

Disease Outbreak/Unusual Disease

Problems

Reports of unusual disease; multiple people with severe symptoms, or exposure to infectious agents.

Action

1. Obtain the following information:
 - A. Name, address, and telephone number of patient and/or person making report.
 - B. Symptoms of patient(s).
 - C. Number of persons involved.
 - D. Has a physician diagnosed the illnesses? If yes, obtain the name and telephone number of the physician.
 - E. If hospitalized, name and telephone number of hospital.
2. If the patient complains of usual or severe symptoms, advise the patient to seek medical attention.
3. If the patient claims only to have been exposed to an unusual disease (i.e., rabies, meningococcal disease, *Haemophilus influenzae b*, measles, plague, cholera), provide recommendations according to Control of Communicable Diseases.
4. Report to Disease Control as soon as possible the next working day.
5. If warranted by the magnitude of the outbreak or if assistance is needed, contact the Second Call Duty Officer.

Reporting Forms: [Outbreak/Unusual Disease Report \(DHS 8554\)](#)
[Waterborne Disease Outbreak Report \(CDC 52.12\)](#)