



## Epi Update for Friday, April 29, 2022

**Office of the Public Health Medical Director  
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)  
Bureau of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis**

**Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)**

**Items for this week's Epi Update include:**

- **Reporting Pediatric Cases of Acute Hepatitis of Unknown Etiology**
- **World Hand Hygiene Day**
- **Infographic: My 5 moments for hand hygiene**

### **Reporting Pediatric Cases of Acute Hepatitis of Unknown Etiology**

A children's hospital in Alabama notified CDC of nine pediatric patients with significant liver injury, who also tested positive for adenovirus between October 2021 and February 2022. All children were previously healthy, two patients required liver transplant, and no patients died. Specimens from five patients were sequenced and found to be adenovirus type 41. There are more than 50 types of adenoviruses that can cause infections in humans. Adenovirus type 41 typically presents as diarrhea, vomiting, and fever, often accompanied by respiratory symptoms. While adenovirus type 41 has been associated with hepatitis in immunocompromised children, it is not known to be a cause of hepatitis in otherwise healthy children.

Cases of pediatric hepatitis in children who tested negative for hepatitis viruses A, B, C, D, and E have now been reported from 11 countries, including many with adenovirus infection. Ten percent required liver transplants and one death was reported. No cases have been reported in Iowa to date.

IDPH is requesting that healthcare providers notify IDPH of children <10 years of age with elevated aspartate aminotransferase (AST) or alanine aminotransferase (ALT) (>500 U/L) who have an unknown etiology for their hepatitis (with or without any adenovirus testing results, independent of the results) since October 1, 2021. Notify IDPH by calling (800) 362-2736.

When reports are received, IDPH will notify the State Hygienic Laboratory who will coordinate testing with the reporting facility. Please hold unused specimens until consultation with the State Hygienic Laboratory occurs. This includes respiratory specimens, stool or rectal swabs, and whole blood specimens.

For more information, visit:

<https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2022/han00462.asp>

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/disease-outbreak-news/item/2022-DON376>

### World Hand Hygiene Day

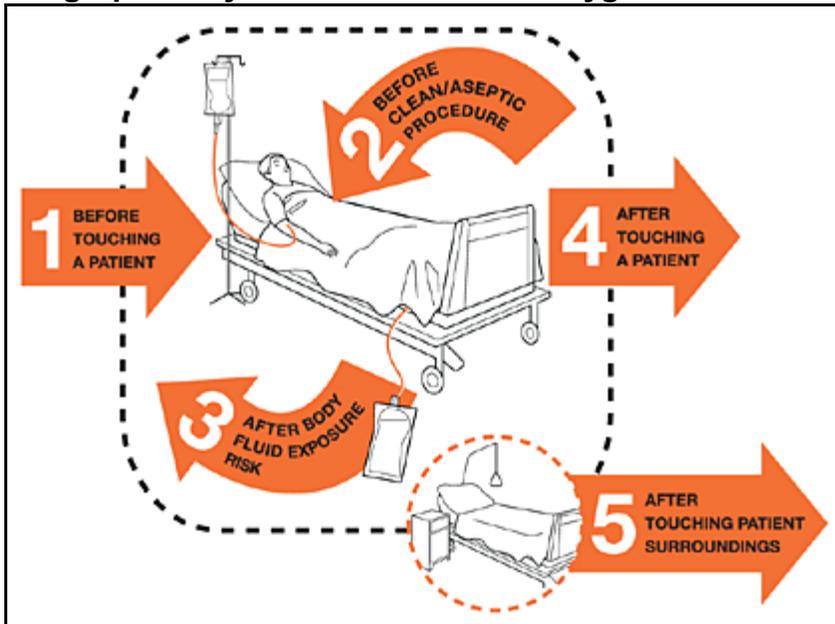
May 5 is the World Health Organization's World Hand Hygiene Day. This year's slogan is *Unite For Safety, Clean Your Hands*. The focus is a health care quality and safety climate or culture that values hand hygiene and infection prevention and control.

Hand hygiene is a basic standard precaution within all health care settings. Approximately one in 31 hospital patients has at least one health care associated infection. Practicing hand hygiene is a simple, yet important way to stop the spread of infection. World Hand Hygiene Day aims to bring awareness and rally both health care personnel and patients to become champions for hand hygiene. One key aim is to promote a work culture that values and promotes safety in the work place, which will encourage and enable people to regularly perform hand hygiene for the safety of themselves, health care personnel, and patients throughout their facility.

For more information about World Hand Hygiene Day, visit:

[www.who.int/campaigns/world-hand-hygiene-day/2022](http://www.who.int/campaigns/world-hand-hygiene-day/2022).

### Infographic: My 5 moments for hand hygiene



To view in full size, visit

[www.who.int/campaigns/world-hand-hygiene-day](http://www.who.int/campaigns/world-hand-hygiene-day)

**Have a healthy and happy week!**

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