

April 23, 2014

## Special Interest Articles:

- **Cancer Vaccine Proves Effective in HIV Patients**
- **Medical Costs for Childhood Obesity**

## Individual Highlights:

STD Awareness Month 1

Salmonella Cases Down, Others Still Increasing 2

Kitchens: Sources of Drug-Resistant Bacteria 2

## Sexually Transmitted Disease Awareness Month

Sexually transmitted disease (STD) awareness month promotes useful STD and HIV prevention information, testing and treatment choices that lead to better health. If you get an STD, you're more likely to get HIV than someone who is STD-free. The steps you take to lower your risk of getting STDs can also lower your risk of getting HIV. STD and HIV screening recommendations include:

- All adults and adolescents from ages 13 to 64 should be tested at least once for HIV
- Annual chlamydia screening for all sexually active women age 25 and under, as well as older women with risk factors such as new or multiple sex partners
- Syphilis, HIV, chlamydia, and hepatitis B screening for all pregnant women, and gonorrhea screening for at-risk pregnant women starting early in pregnancy, with repeat testing as needed, to protect the health of mothers and their infants
- Anyone who has unsafe sex or shares injection drug equipment should get tested for HIV at least once a year. Sexually active gay and bisexual men may benefit from more frequent testing



For additional information, go to:

<http://www.cdc.gov/features/stdawareness/index.html>

## Cancer Vaccine Effective in HIV Patients

A new study has discovered vaccines against cervical cancer work well even in sexually active women with HIV. The new study, done on 319 women in Brazil, South Africa and the United States, found that most could make antibodies to the four strains of human papilloma virus in the Gardasil vaccine even if they have had HIV for years. Cervical cancer has emerged as a major killer of young and middle-aged women in poor countries with widespread AIDS and little ability to do routine Pap smears or similar tests. The study had shown that women who were infected with HIV developed antibodies in more than 90% of cases. Even women whose infection had progressed into AIDS developed antibodies more than 75% of the time.

To obtain additional information, please go to:

[http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/22/health/cancer-vaccine-proves-effective-in-hiv-patients.html?ref=health&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/22/health/cancer-vaccine-proves-effective-in-hiv-patients.html?ref=health&_r=0)



## Medical Cost of Childhood Obesity



According to the analysis by researchers at the Duke Global Health Institute and Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School, over a lifetime, the medical costs associated with childhood obesity are \$19,000 per child compared with those for a child of normal weight. The costs are about \$12,900 per person for children of normal weight who become overweight or obese in adulthood. "Reducing childhood obesity is a public health priority that has substantial health and economic benefits," said Eric Andrew Finkelstein, the lead author of the study. He also said that efforts to reduce obesity should not be based solely on dollar savings. Obesity is a known risk factor for certain cancers, cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, and a wide range of other diseases. About one in three adults and nearly one in five children in the United States are obese, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**For additional information on medical cost of childhood obesity, log on to:**  
<http://www.latimes.com/science/sciencenow/la-sci-sn-medical-cost-childhood-obesity-20140407,0,4856366.story>

## Salmonella Cases Down, Others Still Increasing

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's annual report card on foodborne illnesses, vibrio infection, most frequently found in raw or undercooked shellfish, have increased by 75% since the CDC's previous analysis period, 2006-2008. There were also increases in campylobacter infections, the second most common foodborne pathogen in the United States. Since the 2006-2008 periods, there has been a 13% increase in the number of campylobacter cases. The number of cases of Salmonella, the most common foodborne illness, actually dropped by 9% compared to the last three-year period. One in every six Americans gets food poisoning every year, with 100,000 people going to the hospital. Children under the age of five and those over the age of sixty-five are at most risk.



**For additional information on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's annual report card, log on to:** [http://thechart.blogs.cnn.com/2014/04/17/salmonella-cases-down-but-watch-out-for-other-foodborne-bacteria/?hpt=he\\_c2](http://thechart.blogs.cnn.com/2014/04/17/salmonella-cases-down-but-watch-out-for-other-foodborne-bacteria/?hpt=he_c2)

## Kitchens: Sources of Drug-Resistant Bacteria

According to a new study, cutting boards used to prepare raw poultry may be an important source of drug-resistant bacteria in hospital kitchens and private homes. For 16 months, Dr. Andreas F. Widmer of University Hospital Basel in Switzerland and colleagues collected cutting boards and used gloves from their hospital's kitchen, which prepares meals for 650 patients daily, as well as hospital staff. They also collected cutting boards from kitchens in private homes in Switzerland, France, and Germany, and swabbed for bacteria after the boards were used to prepare food and before they were cleaned. Ten of the 154 cutting boards taken from the hospital kitchen tested positive for a type of drug-resistant E. coli bacteria, compared to five of the 144 boards taken from homes. Half of the used gloves from the hospital also tested positive for drug-resistant bacteria, indicating that gloves and cutting boards could be sources of transmission.



**To read more, go to:**  
<http://www.reuters.com/assets/print?aid=USBREA3F1J920140416>

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Toledo-Lucas County Health Department via CDC  
Who said learning isn't fun? Check out CDC's graphic novel "Preparedness 101: Zombie Pandemic." Follow Todd, Julie, and Max as they try to avoid a strange new disease turning everyone into zombies. A surprise ending reminds everyone why it's important to be prepared for all emergencies. Use the checklist included in the novel to get your family ready before disaster strikes.



CDC - Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response: Zombies  
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