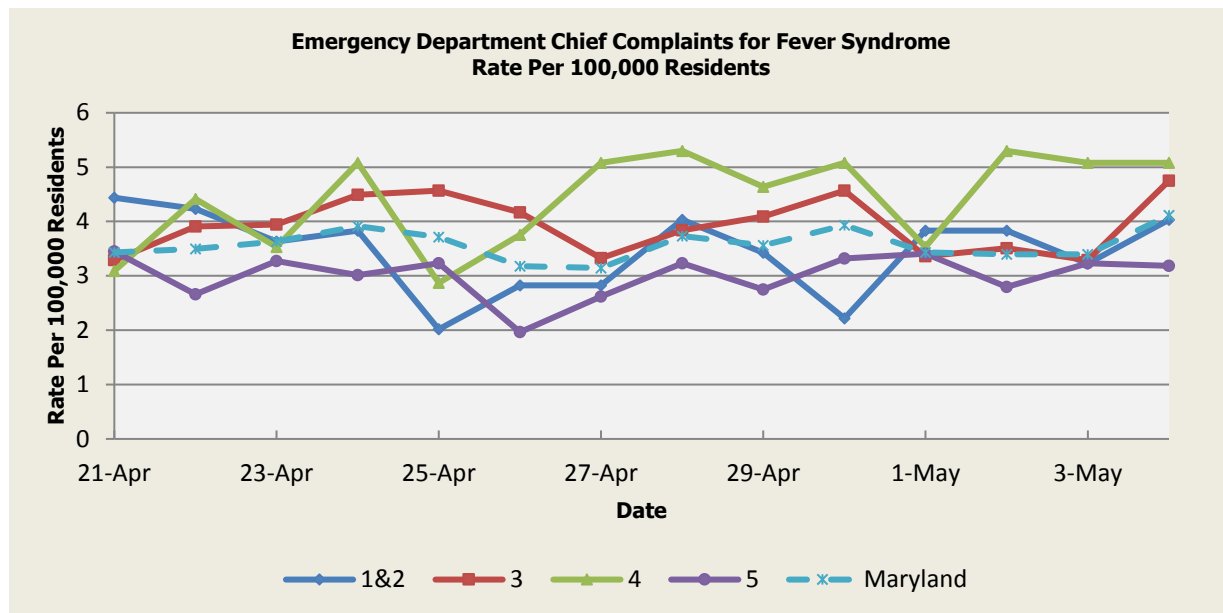
There were no Respiratory Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Respiratory Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	12.68	14.77	15.11	10.01	12.80
Median Rate*	12.10	14.18	14.35	9.65	12.28

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Fever Syndrome



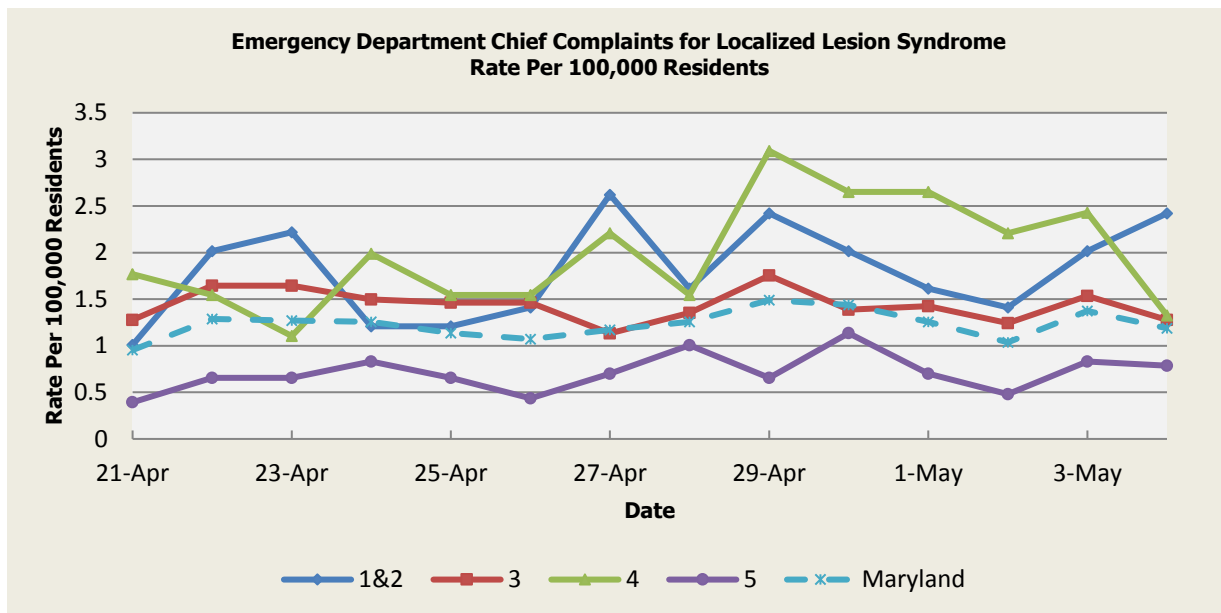
There were no Fever Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Fever Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.08	3.91	4.10	3.05	3.52
Median Rate*	3.02	3.76	3.97	2.92	3.40

**Per 100,000 Residents*

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Localized Lesion Syndrome



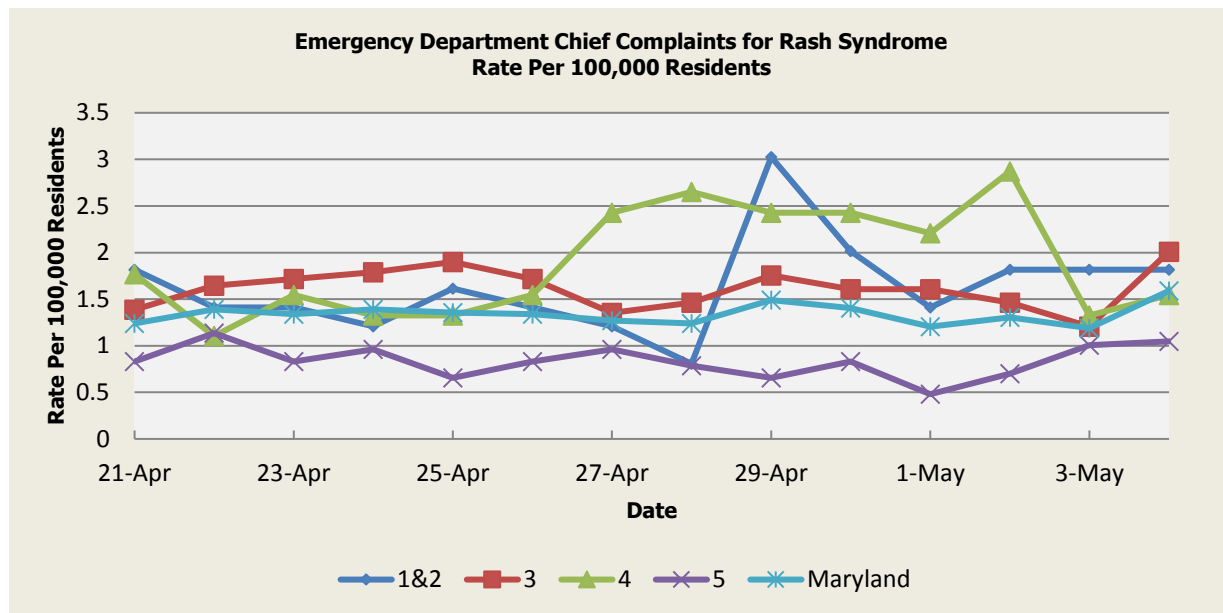
There were no Localized Lesion Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Localized Lesion Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	1.11	1.80	2.04	0.91	1.42
Median Rate*	1.01	1.72	1.99	0.87	1.36

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Rash Syndrome



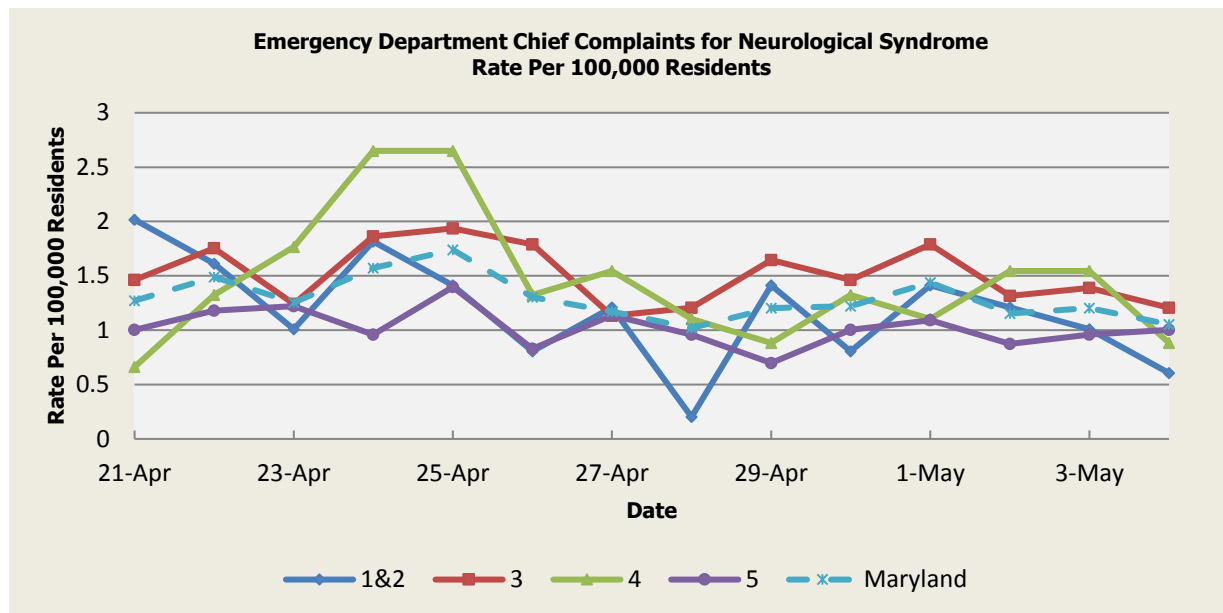
There was one (1) Rash Syndrome outbreak reported this week: one (1) outbreak of Scabies in an Assisted Living Facility (Region 5).

Rash Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	1.23	1.68	1.77	0.98	1.38
Median Rate*	1.21	1.61	1.77	0.92	1.32

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Neurological Syndrome



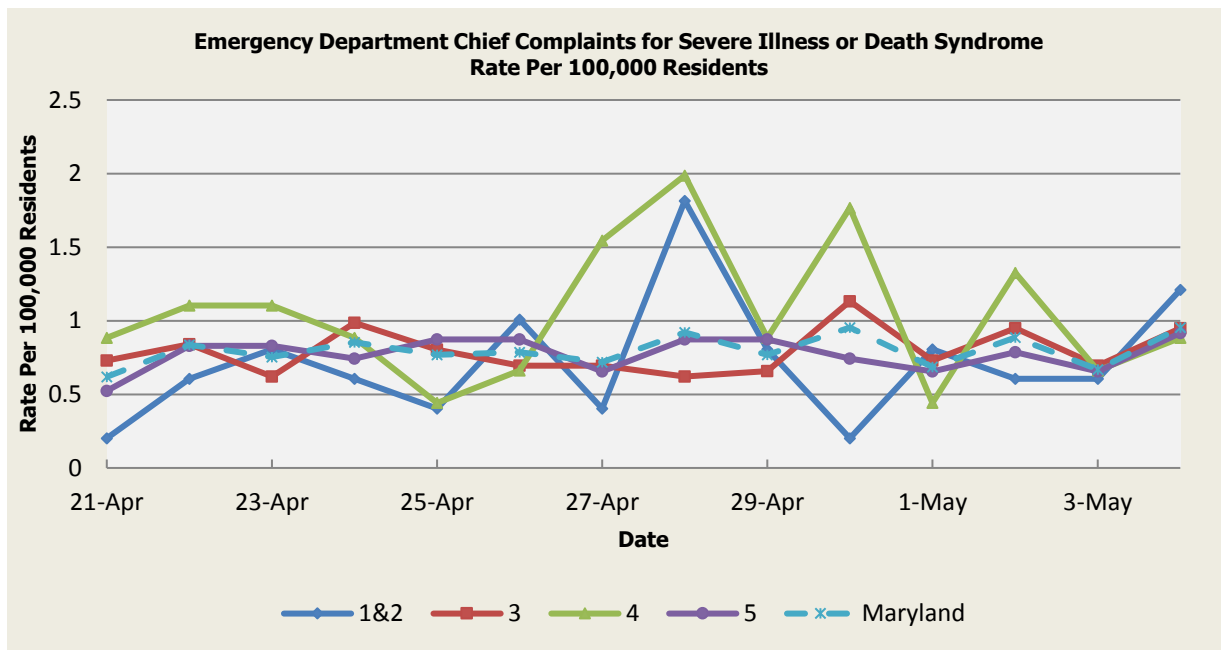
There were no Neurological Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Neurological Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.76	0.93	0.84	0.59	0.78
Median Rate*	0.60	0.84	0.66	0.52	0.69

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Severe Illness or Death Syndrome



There were no Severe Illness or Death Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

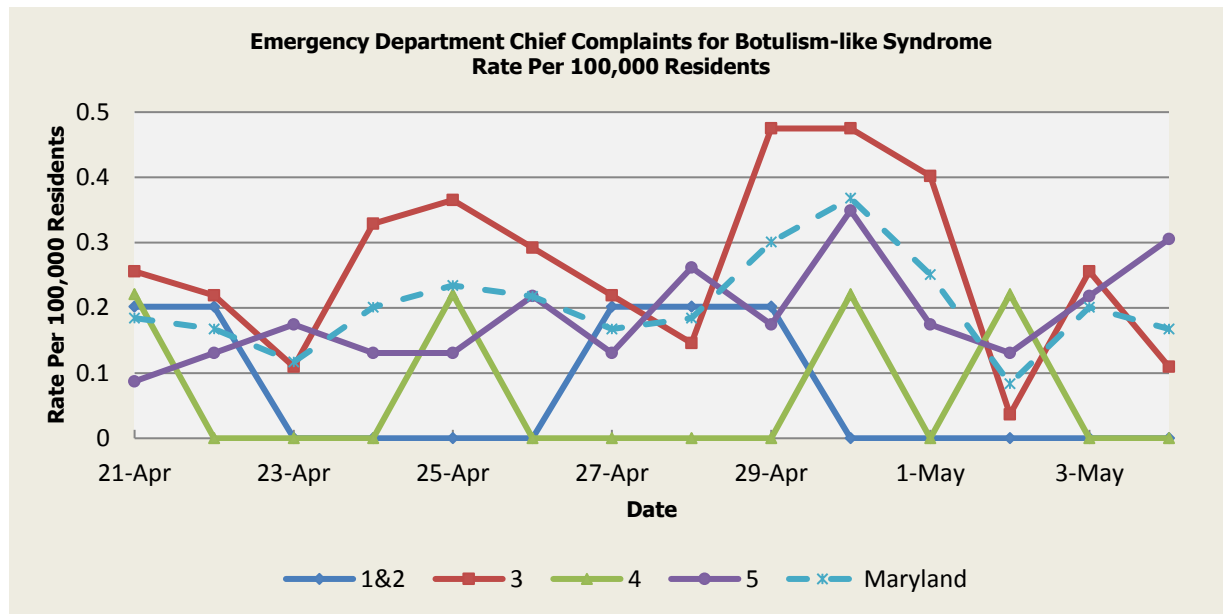
Severe Illness or Death Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.66	0.90	0.83	0.51	0.73
Median Rate*	0.60	0.88	0.66	0.48	0.69

* Per 100,000 Residents

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SYNDROMES RELATED TO CATEGORY A AGENTS

Botulism-like Syndrome



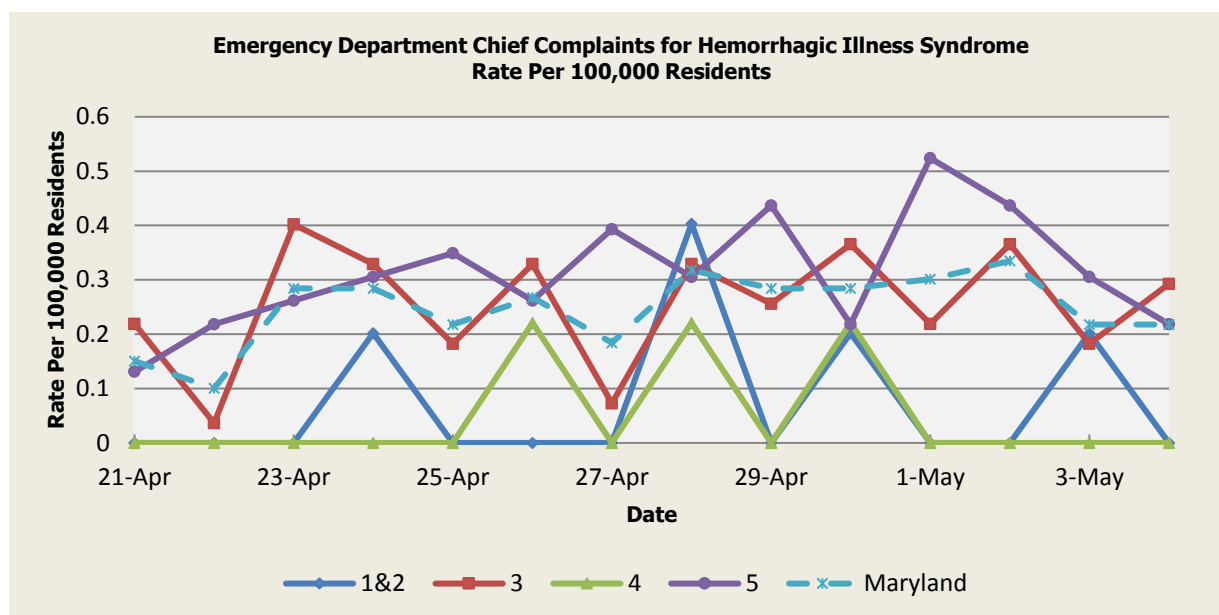
There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Botulism-like Syndrome on 4/21 (Regions 1&2,3,4), 4/22 (Regions 1&2), 4/23 (Region 5), 4/24 (Region 3), 4/25 (Regions 3,4), 4/26 (Regions 3,5), 4/27 (Regions 1&2), 4/28 (Regions 1&2,5), 4/29 (Regions 1&2,3), 4/30 (Regions 3,4), 5/1 (Regions 3,5), 5/2 (Region 4), 5/3 (Regions 3,5), 5/4 (Region 5). These increases are not known to be associated with any outbreaks.

Botulism-like Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.07	0.12	0.06	0.07	0.09
Median Rate*	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.04	0.07

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome



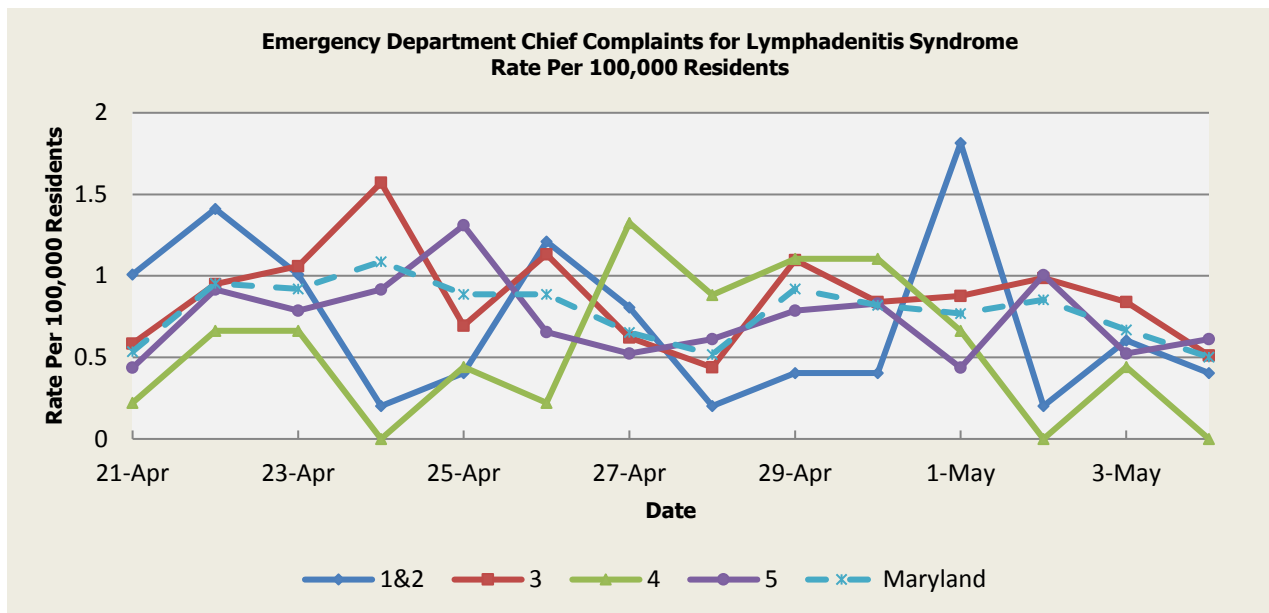
There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome on 4/23 (Regions 3,5), 4/24 (Regions 1&2,5), 4/25 (Region 5), 4/26 (Regions 3,4,5), 4/27 (Region 5), 4/28 (Regions 1&2,3,4,5), 4/29 (Region 5), 4/30 (Regions 1&2,3,4), 5/1 (Region 5), 5/2 (Regions 3,5), 5/3 (Regions 1&2,5). These increases are not known to be associated with any outbreaks.

Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.04	0.15	0.04	0.13	0.13
Median Rate*	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.09	0.07

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Lymphadenitis Syndrome



There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Lymphadenitis Syndrome on 4/21 (Regions 1&2), 4/22 (Regions 1&2,5), 4/23 (Regions 1&2,5), 4/24 (Regions 3,5), 4/25 (Region 5), 4/26 (Regions 1&2), 4/27 (Regions 1&2,3), 4/28 (Region 3), 4/29 (Regions 3,5), 4/30 (Regions 3,5), 5/1 (Regions 1&2), 5/2 (Region 5). These increases are not known to be associated with any outbreaks.

Lymphadenitis Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.36	0.58	0.40	0.37	0.47
Median Rate*	0.20	0.47	0.44	0.31	0.40

* Per 100,000 Residents

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MARYLAND REPORTABLE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

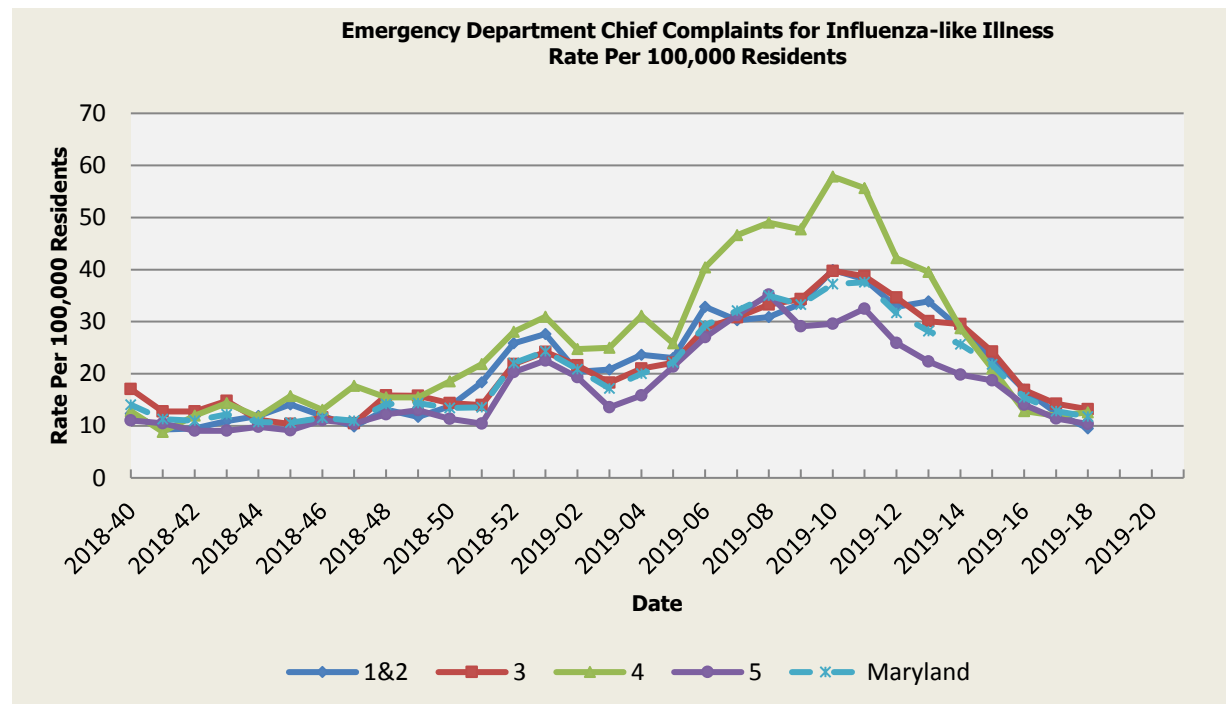
Reportable disease data from the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS) that feeds into ESSENCE is currently being validated. We will include these data in future reports once the validation process is complete.

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SYNDROMIC INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

Seasonal Influenza reporting occurs from MMWR Week 40 through MMWR Week 20 (October 2018 through May 2019). Seasonal Influenza activity for Week 18 was: Minimal Intensity and Local geographic activity.

Influenza-like Illness

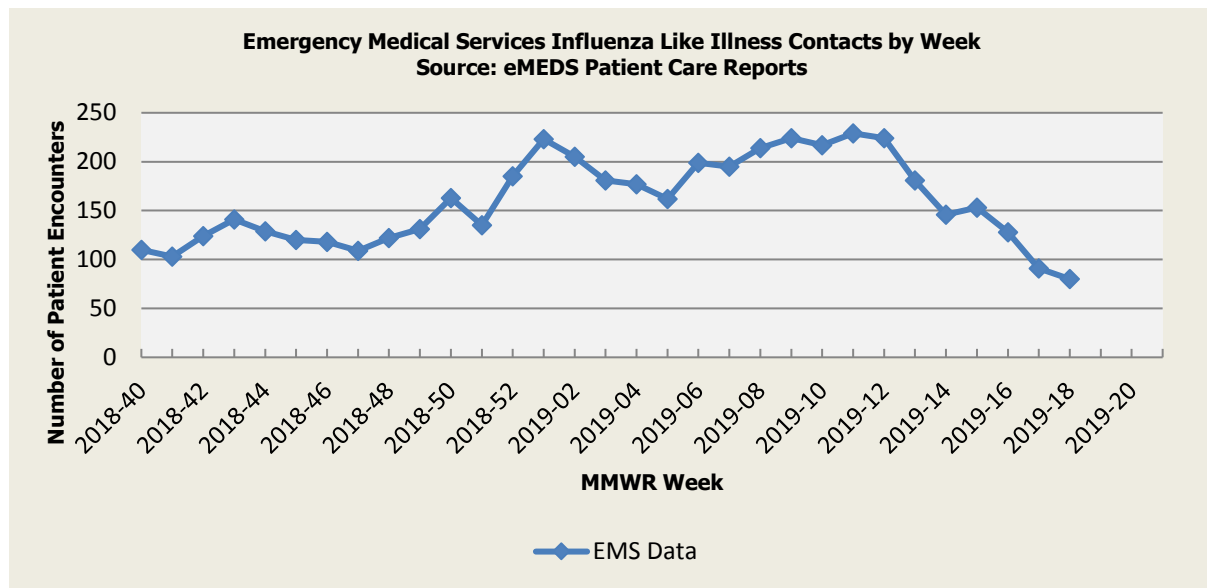


Influenza-like Illness Baseline Data Week 1 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	10.26	13.39	12.94	11.33	12.31
Median Rate*	7.66	10.34	9.27	8.73	9.42

* Per 100,000 Residents

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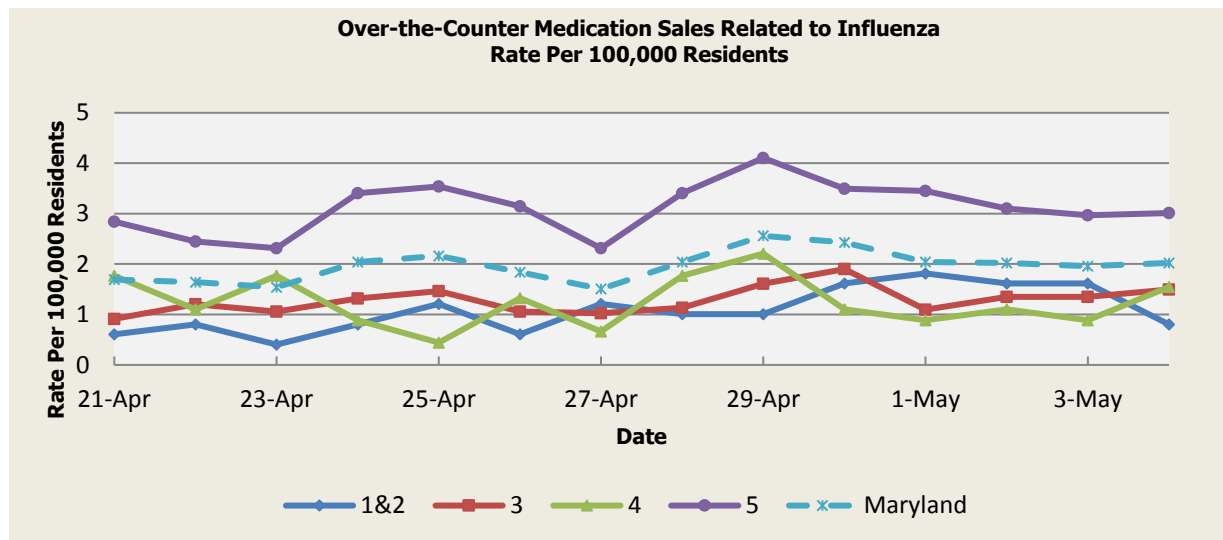
Influenza-like Illness Contacts by Week



Disclaimer on eMEDS flu related data: These data are based on EMS Pre-hospital care reports where the EMS provider has selected “flu like illness” as a primary or secondary impression of a patient’s illness. This impression is solely based on the signs and symptoms seen by the provider, not on any diagnostic tests. Since these numbers do not include all primary or secondary impressions that may be seen with influenza the actual numbers may be low. These data are reported for trending purposes only.

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Over-the-Counter Influenza-Related Medication Sales



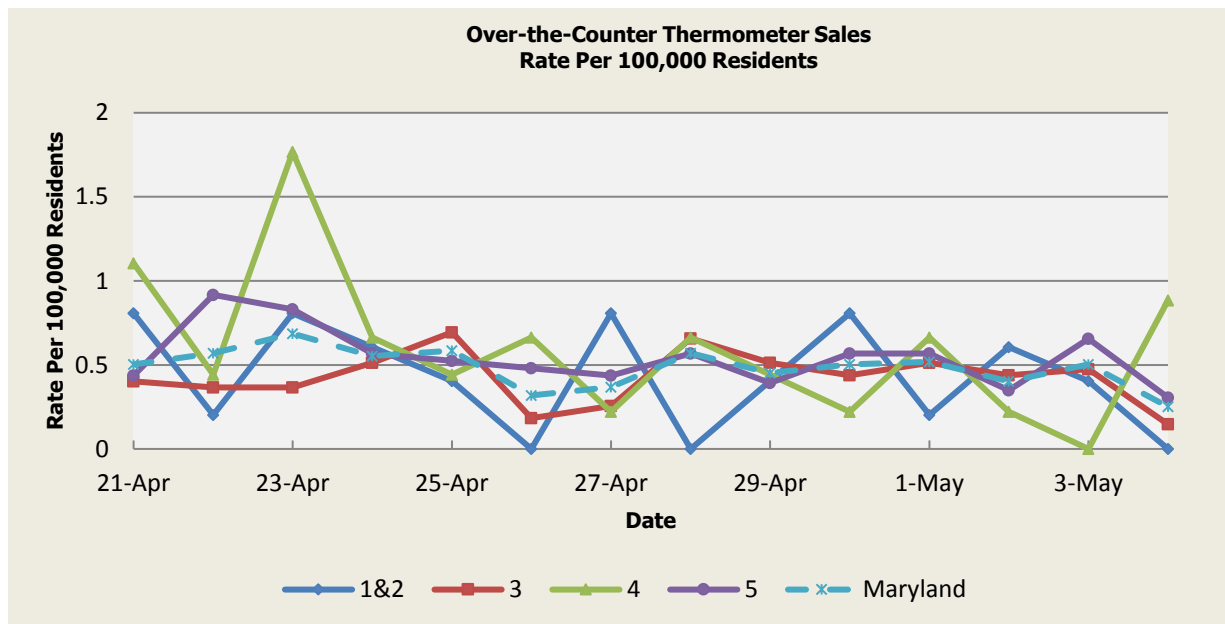
There was not an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of OTC thermometer sales during this reporting period.

OTC Medication Sales Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.58	4.61	2.73	8.04	5.70
Median Rate*	2.82	3.76	2.43	7.33	4.95

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Over-the-Counter Thermometer Sales



There was not an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of OTC thermometer sales during this reporting period.

Thermometer Sales Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.06	2.92	2.31	3.87	3.25
Median Rate*	2.82	2.78	2.21	3.75	3.13

* Per 100,000 Residents

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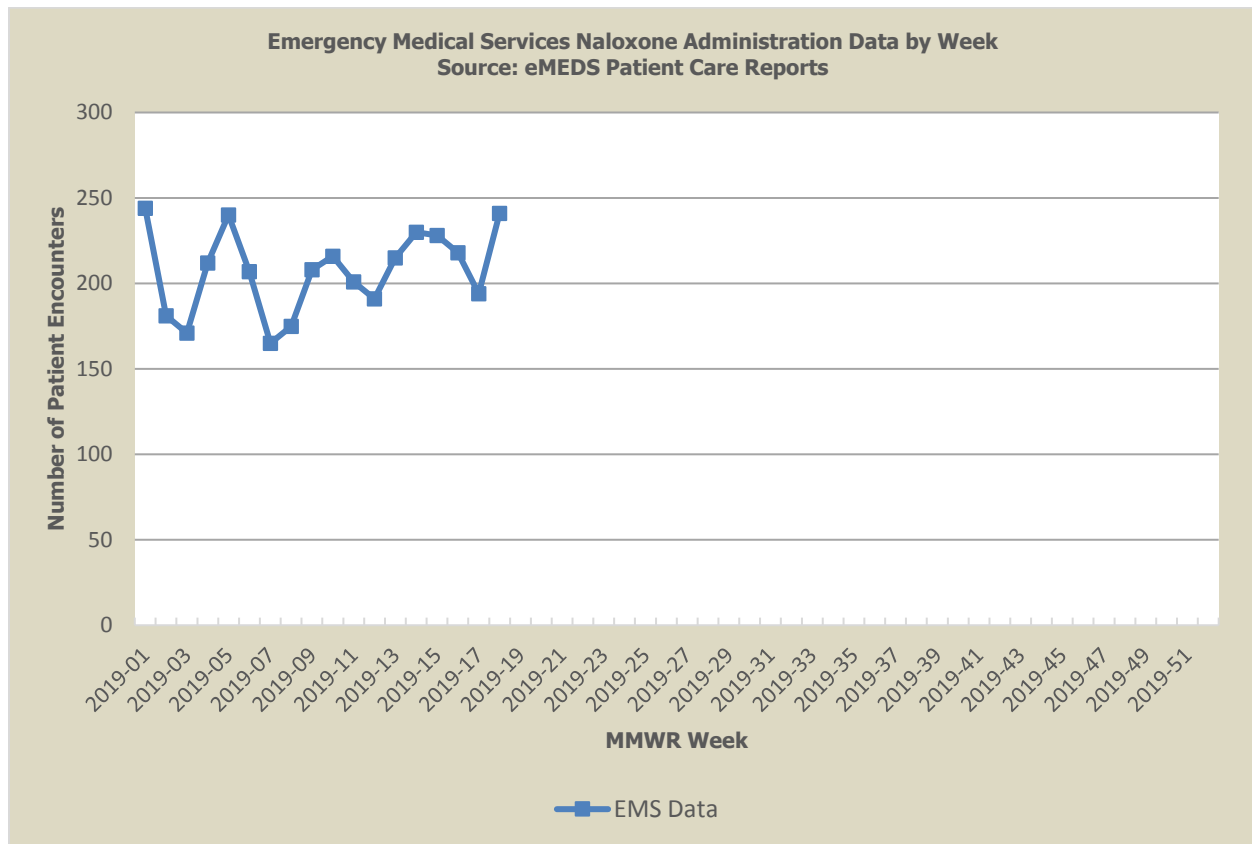
SYNDROMIC OVERDOSE SURVEILLANCE

The purpose of this section is to characterize non-fatal ED visit trends for acute unintentional overdose by Heroin, Opioid or Unspecified substance among Maryland residents captured by ESSENCE data, including chief complaint and discharge diagnosis. ED visits that are identified as unintentional overdose by Heroin, Opioid or Unspecified substance include those with medical and non-medical use of a prescription Opioid or where the substance is not specified, given evidence that most fatal overdoses are Opioid-related.

In preparation for the release of new ESSENCE queries for identifying heroin, opioid and all drug overdoses, please note that we have removed the data chart showing unintentional overdose rates by heroin, opioid, or unspecified substances. These new data, when available, will be presented below.

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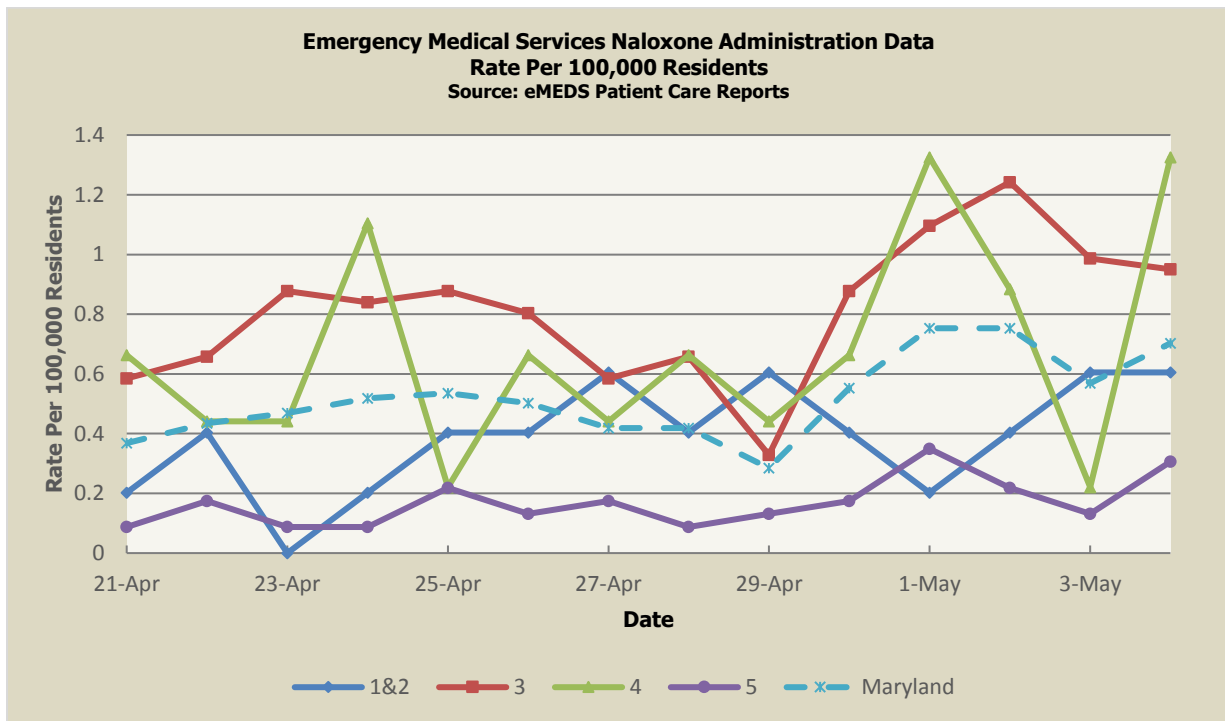
Naloxone Administration Data by Week



Disclaimer on eMEDS naloxone administration related data: These data are based on EMS Pre-hospital care reports where the EMS provider has documented that they administered naloxone. The administration of naloxone is based on the patient's signs and symptoms and not on any diagnostic tests. These data are reported for trending purposes only.

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Naloxone Administration Data



Disclaimer on eMEDS Naloxone administration related data: These data are based on EMS Pre-hospital care reports where the EMS provider has documented that they administered naloxone. The administration of naloxone is based on the patient's signs and symptoms and not on any diagnostic tests. These data are reported for trending purposes only.

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PANDEMIC INFLUENZA UPDATE / AVIAN INFLUENZA-RELATED REPORTS

WHO update: The current WHO phase of pandemic alert for avian influenza is ALERT. Currently, the avian influenza H5N1 virus continues to circulate in poultry in some countries, especially in Asia and northeast Africa. This virus continues to cause sporadic human infections with some instances of limited human-to-human transmission among very close contacts. There has been no sustained human-to-human or community-level transmission identified thus far.

Influenza A (H7N9) is one of a subgroup of influenza viruses that normally circulate among birds. Until recently, this virus had not been seen in people. However, human infections have now been detected. Presently, there is limited information about the scope of the disease the virus causes and about the source of exposure. The disease is of concern because most patients have been severely ill. There is no indication thus far that it can be transmitted between people, but both animal-to-human and human-to-human routes of transmission are being actively investigated.

Alert phase: This is the phase when influenza caused by a new subtype has been identified in humans. Increased vigilance and careful risk assessment, at local, national, and global levels are characteristic of this phase. If the risk assessments indicate that the new virus is not developing into a pandemic strain, a de-escalation of activities towards those in the interpandemic phase may occur. As of May 9, 2019, the WHO-confirmed global total (2003-2019) of human cases of H5N1 avian influenza virus infection stands at 860, of which 454 have been fatal. Thus, the case fatality rate for human H5N1 is approximately 53%.

AVIAN INFLUENZA

There were no relevant avian influenza reports this week.

HUMAN AVIAN INFLUENZA

There were no relevant human avian influenza reports this week.

NATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS

ACUTE FLACCID MYELITIS (WEST VIRGINIA), 05 May 2019, A case of a rare, polio-like illness has been confirmed in West Virginia, although health officials haven't confirmed what part of the state it was found in. The illness is called acute flaccid myelitis, or AFM, and is a very serious condition. It affects the nervous system, specifically the part of the spinal cord that affects a person's movement. It causes muscles in the body to become weak. The illness can cause paralyzing symptoms, and in some cases, paralysis has been permanent. Read More: <http://www.promedmail.org/post/6453749>

INTERNATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS

CHOLERA (SOMALIA), 09 May 2019, The Ministry of Health (MoH) of Somalia has announced 36 new suspected cases of cholera, with no deaths, for epidemiological week 17 (22 to 28 Apr 2019) in 2019. During the reporting period, cases occurred in 11 out of 17 districts in Banadir region, the worst affected district are Hodan (728), Daynile (613), and Madina (595), and 66.66% of the cases (24) are children below 5 years of age. Read More: <http://www.promedmail.org/post/6460944>

CRIMEAN-CONGO HEMORRHAGIC FEVER (NAMIBIA), 29 Apr 2019, A 54 year old woman from Onethika village in the Oshikoto region was admitted to Onandjokwe Hospital after she was diagnosed with Crimean Congo haemorrhagic fever (CCHF). A letter written by acting Oshikoto regional health director, Helena Nkandi-Shiimi states that the woman went to the hospital on [21 Apr 2019] complaining of a headache, fever, and vomiting blood after she got bitten by a tick around [18 Apr 2019]. Read More: <http://www.promedmail.org/post/6460573>

PLAGUE (MONGOLIA), 06 May 2019, The Mongolian Ministry of Health confirmed 2 people -- a 38-year-old man and his pregnant wife, 37 -- died from plague after consuming raw meat and internal organs of a marmot. Their deaths left 4 children as orphans aged from 2 to 13. Dramatic pictures have shown at least one aircraft being met by anti-contamination emergency workers in a bid to prevent spread of the disease. The tragic family that died from plague got infected after eating raw kidneys of a marmot. An old Mongolian tradition says that a raw meat and internal organs of freshly killed marmot strengthens health, local media reported. Read More: <http://www.promedmail.org/post/6456511>

ANTHRAX (HUNGARY), 06 May 2019, Hungarian health authorities have reported (computer translated) 4 human cutaneous anthrax cases, at least one confirmed, in 2 separate counties in recent weeks. The affected individuals were reported from farms in Bacs-Kiskun and Bekes counties. In addition, an additional 30 people were treated prophylactically with antibiotics due to possible exposure. These are the 1st human anthrax cases in Hungary in several years. Read More: <http://www.promedmail.org/post/6457281>

HANTAVIRUS (BOLIVIA), 02 May 2019, A suspected case of [a] hantavirus [infection] in Postrevalla last week mobilized personnel of the medical center of this municipality and the Office of Health of Vallegrande. The ill individual, a 17 year old, who works as a cowboy in the Mosqueras area, went to the [health] center, presenting with symptoms of [a] hantavirus [infection]. He was taken to Vallegrande where a corresponding chart was initiated and related tests were done that confirmed the 1st case of [a] hantavirus [infection] in the area. Read More: <http://www.promedmail.org/post/6452977>

OTHER RESOURCES AND ARTICLES OF INTEREST

More information concerning Public Health and Emergency Preparedness can be found at the Office of Preparedness and Response website: <http://preparedness.health.maryland.gov/> or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MarylandOPR.

More data and information on influenza can be found on the MDH website:
<http://phpa.health.maryland.gov/influenza/fluwatch/Pages/Home.aspx>

Please participate in the Maryland Resident Influenza Tracking System (MRITS):
<http://flusurvey.health.maryland.gov>

NOTE: This weekly review is a compilation of data from various surveillance systems, interpreted with a focus on a potential BT event. It is not meant to be inclusive of all epidemiology data available, nor is it meant to imply that every activity reported is a definitive BT event. International reports of outbreaks due to organisms on the CDC Critical Biological Agent list will also be reported. While not "secure", please handle this information in a professional manner. Please feel free to distribute within your organization, as you feel appropriate, to other professional staff involved in emergency preparedness and infection control.

For questions about the content of this review or if you have received this and do not wish to receive these weekly notices, please e-mail us. If you have information that is pertinent to this notification process, please send it to us to be included in the routine report.

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Appendix 1: ESSENCE Syndrome Definitions and Associated Category A Conditions

Syndrome	ESSENCE Definition	Category A Conditions
Botulism-like	(Botulism or (DifficultyFocusing and DifficultySpeaking) or (DifficultySpeaking and DifficultySwallowing) or (DifficultySwallowing and DifficultyFocusing) or DoubleVision or FacialParalysis or GuillainBarre or Ptosis) and not GeneralExclusions	Botulism
Fever	(Chills or (FeverPlus and (Drowsiness or Seizure)) or FeverOnly or SepsisGroup or ViralSyndrome) and not GeneralExclusions	N/A
Gastrointestinal	(AbdominalCramps or AbdominalPainGroup or Diarrhea or FoodPoisoning or Gastroenteritis or GIBleeding or Peritonitis or Vomiting) and not (GeneralExclusions or Gynecological or Obstetric or Reproductive or UrinaryTract)	Anthrax (gastrointestinal)
Hemorrhagic Illness	(FeverOrChills and (AcuteBloodAbnormalitiesGroup or BleedingFromMouth or BleedingGums or GIBleeding or Hematemesis or Hemoptysis or Nosebleed or Petechiae or Purpura)) and not GeneralExclusions	Viral Hemorrhagic Fever
Localized Lesion	(Boils or Bump or Carbuncle or DepressedUlcer or Eschar or Furuncle or InsectBite or SkinAbscess or (SkinSores and not AllOverBody) or SkinUlcer or SpiderBite) and not (GeneralExclusions or Decubitus or Diabetes or StasisUlcer)	Anthrax (cutaneous) Tularemia
Lymphadenitis	(BloodPoisoning or Bubo or CatScratchDisease or SwollenGlands) and not GeneralExclusions	Plague (bubonic)
Neurological	(([Age<75] and AlteredMentalStatus) or (FeverPlus and (Confusion or Drowsiness or Petechiae or StiffNeck)) or Delirium or Encephalitis or Meningitis or UnconsciousGroup) and not GeneralExclusions	N/A
Rash	(ChickenPox or Measles or RashGeneral or Roseola or (Rubella and not Pregnancy) or Shingles or (SkinSores and AllOverBody) or Smallpox) and not GeneralExclusions	Smallpox
Respiratory	(Anthrax or Bronchitis or (ChestPain and [Age<50]) or Cough or Croup or DifficultyBreathing or Hemothorax or Hypoxia or Influenza or Legionnaires or LowerRespiratoryInfection or Pleurisy or Pneumonia or RespiratoryDistress or RespiratoryFailure or RespiratorySyncytialVirus or RibPain or ShortnessOfBreath or Wheezing) and not (GeneralExclusions or Cardiac or (ChestPain and Musculoskeletal) or Hyperventilation or Pneumothorax)	Anthrax (inhalational) Tularemia Plague (pneumonic)
Severe Illness or Death	CardiacArrest or CodeGroup or DeathGroup or (Hypotension and FeverPlus) or RespiratoryArrest or SepsisGroup or Shock	N/A

Appendix 2: Maryland Health and Medical Region Definitions

Health and Medical Region	Counties Reporting to ESSENCE
Regions 1 & 2	Allegany County Frederick County Garrett County Washington County
Region 3	Anne Arundel County Baltimore City Baltimore County Carroll County Harford County Howard County
Region 4	Caroline County Cecil County Dorchester County Kent County Queen Anne's County Somerset County Talbot County Wicomico County Worcester County
Region 5	Calvert County Charles County Montgomery County Prince George's County St. Mary's County

