THREAT ANALYSIS

**CDC reports updated information on acute flaccid myelitis outbreak in children**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released an update last week on the outbreak of acute flaccid myelitis (AFM), a polio-like illness occurring in children. Since August 2014, 103 children in 34 states have developed AFM, resulting in unusual limb weakness and other neurological symptoms. Only one child has fully recovered from the illness. (Source: Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy)

Over 60 percent of children with AFM are male and over three-fourths were previously healthy before developing the condition. The median age for an AFM patient is eight years. While no deaths have been reported from the illness, all but one patient required hospitalization. The majority of patients reported respiratory illness and/or fever before the onset of the neurological symptoms. (Source: CDC)

The CDC recently confirmed one additional case of enterovirus D68 (EV-D68), bringing the national total of EV-D68 respiratory infections to 1,153. While some of the patients with AFM have tested positive for EV-D68 in respiratory samples, a direct link between the virus and AFM has not been confirmed. The CDC is continuing to investigate the causative agent for AFM, including EV-D68 and other potential exposures or risk factors. (Sources: Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, The New York Times)
Continue to be vigilant for and report any new cases of AFM in children to state and local health departments. Follow CDC guidelines for identifying new cases and reporting them appropriately. (Source: CDC)

Collect specimens from AFM patients to send to CDC for EV-D68 testing. (Source: CDC)

Work with CDC and local health and state departments to facilitate clinical investigation of AFM. (Source: CDC)

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY

13 Pacers vs. Timberwolves
Bankers Life Fieldhouse

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