

How to Report an Outbreak

In addition to the requirement for individual case reports, any unusual or group expression of illness which may be of public health concern should be reported to the local health authorities by the most expeditious means, whether it is included or not in the list of diseases officially reportable in the particular locality and whether it is a well known identifiable disease or an undefined or unknown clinical entity.

If you notice an unusually large number of persons becoming ill with the same illness (whether or not they seem to be related in other ways), we encourage you to report this possible outbreak to our office. Please call the Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section at (504) 568-8313, or call your Public Health Unit and we will investigate from there. Any occurrence of a rare or exotic illness should also be reported.