



MARYLAND
Department of Health

Public Health Preparedness and Situational Awareness Report: #2021:14

Reporting for the week ending 04/10/21 (MMWR Week #14)

April 16th, 2021

CURRENT HOMELAND SECURITY THREAT LEVELS

National: No Active Alerts

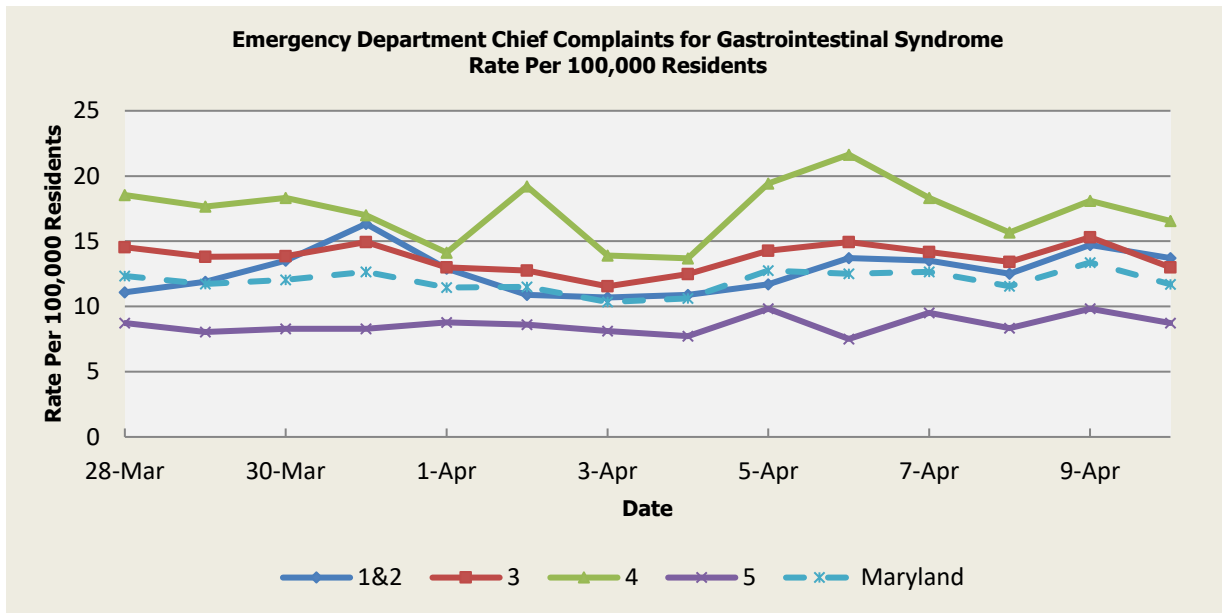
Maryland: **ENHANCED (MEMA status)**

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; 2021.

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Gastrointestinal Syndrome



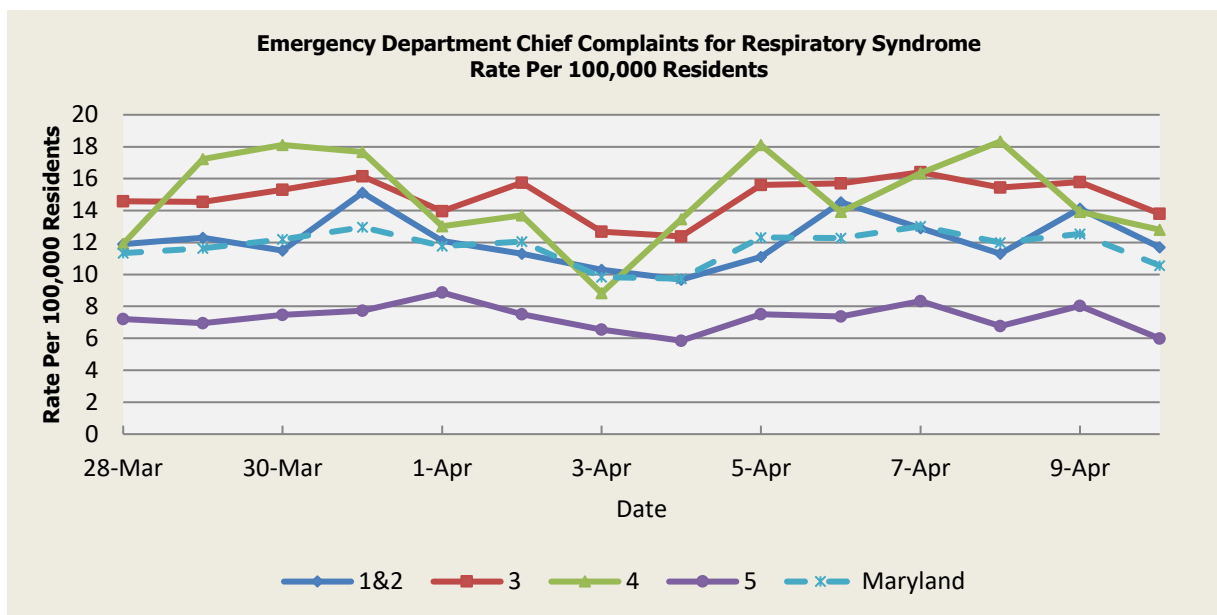
There were no Gastrointestinal Syndrome outbreak reported this week.

Gastrointestinal Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	13.13	14.73	15.81	10.06	12.89
Median Rate*	13.11	14.61	15.46	10.00	12.83

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Respiratory Syndrome



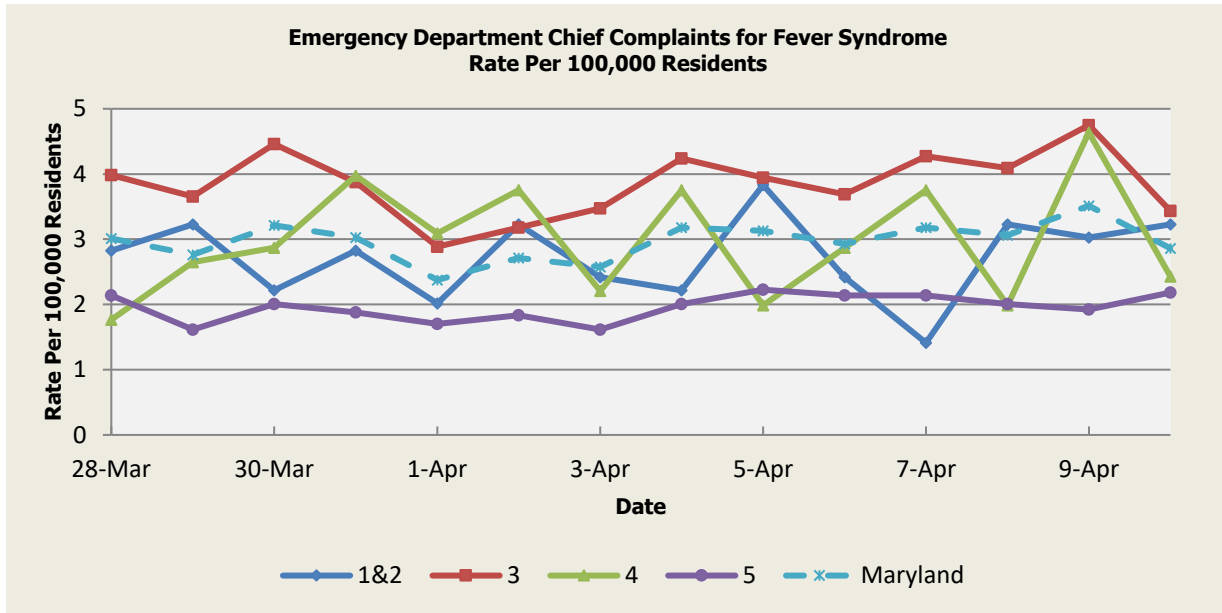
There were ninety-seven (97) Respiratory Syndrome outbreaks reported this week: Fourteen (14) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Assisted Living Facilities (Regions 3,4,5), one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in a Private Club (Regions 1&2), one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in a Congregate Living Facility (Region 5), one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in a Correctional Facility (Region 4), one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in a Crisis Residential Psychiatric Facility (Regions 1&2), sixteen (16) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Daycare Facilities (Regions 3,4,5), nine (9) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Group Homes (Regions 1&2,3,5), five (5) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Hospitals (Regions 1&2,3), eighteen (18) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes (Regions 1&2,3,5), three (3) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Outpatient Facilities (Regions 1&2,3), one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in a Psychiatric Group Home (Region 3), one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in a Restaurant (Region 3), eleven (11) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Schools (Regions 1&2,3,4,5), two (2) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Substance Use Treatment Programs (Regions 3,5), one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in a Transitional Housing Facility (Region 3), one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in an Institute of Higher Education (Region 3), ten (10) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Workplaces (Regions 1&2,3,5), one (1) outbreak of PNEUMONIA in a Nursing Home (Region 3).

Respiratory Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	12.44	14.69	15.21	9.92	12.71
Median Rate*	12.10	14.03	14.35	9.52	12.15

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Fever Syndrome



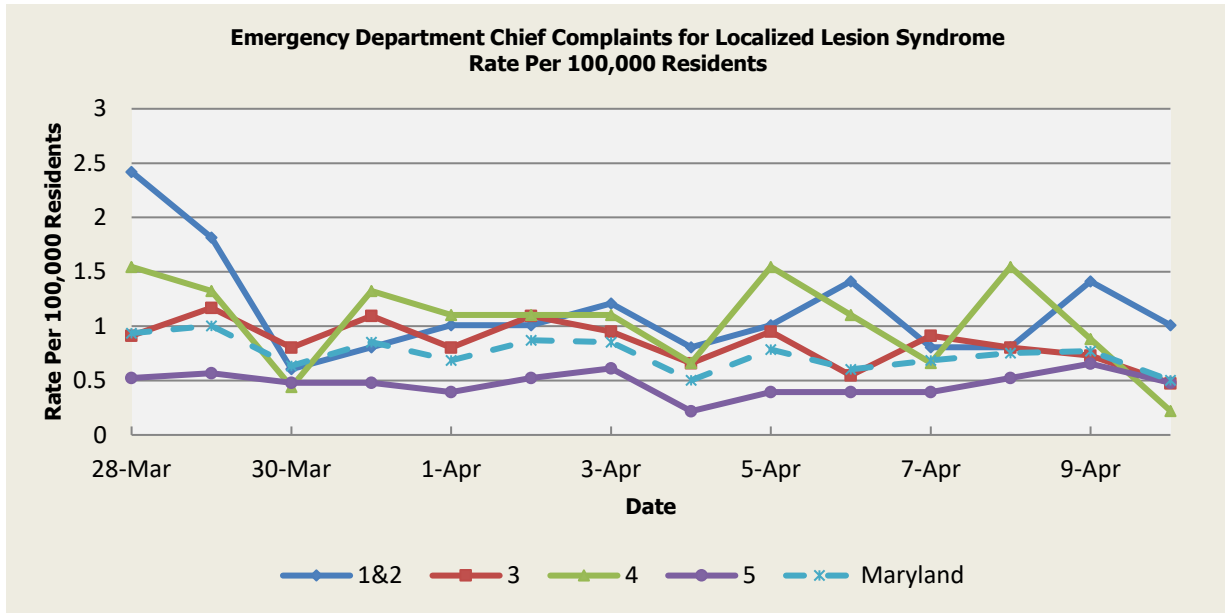
There were no Fever Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Fever Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.04	3.87	4.11	3.00	3.49
Median Rate*	2.82	3.73	3.97	2.88	3.36

*Per 100,000 Residents

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Localized Lesion Syndrome



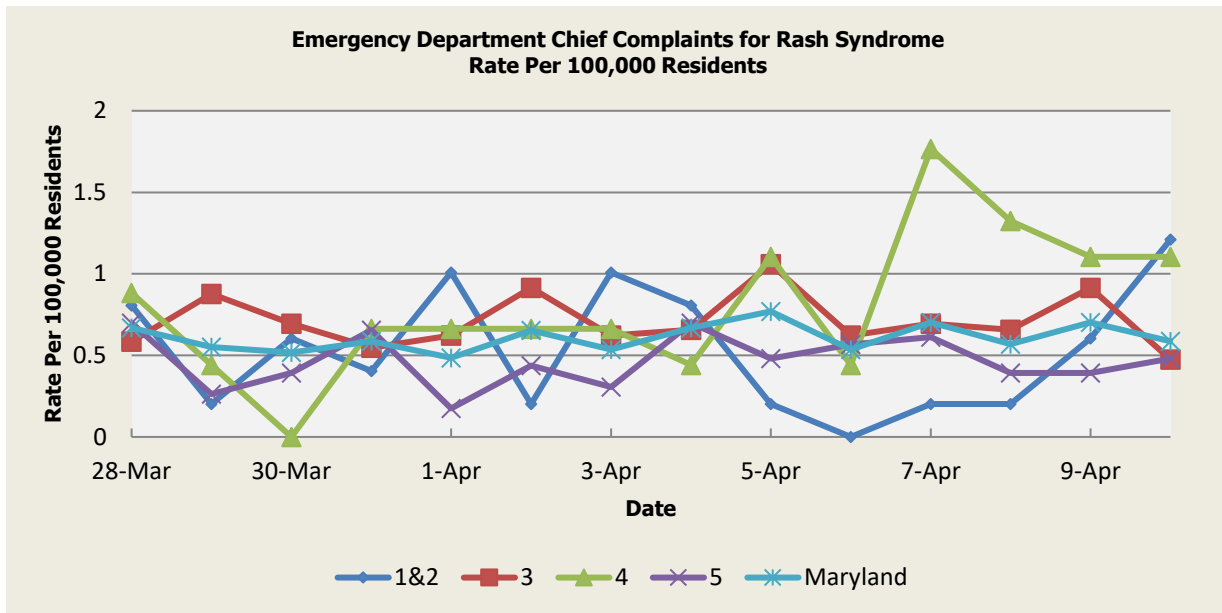
There were no Localized Lesion Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Localized Lesion Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	1.16	1.68	1.96	0.86	1.34
Median Rate*	1.01	1.64	1.77	0.83	1.29

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Rash Syndrome



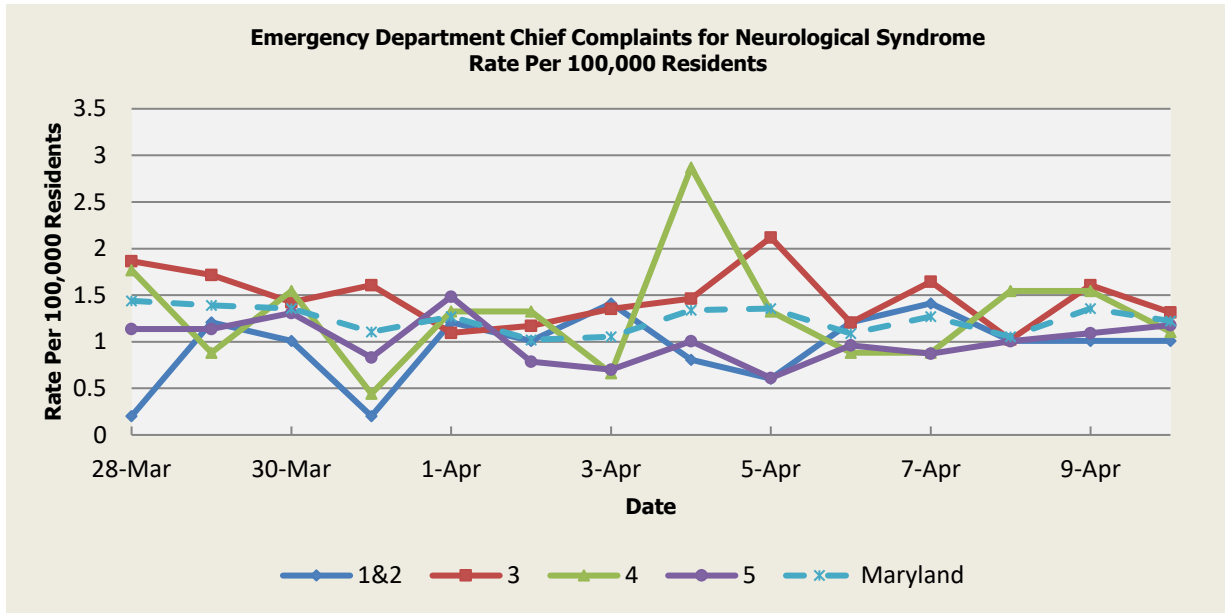
There were no Rash Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Rash Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	1.18	1.56	1.65	0.91	1.29
Median Rate*	1.01	1.53	1.55	0.87	1.27

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Neurological Syndrome



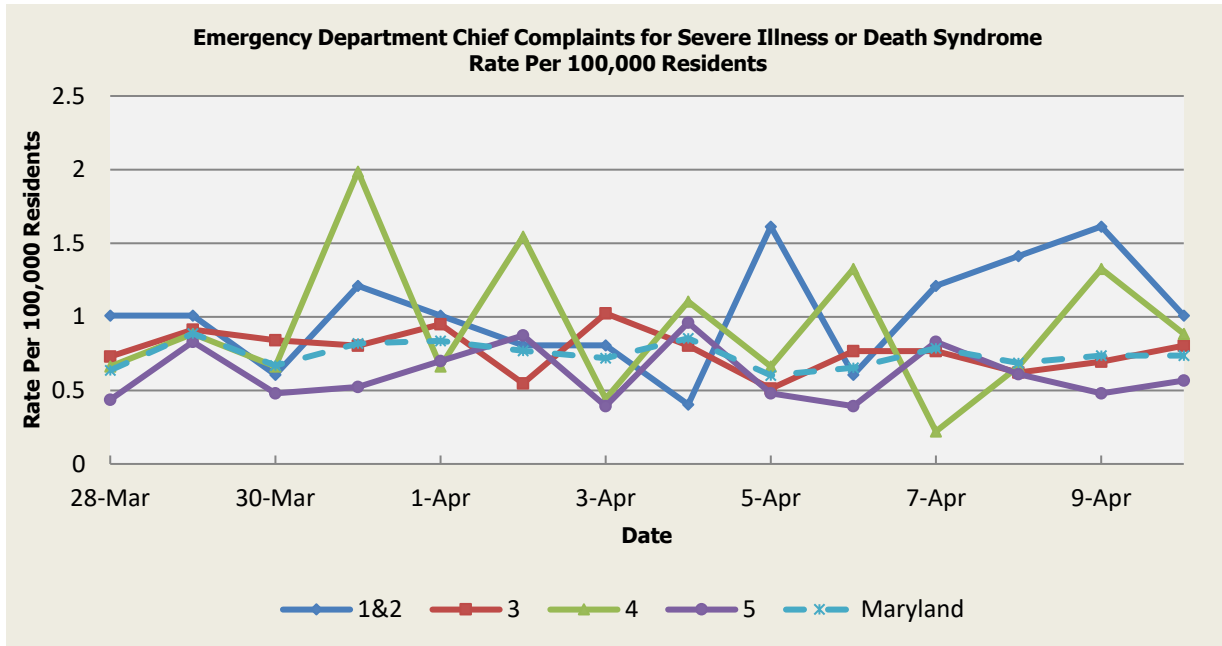
There were no Neurological Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Neurological Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.83	1.02	0.95	0.66	0.86
Median Rate*	0.81	0.99	0.88	0.61	0.84

* 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.

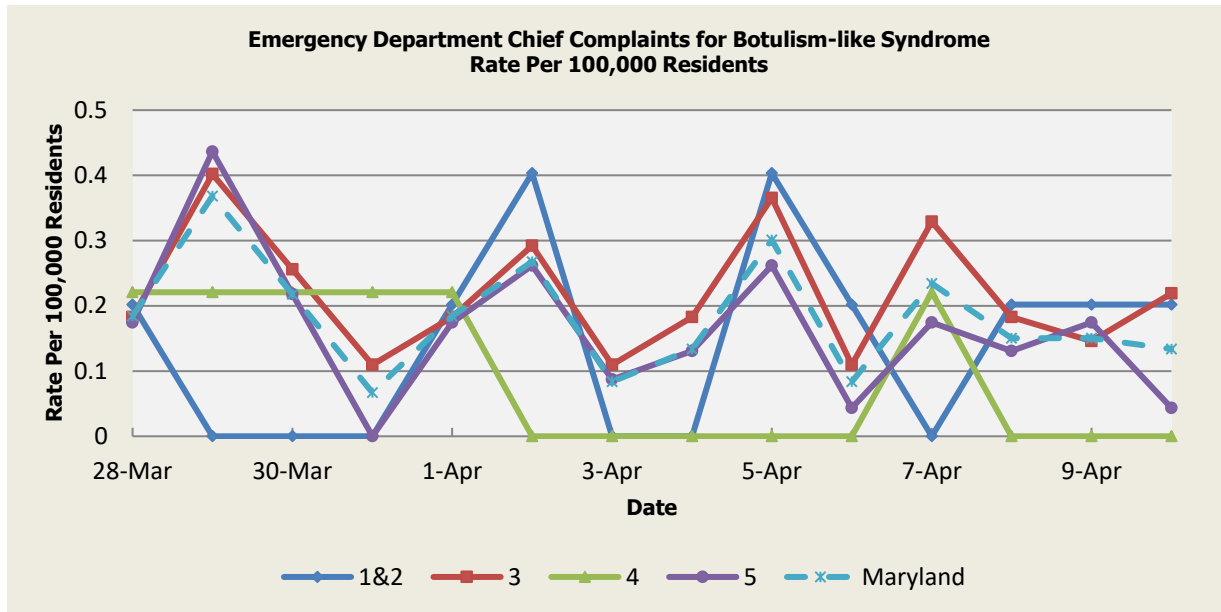
Severe Illness or Death Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.66	0.88	0.84	0.55	0.73
Median Rate*	0.60	0.84	0.88	0.52	0.70

* Per 100,000 Residents

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SYNDROMES RELATED TO CATEGORY A AGENTS

Botulism-like Syndrome



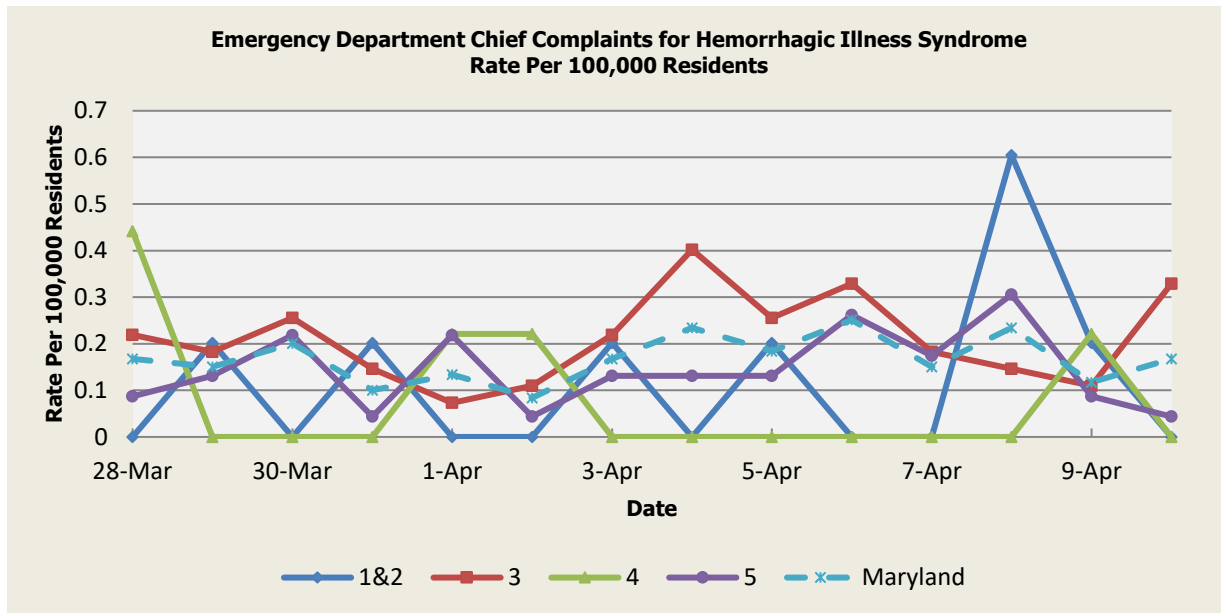
There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Botulism-like Syndrome on 3/28 (Regions 1&2,4), 3/29 (Regions 4,5), 3/30 (Regions 4,5), 3/31 (Region 4), 4/1 (Regions 1&2,4), 4/2 (Regions 1&2,3,5), 4/5 (Regions 1&2,3,5), 4/6 (Regions 1&2), 4/7 (Regions 3,4), 4/8 (Regions 1&2), 4/9 (Regions 1&2), 4/10 (Regions 1&2). 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*	0.08	0.14	0.07	0.09	0.11
Median Rate*	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.09	0.10

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome



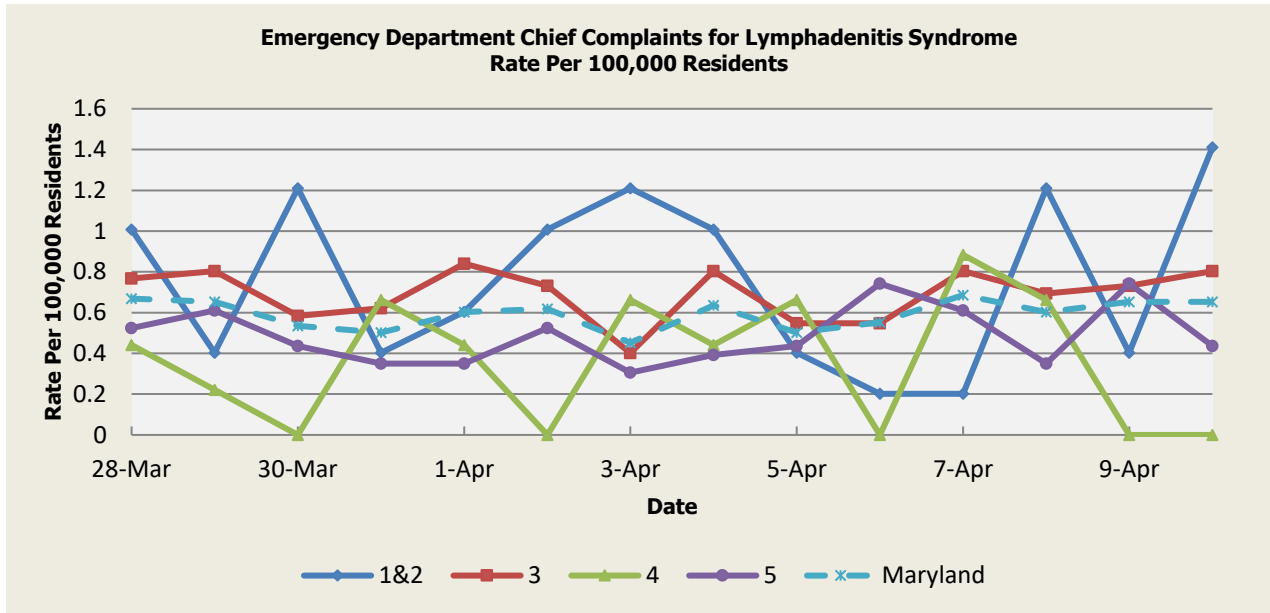
There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome on 3/28 (Region 4), 3/29 (Regions 1&2), 3/31 (Regions 1&2), 4/1 (Region 4), 4/2 (Region 4), 4/3 (Regions 1&2), 4/5 (Regions 1&2), 4/8 (Regions 1&2,5), 4/9 (Regions 1&2,4). These increases are not 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*	0.05	0.17	0.04	0.15	0.14
Median Rate*	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.09	0.12

* 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 3/28 (Regions 1&2), 3/30 (Regions 1&2), 4/2 (Regions 1&2), 4/3 (Regions 1&2), 4/4 (Regions 1&2), 4/7 (Region 4), 4/8 (Regions 1&2), 4/10 (Regions 1&2). 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*	0.40	0.61	0.41	0.40	0.49
Median Rate*	0.40	0.55	0.44	0.35	0.47

* Per 100,000 Residents

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MARYLAND REPORTABLE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Summary

On March 5th, 2020, the Maryland Department of Health announced the first cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (abbreviated COVID-19) in the State of Maryland.

Confirmed COVID-19 Case Counts in Maryland by County (As of April 16th, 2021)

County	Number of Confirmed Cases
Allegany	6,685
Anne Arundel	41,045
Baltimore City	48,579
Baltimore County	60,389
Calvert	4,035
Caroline	2,209
Carroll	8,795
Cecil	5,732
Charles	10,214
Dorchester	2,582
Frederick	19,002
Garrett	1,936
Harford	15,395
Howard	18,249
Kent	1,270
Montgomery	68,623
Prince George's	81,035
Queen Anne's	2,817
Somerset	2,514
St. Mary's	5,649
Talbot	2,025
Washington	13,801
Wicomico	7,288
Worcester	3,490
Total	433,359

The most up-to-date information may be found on the Maryland Department of Health website at <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov>.

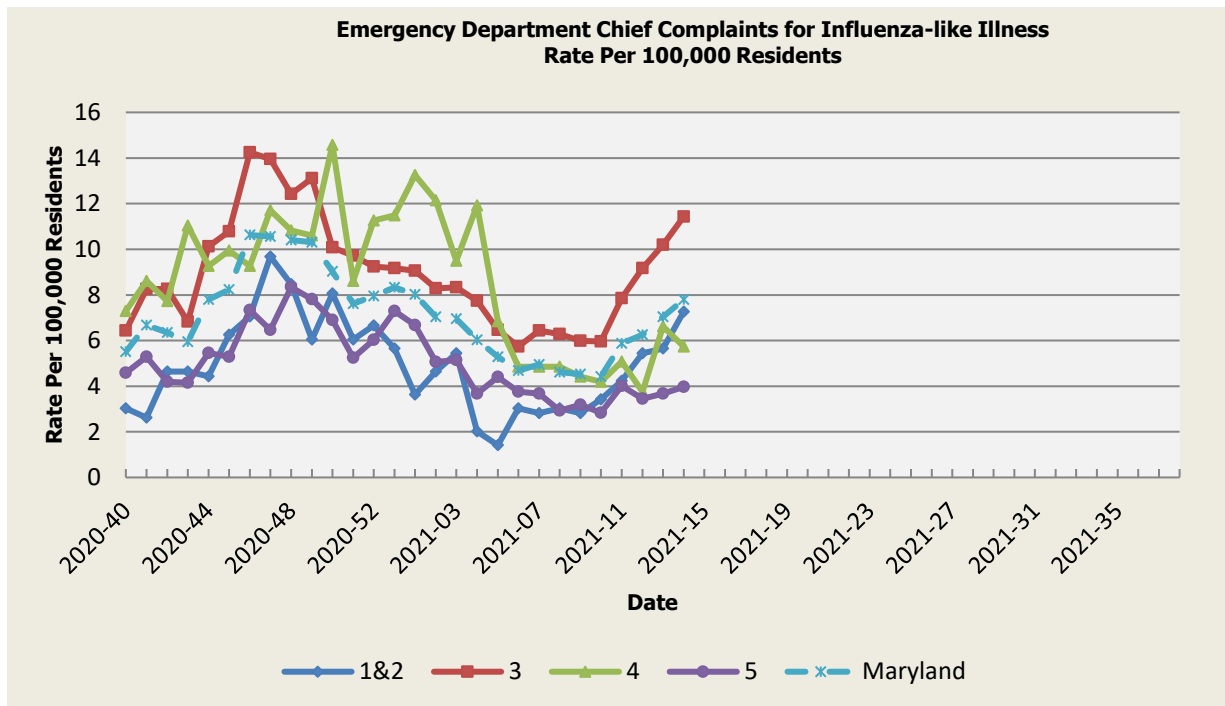
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SYNDROMIC INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

Seasonal Influenza reporting occurs from MMWR Week 40 through MMWR Week 20 (October 2020 through May 2021). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, influenza reporting will be extended to the beginning of the 2021-2022 reporting season (MMWR Week 40/Week Ending October 9, 2021).

Seasonal Influenza activity for Week 14 was: Minimal

Influenza-like Illness

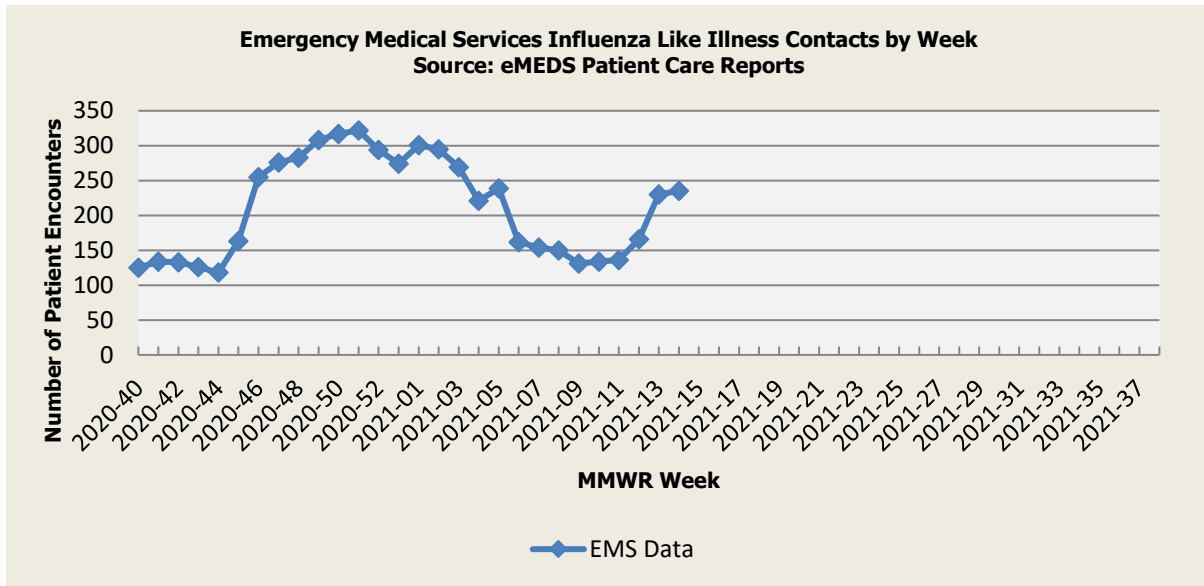


Influenza-like Illness Baseline Data Week 1 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	10.08	13.91	13.24	11.64	12.67
Median Rate*	7.46	10.19	9.50	8.56	9.25

* Per 100,000 Residents

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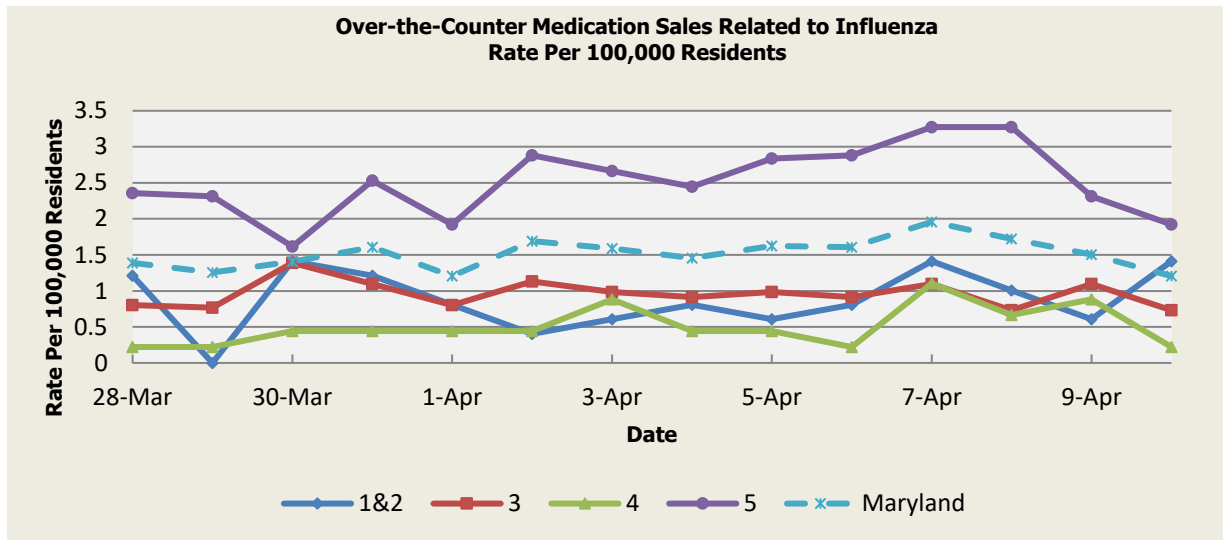
Influenza-like Illness Contacts by Week



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



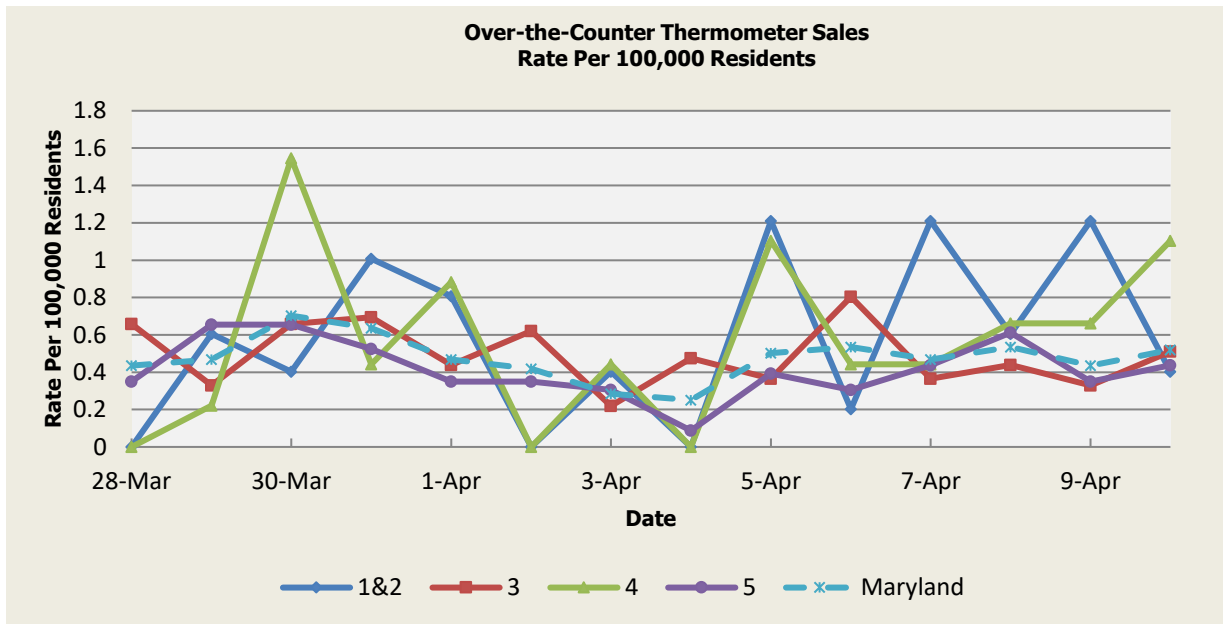
There was no appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of OTC Medication Sales during this reporting period.

OTC Medication Sales Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.19	4.06	2.49	7.36	5.13
Median Rate*	2.42	3.07	2.21	6.42	4.28

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Over-the-Counter Thermometer Sales



There was no 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*	2.66	2.52	2.06	3.33	2.80
Median Rate*	2.42	2.48	1.99	3.32	2.84

* Per 100,000 Residents

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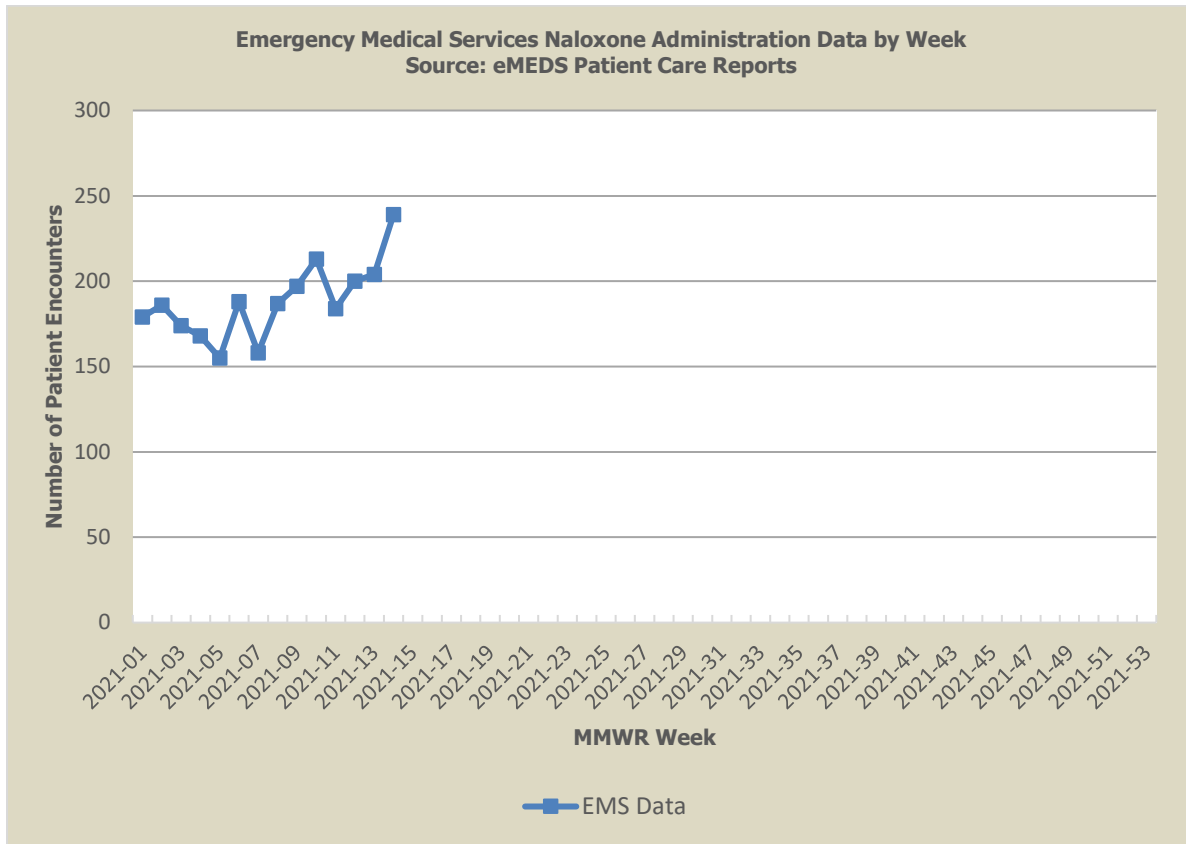
SYNDROMIC OVERDOSE SURVEILLANCE

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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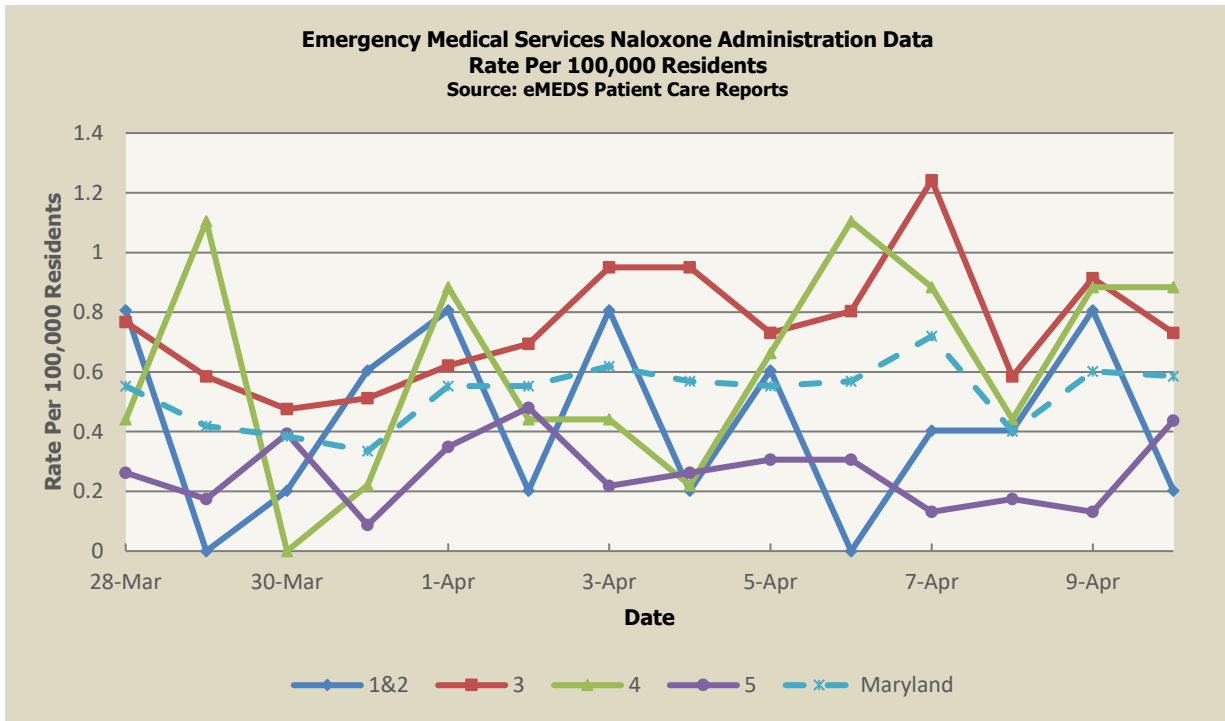
Naloxone Administration Data by Week



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 April 16th, 2021, the WHO-confirmed global total (2003-2020) of human cases of H5N1 avian influenza virus infection stands at 862, of which 455 have been fatal. Thus, the case fatality rate for human H5N1 is approximately 53%.

AVIAN INFLUENZA

AVIAN INFLUENZA (RUSSIA), 15 April 2021, Highly pathogenic influenza A viruses (Inf. with) (non-poultry including wild birds), Russia. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8309369>

AVIAN INFLUENZA (SOUTH AFRICA), 14 April 2021, A press release from South African government, Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, published on 13 Apr 2021, mentioned that "Approximately 300 birds died of avian influenza, AI] on this commercial chicken-layer farm. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8307559>

AVIAN INFLUENZA (GERMANY), 12 April 2021, In Germany, around 1000 HPAIV H5 cases in wild birds and 133 outbreaks in poultry and captive birds have been detected since [30 Oct 2020. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8303400>

AVIAN INFLUENZA (INDIA), 12 April 2021, With the 2nd wave of avian influenza killing at least 110 migratory birds over the past 2 weeks at Pong Lake [Maharana Pratap Sagar] in Kangra district. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8302428>

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HUMAN AVIAN INFLUENZA

AVIAN INFLUENZA, HUMAN (LAOS), 12 April 2021, The World Health Organization (WHO) reports the 1st human case of avian influenza A(H5N6) virus infection has been reported in Laos. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8301144>

NATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 UPDATE (USA), 15 April 2021, Injections of Johnson & Johnson's single-dose coronavirus vaccine came to a sudden halt across the country on Tuesday [13 Apr 2021] after federal health agencies called for a pause in the vaccine's use as they examine a rare blood-clotting disorder that emerged in 6 recipients. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8307567>

HANTAVIRUS (MONTANA), 12 April 2021, The Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) has confirmed that an adult man from Richland County has been diagnosed with [a] hantavirus [infection]. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8303682>

INTERNATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS

RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (AUSTRALIA), 15 April 2021, Early childhood education and care (ECEC) services in Far North Queensland have been asked to be on the alert for cases of a serious respiratory illness after 378 confirmed cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) have been detected since 1 Jan 2021, compared with 88 for the whole of 2019 and 70 in 2020. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8308640>

MEASLES UPDATE (NIGERIA), 13 April 2021, No fewer than 1158 children in Borno State are undergoing treatment from measles in Maiduguri, Borno State capital. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8305208>

DIPHThERIA (DOMINICAN REPUBLIC), 12 April 2021, The Ministry of Public Health issued this Thursday [8 Apr 2021] an epidemiological alert to the occurrence of 10 diphtheria cases in different parts of the country, of which 4 have been confirmed, and 6 remain under investigation. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8302043>

BRUCellosIS (ALGERIA), 10 April 2021, The authorities of the State Veterinary Inspectorate of Batna revealed on Saturday [10 Apr 2021] that 31 people were infected with brucellosis in the municipality of Ares, 60 km [37 mi] east of the state, after consuming goat's milk. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8300500>

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.

Prepared By:

Office of Preparedness and Response, Maryland Department of Health
7462 Candlewood Rd, Hanover, MD 21076

Peter Fotang, MD, MPH
Epidemiologist, Biosurveillance Program
Office: 443-628-6555
Email: Peter.Fotang@maryland.gov

Jessica Acharya (Goodell), MPH
Career Epidemiology Field Officer, CDC
Office: 443-628-6583
Email: Jessica.Acharya@maryland.gov

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

