

26 July 2019

Army Public Health Weekly Update

Army Public Health Center



U.S. Military | Global | Influenza | Veterinary/Food Safety | Wellness | Contact Us
USAFRICOM | USCENTCOM | USEUCOM | USINDOPACOM | USNORTHCOM | USSOUTHCOM

Approved for public release, distribution unlimited.

Contents

NOTE:

If you are viewing the Army Public Health Weekly Update using Internet Explorer on a government computer with Windows 10, the external hyperlinks will be disabled per the [Security Technical Implementation Guide](#) (V-64927).

As a workaround, opening the Update using **Chrome** will enable the links.

We're sorry for the inconvenience.

U.S. MILITARY

- [Esper creates task force to deal with cancer-causing chemicals on military installations](#)
- [Moldy conditions at Lackland dorms prompt review](#)

GLOBAL

- [2 nurses in Tennessee preach 'diabetes reversal'](#)
- [Allergan recalls textured breast implants worldwide](#)
- [Eli Lilly's hypoglycemia treatment wins FDA approval](#)
- [FDA uses magic tricks in first TV ads to prevent teens from vaping](#)
- [Medical chief calls for global health effort](#)
- [Space research may help patients suffering from low blood pressure](#)
- [States are all over the map when it comes to transgender health care](#)
- [Teens are more likely to try illegal drugs in the summer](#)
- [US Embassy staff in Cuba show unusual brain changes after alleged 'sonic attacks'](#)

INFLUENZA

- [CDC: Flu View - Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report](#)
- [WHO: Influenza Update](#)

VETERINARY/FOOD SAFETY

- [Ice Cream Sandwiches recalled for risk of metal particles](#)
- [Parasites are most likely riding into southern Michigan on the fresh produce imports](#)
- [Salmonella: 768 cases linked to backyard poultry in current outbreak](#)
- [Target, Fresh Market recalls sandwiches, salads for Listeria](#)

WELLNESS

- [Flesh-eating bacteria: How to prevent necrotizing fasciitis this summer](#)
- [Study finds that taking a warm bath before bed can significantly improve sleep](#)

Subscription or Comments

If you wish to be added to the APH Weekly Update mailing list, removed from the mailing list, or if you have comments or questions about the update, please [contact us](#). We welcome your comments. Please feel free to share this update with others who may be interested.



USAFRICOM

- Ebola region rocked by more violence as new funds announced

USCENTCOM

- Over 50% families can't have two meals a day

USEUCOM

- Ukraine: Foodborne disease outbreak sickens dozens in Rivne region

USINDOPACOM

- Resistant malaria spreading in South East Asia

USNORTHCOM

- U.S.: Kentucky: More than two dozen Rocky Mountain spotted fever cases reported in Grayson County
- U.S.: Massachusetts- Cyclospora increase reported in Massachusetts, most in Boston

USSOUTHCOM

- Bolivia: Hemorrhagic fever due to Arenavirus, testing suggests Chapare virus

U.S. MILITARY

Esper creates task force to deal with cancer-causing chemicals on military installations

24 July- On his first full day as secretary of defense, Mark Esper has signed a memo establishing a task force to deal with cancer-causing chemicals found on military bases. The purpose, he told reporters at the Pentagon Wednesday, is to "address all the key areas" of the military's response to the presence of harmful chemicals used in firefighting foam. The chemicals, perfluorooctanoic acid and/or perfluorooctane sulfonate have been found to have caused contamination at more than 230 military installations, according to an environmental advocacy group. The Environmental Working Group says that harmful levels have been detected in groundwater or drinking water sources of the fluorinated compounds, known collectively as PFAS. An additional 44 civilian airports are included that are also used by Air National Guard units, according to the group. Esper said the new task force will address a wide range of issues resulting from the contamination, "whether its cleanup, whether it's finding an alternative for the current firefighting, you name it," said Esper. "It will include the military department and our health affairs folks." Esper said he has also asked the Environmental Protection Agency to be involved, as well as other government agencies "to make sure we go after this problem very aggressively, very holistically and get in front of it, stay in front of it and take care of our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines and the outlying communities that are affected by it." [Military Times](#)

[top of page...](#)

Moldy conditions at Lackland dorms prompt review

24 July- The commander of Joint Base San Antonio in Texas on Wednesday launched a review of all the base's dorms after photos showing out-of-control mold at Lackland dorms hit social media. The pictures — some of which showed mold spreading across a pillow, a box spring, a video game controller, boots and a uniform sleeve at JBSA-Lackland — were posted on the unofficial Facebook page Air Force amn/nco/snco Tuesday morning. After an Air Force Times inquiry, Brig. Gen. Laura Lenderman, commander of JBSA and the 502nd Air Base Wing, said in a statement Wednesday afternoon that she ordered a team of senior leaders to walk through all Lackland dorms within 24 hours to review the situation. Walk-throughs of other dorms elsewhere at JBSA will follow, Lenderman said. [Airforce Times](#)

[top of page...](#)

Follow us!



Facebook



Twitter



YouTube



Instagram

Hexavalent Chromium Sampling Strategy

Army policy mandates the use of the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH®) Threshold Limit Values (TLVs®) as the Occupational Exposure Limit (OEL) criteria when the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) is less protective or when no OSHA PEL exists. As a result, industrial hygienists must ensure that air sampling exposure assessments align with the particle size-selective sampling methodology (i.e., inhalable, thoracic, and respirable) delineated in the applicable OSHA standard and/or Army policy.



GLOBAL

2 nurses in Tennessee preach 'diabetes reversal'

22 July- Chains, saws and old logging equipment litter the back field of Wendy Norris' family farm, near the county seat of Altamont, Tenn. Norris used to be part of the local timber industry, and the rusted tools are relics from a time when health woes didn't hold her back from felling hardwoods. "I was nine months pregnant," Norris says "me and my husband stayed about 10 or 15 miles in the middle of nowhere, in a tent, for a long time." Those outdoor adventures are just a memory now. A few years ago, as Norris turned 40, her feet started going numb. She first assumed it was from standing all day at her job at a nursing home. "But it wasn't," she recalls now. "It was that neuropathy, where my [blood] sugar was high and I didn't know it." Norris had developed Type 2 diabetes. Grundy County, Tenn., has a long list of public health challenges, and Type 2 diabetes tops the list. The county is stunningly scenic; it also has one of the lowest life expectancy rates in the region. Norris was relatively active. She also enjoyed sodas, sweets and frozen dinners. Meanwhile, diabetes runs in her family. So, when her diabetes diagnosis came down, her doctor prescribed insulin shots and told her to watch what she ate. "You're sitting there thinking, 'Well, what does that mean?'" Norris says. Type 2 diabetes can be reversed with weight loss and exercise; but research shows that people need lots of help to achieve control of blood sugar with just a change in diet and lifestyle, and they rarely get enough support. It's easier for doctors and patients to rely primarily on medication. Norris says trying to overhaul her diet by herself was confusing and difficult. And when things didn't change, the doctor just kept increasing her dosage of insulin. But then Norris lost her health insurance. The injectable insulin cost her hundreds of dollars a month — money she simply didn't have.

[NPR](#)

[top of page...](#)

Allergan recalls textured breast implants worldwide

24 July- Allergan Plc said on Wednesday it was recalling its Biocell textured breast implants and tissue expanders across markets, citing concerns over a rare form of cancer, after the U.S. health agency asked the drug maker to pull the products. The Food And Drug Administration found the use of these breast implants was tied to increased risk of a rare type of cancer known as breast-implant associated anaplastic large cell lymphoma (BIA-ALCL). "Once the evidence indicated that Allergan's product appeared to be directly linked to significant patient harm ... the FDA took action to alert the firm to new evidence and that the recall is warranted," Amy Abernethy, FDA's principal deputy commissioner, said on a media call. Allergan has already stopped selling the Biocell textured implants in Europe and Canada. [Reuters](#)

[top of page...](#)

The Surgeon General Weekly Read Book

The Surgeon General Weekly Read Book is available with articles classified up to the **SECRET** level on the APHC SIPRNet site:

<https://intelshare.intelink.sgov.gov/sites/medcom-g2/SitePages/Home.aspx>

To access this version, you will need a **SECRET** clearance and a SIPRNet account.

Eli Lilly's hypoglycemia treatment wins FDA approval

24 July- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Eli Lilly and Co's treatment for severe hypoglycemia, the health regulator said on Wednesday. Hypoglycemia is a condition in which blood sugar falls to dangerously low levels. Severe hypoglycemia typically occurs in people with diabetes who are using insulin treatment, the FDA said and noted that the therapy - Baqsimi - is approved to treat the severe form of the condition in patients with diabetes aged four and older. Baqsimi is a powder that is administered into the nose. It is the first glucagon therapy approved for the emergency treatment of the condition, without using an injection, the agency said. "This new way to administer glucagon may simplify the process, which can be critical during an episode," said Janet Woodcock, director of the FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. "The U.S. list price for a Baqsimi one-pack is \$280.80 and \$561.60 for a two-pack," the company said in a statement, adding that Baqsimi is expected to be available in U.S. pharmacies within a month. The FDA said injectable glucagon has been approved for use in the United States for several decades. [Reuters](#)

[top of page...](#)

FDA uses magic tricks in first TV ads to prevent teens from vaping

22 July- The US Food and Drug Administration put out its first TV ads focused on e-cigarette prevention. The effort is part of the FDA's "The Real Cost" youth e-cigarette prevention campaign, a \$60 million initiative that launched last year through social media, digital content and posters at high schools nationwide. The campaign aims to reach almost 10.7 million students' ages 12 to 17 who might be at risk of vaping or have already started. The new ads feature street magician and social media personality Julius Dein performing illusions with people's vapes by appearing to turn them into traditional cigarettes. The FDA said they will run on networks including TeenNick, the CW, MTV and ESPN, in addition to streaming and social media sites. "As our new ads state: 'it's not magic, it's statistics,'" Dr. Ned Sharpless, the FDA's acting commissioner, said in a statement Monday. "And the potential for kids to become traditional cigarette smokers because of e-cigarettes gives me great pause." The FDA revealed last year that vaping had increased nearly 80% among high schoolers and 50% among middle schoolers since the year prior, jumping to 3.6 million student's total. Experts worry that e-cigarettes could put kids' developing brains at risk, get them hooked on nicotine early in life, and be a gateway to smoking and other drugs. [CNN](#)

[top of page...](#)

Medical chief calls for global health effort

22 July- Countries must work together to tackle global health risks, England's outgoing chief medical officer has said. In her final annual report, Prof Dame Sally Davies said focusing on domestic issues could risk failing to control global threats such as Ebola. And she said learning from other countries would also ensure the NHS was not left behind. After nine years as CMO, she is to become Master of Trinity College at the University of Cambridge.

Links

[A-Z Index](#)

[About APHC](#)

[Army Public Health
Weekly Update Archives](#)

[Medical Surveillance
Monthly Report](#)

[Medical Threat Briefings
\(AKO\)](#)

[Request APHC Services](#)

[APHC Resource Materials](#)

[APHC Homepage](#)

[APHC Training](#)

[Contact APHC](#)

Prof Davies said: "Investing in global health is the smart thing to do because it is in our mutual interest. It creates a better world for us and for future generations. "It helps to keep our population safe. "We should invest in systems and solutions that contribute to making health more equitable, secure and sustainable. "What we learn abroad will improve our NHS and support our domestic efforts to make sure no-one in the UK is left behind." [BBC News](#)

[top of page...](#)

Space research may help patients suffering from low blood pressure

21 July- A new study featuring astronauts' activities in space offers better insights on what causes people to suffer low blood pressure even while standing. Researchers at UT Southwestern Medical Center examined a condition known as orthostatic intolerance to understand how it affects people and how it can be prevented. They believe they may have found the answer in the day-to-day activities of astronauts after they returned home from a spaceflight. [Tech Times](#)

[top of page...](#)

States are all over the map when it comes to transgender health care

22 July- When a doctor recommended that Aidan Zingler undergo gender reassignment surgery, the 27-year-old hoped it would mean the end of a lifetime of anguish. A science-fiction writer living in Des Moines, Zingler was born into a female body, which caused increasing torment as the years passed. When Zingler experienced a period for the first time, "it came as a shock and felt like my body betrayed me." Surgery promised a salvation. But Iowa's Medicaid agency refused to cover the surgery, saying it was cosmetic and not the medical necessity that Zingler's doctor said it was. "It made me feel like I wasn't a person," Zingler, who is now 34 and identifies as nonbinary, recalled recently in a phone interview. "It was disregarding what a doctor said were my medical needs. I felt like I wasn't a person and my rights weren't being regarded." States are diverging on whether to provide gender reassignment services, such as hormone treatments and surgery, under their Medicaid programs. Iowa recently enacted a law denying coverage for transition services, and Medicaid policies in eight states exclude sexual reassignment treatment, according to the Movement Advancement Project, a nonprofit group based in Colorado. Officials from two of the eight states, Ohio and Wyoming, said they no longer are following policies that exclude those services. Twelve states also specifically exclude transition-related services from health benefits for state employees. [The Washington Post](#)

[top of page...](#)

Teens are more likely to try illegal drugs in the summer

23 July- Summer is the most common season for U.S. teens and adults to try illegal or recreational drugs for the first time, a new study finds. The study researchers analyzed information from more than 394,000 Americans ages 12 and older who completed a yearly survey on drug use between 2011 and 2017. Participants were asked whether they had used certain drugs — including LSD, marijuana, cocaine and ecstasy (also known as MDMA or molly) — and what month and year they initiated use. During the summer (June through August), more people first tried these drugs, compared with other times of year. The findings were published today (July 23) in the Journal of General Internal Medicine. For example, 34% of people who said they'd begun using LSD in the previous two years had first tried the drug during the summer months. And among those respondents who had recently started using marijuana, cocaine or ecstasy, about 30% had initiated use during the summer. That compares with fewer than 25% of recent initiates of LSD, marijuana, cocaine or ecstasy who said they'd started using the drugs during each of the other three seasons of the year. The researchers hypothesized that the uptick in drug initiation during the summer months may be due, in part, to people having more leisure time during the summer. Outdoor social activities, such as musical festivals, are more common in the summer and may increase a person's chances of exposure to drugs or the individual's willingness to use them, the authors wrote in the study. [Live Science](#)

[top of page...](#)

US Embassy staff in Cuba show unusual brain changes after alleged 'sonic attacks'

23 July-More than two years after several dozen U.S. embassy workers in Cuba reported experiencing bizarre sensory symptoms, including loud noises and unusual vibrations, exactly what happened to them remains a mystery. Now, a new study adds to the intrigue. The study, which used advanced brain-imaging technologies, revealed distinct differences in the brains of embassy workers who were potentially exposed to the bizarre phenomena, compared with healthy people who were not exposed. In particular, the researchers found differences in a brain area known as the cerebellum, which is responsible for coordination of movements, such as those involved in walking and balance, according to the study, published today (July 23) in the journal JAMA. [27 Oddest Medical Case Reports] This finding is notable given that a number of the embassy workers show abnormalities in balance and coordination of eye movements, said study co-author Dr. Randel Swanson, an assistant professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation at the University of Pennsylvania's Perelman School of Medicine. However, the researchers acknowledge that they can't say exactly what their findings mean or what caused the brain differences. In other words, the study doesn't bring us any closer to understanding the cause of the alleged phenomena. [Live Science](#)

[top of page...](#)

INFLUENZA

CDC: Flu View - Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report

2018-2019 Influenza Season Week 28 ending July 13, 2019:

U.S. Virologic Surveillance: WHO and NREVSS collaborating laboratories, which include both public health and clinical laboratories located in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the District of Columbia, report to CDC the total number of respiratory specimens tested for influenza and the number positive for influenza by virus type. In addition, public health laboratories also report the influenza A subtype (H1 or H3) and influenza B lineage information of the viruses they test and the age or age group of the persons from whom the specimens were collected.

Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality Surveillance: Based on National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) mortality surveillance data available on July 18, 2019, 5.0% of the deaths occurring during the week ending July 6, 2019 (week 27) were due to P&I. This percentage is below the epidemic threshold of 5.8% for week 27.

Influenza-Associated Pediatric Mortality: Two influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported to CDC during week 28. One death was associated with an influenza A virus for which no subtyping was performed and occurred during week 7 (the week ending February 16, 2019) and one death was associated with an influenza A (H3) virus and occurred during week 18 (the week ending May 4, 2019). [CDC](#)

[top of page...](#)

WHO: Influenza Update

22 July 2019 - Update number 346, based on data up to 07 July 2019:

- In the temperate zones of the southern hemisphere, trends in influenza activity varied by region and country. Activity in Argentina, Australia and Uruguay increased while activity in Brazil, Chile, New Zealand, Paraguay and South Africa decreased this period.
- Influenza A(H3N2) viruses predominated in Oceania and South Africa.
- Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 viruses predominated in temperate South America.
- In Southern Asia, influenza activity was low across reporting countries, except in Bangladesh where activity remained high with influenza A(H3N2) viruses predominant. In South East Asia, an increase in influenza activity was observed in a few reporting countries.
- In the Caribbean, Central America, and tropical South America, influenza activity was low in general, with exception of Costa Rica and Panama where influenza A virus activity was high, and in Cuba and French Guiana (France) where influenza virus detections increased.
- In Africa, with the exception of South Africa, influenza activity was low across reporting

countries.

-In the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere, influenza activity was at inter-seasonal levels.

-Worldwide, seasonal influenza A viruses accounted for the majority of detections. [WHO top of page...](#)

VETERINARY/FOOD SAFETY

Ice Cream Sandwiches recalled for risk of metal particles

21 July- Agropur Cooperative of Quebec, Canada is recalling Iceberg brand and Originale Augustin brand ice cream sandwiches from the marketplace due to the possible presence of fine metal particles, according to a recall notice posted on the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) website Saturday night. The Iceberg brand of 190 ml ice cream sandwiches are sold in boxes of eight, and the Originale Augustin brand of 190 ml ice cream sandwiches are sold in boxes of 30. According to the recall notice, the recalled products were distributed nationally; "This recall was triggered by the company." The Agropur Dairy Cooperative is Canada's largest dairy cooperative in North America. To date, there have been no injuries reported due to this incident. [Food Safety News](#)

[top of page...](#)

Parasites are most likely riding into southern Michigan on the fresh produce imports

22 July-Some of their food might be exposing their customers to foodborne illness, say restauranters Joel and Heidi Gesiakowski. They've been letting customers of their Taste restaurant in Michigan's South Haven know it might be making people sick. But in this instance, it's doubtful the foodborne illnesses occurring are the restaurant's fault. Multiple cases of cyclosporiasis are occurring across southern Michigan, and state and local health officials are scrambling to get ahead of the outbreak. Cyclosporiasis (formerly known as isosporiasis) is an intestinal disease. Cyclosporiasis is most common in tropical and subtropical areas of the world. The parasite can be spread by ingesting contaminated food or water. Health officials suspect exposure to food products at the Taste restaurant, but they say it has nothing to do poor food handling or preparation by the Gesiakowskis. The parasites are getting on fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs before the product arrives at restaurants, and even before shipment to the United States. In a statement posted on the Taste website, the Gesiakowskis said: "Taste restaurant recently learning that produce we procured from one of our ingredient suppliers was contaminated with cyclospora, a parasite that sometimes found on fresh fruits, vegetables or herbs shipped to the U.S. from developing countries." They said it was the first time in six years that they've experienced "a situation like this, and we are deeply sorry." And they warned customers that "exposure to this parasite" may require treatment of antibiotics. It can result in cyclosporiasis, a

gastrointestinal illness. [Food Safety News](#)

[top of page...](#)

Salmonella: 768 cases linked to backyard poultry in current outbreak

21 July- The number of Salmonella cases linked to contact with poultry in backyard flocks has risen by 489 cases in the past month, bringing the outbreak total to 768 from 48 states (only Alaska and Delaware have not reported a case). According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), five additional types of Salmonella were added to this investigation, which increased the number of cases associated with the outbreak. 122 (29%) people have been hospitalized and two deaths have been reported, one from Texas and one from Ohio. One quarter of the cases are in children five year of age and younger. Epidemiologic and laboratory evidence indicate that contact with backyard poultry, such as chicks and ducklings, from multiple hatcheries are the likely source of these outbreaks. People reported getting chicks and ducklings from several sources, including agricultural stores, websites, and hatcheries. [Outbreak News Today](#)

[top of page...](#)

Target, Fresh Market recalls sandwiches, salads for Listeria

21 July- Elevation Foods is recalling containers of Archer Farms-brand deviled egg sandwiches and egg salad, and Freskët brand egg salad, tuna salad, and Thai lobster salad because of the potential for Listeria monocytogenes contamination. Consumers should check their homes for the sandwiches and salads, which have a "best by" date of Aug. 12, 2019, printed on the side or lid of each container. Additionally, The Fresh Market announced that the recalled Thai Lobster Salad was sold by the pound in their self-serve seafood salad bar, as well as pre-packaged containers. According to the company recall notice posted on the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) website, the recalled products were manufactured at Elevation Foods' Knoxville, Tennessee facility on June 18. Elevation Foods distributed them to foodservice operators and retail warehouses throughout the United States; "Elevation Foods is working with distributors and retailers to quarantine and recover any impacted product remaining on store shelves." According to the recall notice, Elevation Foods identified the problem with the products after receiving positive test results for three containers of affected egg salad, which were sampled and tested by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Elevation Foods is continuing to investigate potential sources of the problem. [Food Safety News](#)

[top of page...](#)

WELLNESS

Flesh-eating bacteria: How to prevent necrotizing fasciitis this summer

20 July- From California to Texas and across the country to Florida, a dangerous and potentially deadly infection has seemingly dominated the news this summer: necrotizing fasciitis, colloquially referred to as flesh-eating bacteria. Flesh-eating bacteria infections — which, in severe cases, can result in amputations and even death — can occur when those with an open cut or wound enter a hot tub, swimming pool, lake or ocean, allowing bacteria to enter. Though necrotizing fasciitis can be caused by more than just one type of bacteria, the most common cause is group A Streptococcus (Group A Strep), per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention...“Flesh-eating bacteria can be common in lakes and oceans. Practicing good hygiene is essential for [the] prevention of necrotizing fasciitis. Those with open wounds or active infections should keep them covered with dry, clean bandages and avoid bodies of water, including swimming pools and hot tubs,” Sevilla advised. “After swimming, be sure to wash your body with soap and water,” he added. [Fox News](#)

[top of page...](#)

Study finds that taking a warm bath before bed can significantly improve sleep

21 July- Taking a warm bath an hour or two before bedtime could be the key to getting a better night's sleep. A group of biomedical engineers from the University of Texas and the University of Southern California analyzed that link water-based passive body heating (bathing or showering with warm or hot water) with improved sleep quality. [Tech Times](#)

[top of page...](#)

USAFRICOM

Ebola region rocked by more violence as new funds announced

24 July- Yesterday the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), a rebel group, attacked two villages near Beni, killing 12 people who live in the heart of the Democratic Republic of the Congo's (DRC's) ongoing Ebola outbreak. The terrorists killed nine in Eringeti and three in Oicha, according to Reuters. ADF has not publically pledged allegiance to the Islamic state (ISIL), but that hasn't stopped ISIL from claiming responsibility for the attacks. The violence comes as two major donors announced added funding of response efforts. [CIDRAP](#)

[top of page...](#)

USCENTCOM

Over 50% families can't have two meals a day

23 July- Nearly half of all households in Pakistan are unable to meet their nutritional needs, the first ever survey of its kind in the country has revealed. According to the National Nutrition Survey 2018 – a copy of which is available with The Express Tribune – poverty keeps more than 50 per cent of Pakistani families from having two meals a day, leading to severe dietary deficiencies. As a result, as many as 40.2 per cent of all children in the country are affected by chronic malnutrition and stunted growth, which inhibits both their cognitive and physical development, the exercise carried out by the Ministry of National Health Services (NHS) revealed. The survey also discovered that 36.9 per cent of Pakistani households remain food insecure and lack reliable access to affordable nutritious food in sufficient amounts. To counter the nutritional emergency as quickly as possible, the federal government has already drafted a food fortification bill for the first time in Pakistan's history, Pakistan Pediatric Association (PPA) Secretary General Dr. Khalid Shafi said. The bill, among other things, will make the addition of micronutrients in items like flour and ghee mandatory, he told The Express Tribune. The objective of the survey, which will be released publicly today in a ceremony in Karachi, is to draw the attention of policymaking institutes towards the ever growing problem of malnutrition among Pakistani children. [Tribune](#)

[top of page...](#)

USEUCOM

Ukraine: Foodborne disease outbreak sickens dozens in Rivne region

21 July- A foodborne illness outbreak is being investigated by the Rivne OLC of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine. Between July 15-18, 84 acute gastrointestinal disease cases were reported, including 52 cases in Zdolbunivskyi District. 61 people required hospitalization, including children. Preliminary results in the investigation links the illnesses to the consumption of dishes at the celebration of the wedding and birthdays from July 13 and 14 at the cafe "Gourmet" in the Mizoch village. Ergonomically designed kitchen utensils to help with weak hands or other disabilities. 92 persons, including 84 patients and 8 employees of the cafe "Gourmet" have been cultured and tested trying to determine an etiology. On July 18, 2019, in the first 4 patients, Salmonella enteritidis was isolated and identified. A microbiological study was carried out on samples of rinses from environmental objects on BGKP, samples of drinking water and samples of food products. Cafe Gourmet has been closed since Monday. [Outbreak News Today](#)

[top of page...](#)

Resistant malaria spreading in South East Asia

23 July- Malaria parasites resistant to key drugs have spread rapidly in South East Asia, researchers from the UK and Thailand say. The parasites have moved from Cambodia to Laos, Thailand and Vietnam, where half of patients are not being cured by first-choice drugs. Researchers say the findings raise the "terrifying prospect" drug-resistance could spread to Africa. However, experts said the implications may not be as severe as first thought. Malaria is treated with a combination of two drugs - artemisinin and piperaquine. The drug combo was introduced in Cambodia in 2008. But by 2013, the first cases of the parasite mutating and developing resistance to both drugs were detected, in western parts of the country. The latest study, published in the Lancet Infectious Diseases, analysed blood samples from patients across South East Asia. Inspecting the parasite's DNA showed resistance had spread across Cambodia and was also in Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. It had also picked up further mutations, making it even more problematic. In some regions, 80% of malaria parasites were drug resistant. "This strain has spread and has become worse," Dr. Roberto Amato, from the Wellcome Sanger Institute, told BBC News. [BBC News](#)

[top of page...](#)

U.S.: Kentucky: More than two dozen Rocky Mountain spotted fever cases reported in Grayson County

22 July- Health officials in Grayson County, Kentucky are reporting a recent increase in cases of the tickborne disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever (RMSF). They report receiving 26 cases of RMSF since July 7, 2019. Dr. Bryce Meredith made the following statement, "We are seeing an increase in tick-borne illnesses in Grayson and the surrounding counties. Individuals should have heightened awareness regarding ticks in our area. The most common illnesses are Ehrlichiosis and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever." RMSF is a tick borne disease caused by the organism, Rickettsia rickettsii. Typically, the progress of the disease is a sudden onset of high fever, deep muscle pain, severe headache and chills. A rash usually appears on the extremities within 5 days then soon spreads to palms and soles and then rapidly to the trunk. Fatalities can be seen in greater than 20% of untreated cases. Death is uncommon with prompt recognition and treatment. Still approximately 3-5% of cases seen in the U.S. are fatal. The absence or delayed appearance of the typical rash or the failure to recognize it, especially in dark-skinned people cause a delay in diagnosis and increased fatalities. Early stages of RMSF can be confused with erlichiosis, meningococcal meningitis and enteroviral infection. They are asking residents to ensure they are protecting their family, pets, and yourselves properly while outdoors. [Outbreak News Today](#)

[top of page...](#)

U.S.: Massachusetts- Cyclospora increase reported in Massachusetts, most in Boston

22 July- In a follow-up on our report yesterday on the Cyclospora situation being reported in several places in the United States, Massachusetts state health officials report an update on the increase in cases of the parasitic infection in the Commonwealth. Since May 1, 2019, there have been more than 100 reports of Cyclospora infection cases in the state, when, over the past three years, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) has received between 18 and 33 reported cases. Most cases this year have occurred in greater Boston, but infections have been reported in residents across the state. Other states have also reported increases in the number of cyclosporiasis cases; the cause of the outbreak is not yet known. Cyclosporiasis is a gastrointestinal illness caused by a microscopic parasite. People can become infected by consuming contaminated food or water. Outbreaks in the United States have been linked to contaminated fresh produce. [Outbreak News Today](#)

[top of page...](#)

USSOUTHCOM

Bolivia: Hemorrhagic fever due to Arenavirus, testing suggests Chapare virus

20 July- In the past several weeks, the Ministry of Health in Bolivia have reported five cases of hemorrhagic febrile syndrome of unknown etiology with suspected human-to-human transmission. Three of the cases are healthcare workers and the other 2 cases are agricultural workers. Of the five, three cases have died. [Outbreak News Today](#)

[top of page...](#)

[U.S. Military](#) | [Global](#) | [Influenza](#) | [Veterinary/Food Safety](#) | [Wellness](#) | [Contact Us](#)

[USAFRICOM](#) | [USCENTCOM](#) | [USEUCOM](#) | [USINDOPACOM](#) | [USNORTHCOM](#) | [USSOUTHCOM](#)

The *Army Public Health Update* is a collection of articles taken from public sources to offer awareness of current health issues and the media coverage given to them. The articles do not necessarily represent U.S. Army Medical Command opinions, views, policy, or guidance, and should not be construed or interpreted as being endorsed by the U.S. Army Medical Command.

The *Army Public Health Weekly Update* does not analyze the information as to its strategic or tactical impact on the U.S. Army and is not a medical intelligence product. Medical intelligence is available from the [National Center for Medical Intelligence](#).

External Links: The appearance of external hyperlinks does not constitute endorsement by the U.S. Army of the website or the information, products, or services contained therein. For other than authorized activities such as military exchanges and MWR sites, the U.S. Army does not exercise any editorial control over the information you may find at these locations. Such links are provided consistent with the stated purpose of this product.

Although we avoid links to sites that may be blocked, all sites may not be accessible from all locations. While we verify the links at the time of publication, we cannot guarantee that they will be active in the future.

The *Army Public Health Weekly Update* is published by the Public Health Communication Directorate, Army Public Health Center.

