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or by writing to us at PO Box 240249, Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0249

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Measles and Rubella - Still Not in Alaska

Since January 1975, 46 suspected cases of measles or rubella were reported. All were investigated and most had serologic and/or viral studies. NO measles or rubella were confirmed! Alaska now has had over 2½ years without measles and 2 years without rubella.

If you suspect a case of measles or rubella, please call us immediately at 272-7534 or Zenith 1700, and we will attempt to confirm the diagnosis with serologic or viral studies.

Rapid Telephonic Reporting System

The Alaska Division of Public Health has instituted a Rapid Telephonic Reporting System. Most doctors and public health nurses throughout the state have received a manual explaining the new system. Diseases may be reported by dialing 279-5535 (Anchorage area). For those outside the Anchorage area simply call the long distance operator and ask for Zenith 1700. The operator will connect you to the recording machine in the Anchorage office. This service is toll free. A tape recorder, which operates 24 hour a day, will record your report. Anyone who has not received a manual may request one by calling Zenith 1700 or by writing to this office. The following is the list of reportable diseases:

COMMON DISEASES

Chickenpox	Meningitis
Encephalitis	Mumps
Gonorrhea	Pertussis
Hepatitis A (Infectious)	Rubella
Hepatitis B (Serum)	Syphilis
Measles (Rubeola)	Tuberculosis

RARE DISEASES

Botulism	Rheumatic Fever
Cholera	Smallpox
Diphtheria	Tetanus
Leprosy	Trichinosis
Malaria	Typhoid
Polio Plague	Yellow Fever
Rabies	

In addition, epidemic outbreaks or unusual numbers of cases of a communicable disease should also be reported. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE THIS SYSTEM. The above phone recording system applies to all of Alaska with the exception of the Southeast. Those in Southeast Alaska should communicate directly with the Regional Health Officer or local public health nurse.

Infectious Hepatitis Epidemic

Over 350 cases of infectious hepatitis have been diagnosed in the Barrow and Kotzebue Sound area since May, 1973. Over 95% of the cases have been in children under 17 years of age and clinical illness has been generally mild and less than 14 days in duration. The incidence of new hepatitis cases in Barrow and the Kotzebue Sound area has declined, but the epidemic seems to be moving inland as 24 cases of infectious hepatitis were identified in Ambler last week. Alaska physicians and public health personnel should seriously consider infectious hepatitis in the differential diagnosis of any child who presents with headache, lassitude, abdominal pain, and anorexia; especially when a history of contact with someone from the epidemic area is elicited.