

Alabama Department of Public Health  
Alabama Emergency Response Technology (ALERT) Health Alert Network (HAN)

**Modified Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) and Acute Neurologic Illness (ANI) Requests**

**EV-D68 Update**

As of October 30, The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) has evaluated 72 patients EV-D68 and has sent 41 specimens to CDC having met the CDC EV-D68 testing criteria. Of the 25 specimens tested to date, 48% have tested positive for EV-D68, 28% tested negative for EV-D68; 20% tested positive for rhinovirus; 4% positive for coxsackievirus B3. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has confirmed a total of 1,105 people with EV-D68 in 47 states. Of the more than 2,200 specimens tested about 40% have tested positive for EV-D68, a third have tested positive for a rhinovirus or enterovirus other than EV-D68, and almost all confirmed cases are among children. Many of the children had asthma or a history of wheezing. EV-D68 has been detected in specimens from nine patients who died.

**ANI Update**

As of October 30, ADPH has submitted 3 specimens to CDC from patients with neurological symptoms; one tested positive for rhinovirus and two are pending. CDC has verified reports of 64 children who developed neurologic illness with limb weakness in 28 states. In addition to the cluster in Colorado, several other smaller clusters have been identified. CDC is working with healthcare professionals and state and local health departments to investigate all the reported cases since August and whether the cases of neurologic illness may be linked to the outbreak of severe respiratory illness caused by EV-D68.

Based on the updated information, the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), Epidemiology Division (EPI), is updating the request based on CDC's priorities for reporting and specimen submission in Alabama.

**Report Acute Neurologic Illness (ANI) Cases**

Providers who have a patient who meets the following criteria:

- Patients  $\leq$  21 years of age with
- Acute onset of focal limb weakness
- Occurring on or after August 1, 2014 and
- MRI showing a spinal cord lesion largely restricted to gray matter

Providers must immediately report the case to EPI at 1-800-338-8374, complete the [ANI Patient Summary Form](#), and fax it to 334-206-3734.

**Report Fatal Cases with Enterovirus Involvement**

Providers who have a patient who meets the following criteria:

- Died and
- Initial positive test for enterovirus/rhinovirus

Providers must report fatal cases with positive tests for enterovirus within 24-hours to EPI at 1-800-338-8374, complete the [EV-D68 Patient Summary Forms](#), and fax it to 334-206-3734.

**Discuss patient specimen submission with EPI when reporting cases of ANI or fatal cases with enterovirus involvement.**