

Jim Collins MPH, RS

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Cell: **PPI**

From: Moran, Susan (DCH)
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 11:32 AM
To: Collins, Jim (DCH)
Cc: Miller, Corinne (DCH)
Subject: RE: Heads Up, Flint Water Related Perhaps

Wow, this is very concerning. At this point, would you typically share info about # of Legionnaires cases with DCH?

From: Collins, Jim (DCH)
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 11:08 AM
To: Moran, Susan (DCH)
Cc: Miller, Corinne (DCH)
Subject: Heads Up, Flint Water Related Perhaps

Hi Sue,

Corinne and I thought it would be a good idea to make you aware of some infectious disease occurrence that MAY be related to water quality issues that are very hot topic in Flint right now.

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/22/water-woes-latest-hit-flint/22193291/>

In a nutshell, we have seen a pretty dramatic increase in the number of cases of Legionellosis in Genesee County (with particular focus in Flint). Recalling that legionella bacteria causes disease generally when it is present in water that becomes aerosolized and ultimately inhaled, the fact that this increase in diagnosed cases seems to overlay with the change in Flint water municipal supply (from Detroit to the Flint River) is concerning. Unfortunately, we really don't have enough information from follow up on these cases at the LHD level to support an association or rule it out. I am working with the LHD to try to support their efforts in gathering and entering the information and well see how that goes. We do have a CSTE Fellow on staff, Lilly Tyndall, who will be available should the LHD issue be resources, though it may be as much a political thing at this point.

I do know this. Infection control professionals at Flint area hospitals are noting the increase and are asking a lot of questions. This might be the next fuel in the fire for the dialogue on Flint's water supply, so I wanted to make sure you had a heads up on the situation. This afternoon, I'll be at MPHI for meetings but I can be reached on my cell. I'll update you both on the results of my outreach when I hear back from the LHD.

Thanks,

Jim

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