



Copies of any bulletin may be ordered by calling the Section of Epidemiology at (907) 269-8000
or by writing to us at PO Box 240249, Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0249

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Reporting And Surveillance

The basis of control and prevention of infectious disease is **surveillance**. Surveillance is a dynamic system for collecting, tabulating, analyzing and reporting data on the occurrence and distribution of a disease in a defined population. Surveillance allows definition of disease problems and subsequent identification of the most direct and definitive control and preventive measures to be implemented. Physicians and other primary health care providers are the key to surveillance; they are the principal source of the necessary information.

Communicable disease reporting and control is a two-way process. With rapid disease reporting, we can provide the information and control measures necessary to effectively control many diseases.

The Rapid Telephonic Reporting System (RTR) has been very effective in reducing time from disease onset and diagnosis to report of disease. 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 hours 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	Rabies
Cholera	Rheumatic Fever
Diphtheria	Smallpox
Leprosy	Tetanus
Malaria	Trichinosis
Polio	Typhoid
Plague	Yellow Fever

In addition, outbreaks or unusual numbers of cases of **any** communicable disease should also be reported.

Certain diseases are considered to constitute true **public health emergencies**. When the diagnosis is suspected, call immediately over the RTR or directly to Dr. John Middaugh, State Epidemiologist, 272-7534 (work) or 333-9349 (home).

BOTULISM
MENINGOCOCCAL MENINGITIS
RABIES
PARALYTIC SHELLFISH POISONING (PSP)

SMALLPOX
POLIO
DIPHTHERIA

Any troubles or difficulties with the RTR System can be referred to our office, 272-7534. RTR Manuals are available upon request.

CRUCIAL TO SUCCESS OF PUBLIC HEALTH CONTROL MEASURES IS YOUR WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTING!