



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### NOTIFIABLE CONDITIONS IN TEXAS REPORTING PROTOCOL

#### Texas Law

Several Texas Laws (Health & Safety Code, Chapters 81, 84, and 87) require specific information regarding notifiable conditions to be provided to local and state health departments (City of El Paso Department of Public Health and Texas Department of State Health Services). Health care providers, hospitals, laboratories, schools, and others are required to report patients who are suspected of having a notifiable condition (Chapter 97, Title 25, Texas Administrative Code). **Failure to report is a Class B misdemeanor that carries a sentence of up to 180 days and a fine of up to \$2000 under the Texas Health and Safety Code, §81.049.**

#### HIPAA

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) allows reporting without authorization for public health purposes and where required by law. Title 45 Code of Federal Regulations §164.512(a) and (b).

#### General Instructions

**WHAT MUST BE REPORTED:** The enclosed table lists notifiable conditions in Texas. In addition to these conditions, any **outbreaks, exotic diseases, and unusual group expressions of disease** must be reported by name, age, date of birth, sex, race/ethnicity, address, telephone number, disease, date of onset, method of diagnosis, and name, address, and telephone number of physician.

**WHEN:** The Notifiable Conditions List indicates when to report each condition. Cases or suspected cases of illness considered to be **public health emergencies, outbreaks, exotic diseases, and unusual group expressions of disease** must be reported to City of El Paso Department of Public Health (CEPDPH) immediately. Other diseases for which there must be a quick public health response must be reported **within one working day**. All other conditions must be reported to CEPDPH **within 72 hours**.

**HOW:** Notifiable conditions are to be reported to the following programs:

- ◆ Epidemiology Program (771-5810)
- ◆ Tuberculosis Program (771-1230)
- ◆ STD/HIV Program (771-1209)
- ◆ Animal Services (842-1000)

#### Special Instructions

**Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)** should only be reported once following the initial physician diagnosis. The report date, type, and results of tests including a CD4 + T lymphocyte cell count below 200 cells per microliter or percentage <14% must be included with the report. Questions on reporting procedures may be directed to **(915) 771-1209**.

**Animal bites** – a person who knows of an animal bite or scratch to an individual that the person could reasonably foresee as capable of transmitting rabies, or who knows of an animal that the person suspects is rabid, shall report the incident or animal to Animal Services as soon as possible but no later than 24 hours from the time of incident. Questions/reports may be directed to **(915) 842-1000**.

**Reportable Arbovirus infections** – include neuroinvasive and non-neuroinvasive Cache Valley, California serogroup, Eastern Equine (EEE), Dengue, Powassan, St. Louis Encephalitis, (SLE), Venezuelan equine (VEE), West Nile, and Western Equine (WEE).

**Chancroid, chlamydia, gonorrhea, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, and syphilis** reports must also include the report date, type, and results of tests including a CD4 + T lymphocyte cell count below 200 cells per microliter or percentage <14% for HIV infection. Questions/reports may be directed to **(915) 771-1209**.

**Encephalitis and Meningitis** types include aseptic/viral, bacterial (specify etiology), fungal, parasitic, and other.

**Invasive streptococcal disease, invasive meningococcal infection, or *Haemophilus influenzae* type b infections** refers to isolates from normally sterile sites and includes meningitis, septicemia, cellulitis, epiglottitis, osteomyelitis, pericarditis, septic arthritis, and necrotizing fasciitis.

**Tuberculosis** may be reported on Form TB-400, "Report of Case and Patient Services". Telephone reports may be directed to **(915) 771-1230**.



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.