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OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

St. Clair County Health Department

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TO: St. Clair County Providers, Hospital ICPs, Emergency Departments, Walk-in Clinics, Pediatricians, Long Term Care Facilities, Neurologists, ENT's, OB/GYN, and Pulmonology
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Increase in Cyclosporiasis Cases in Southeast Michigan

St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) would like to alert providers to an ongoing increase in reported cyclosporiasis cases in southeastern Michigan, primarily affecting counties along the Ohio border. While cyclosporiasis typically increases during the summer months, the current number of reported cases is above expected levels. Public health officials are actively investigating the outbreak, and a potential foodborne source has not yet been identified.

At this time, relatively few cases have been reported in our region. However, because illness may be underrecognized or underreported, SCCHD encourages providers to consider cyclosporiasis in patients with compatible symptoms, request appropriate laboratory testing, and promptly report suspected or confirmed cases.

Clinical Presentation

- Incubation period: 2–14 days
- Symptoms: Prolonged or relapsing watery diarrhea, abdominal cramps, bloating, nausea, loss of appetite, weight loss, fatigue, and low-grade fever.
- Person-to-person transmission is not known to occur. In the United States, infections are most commonly associated with contaminated fresh produce.

Recommendations

- Consider cyclosporiasis in patients with prolonged watery diarrhea, especially during the summer months.
- Specifically request Cyclospora testing, as it is not routinely included in standard stool ova and parasite (O&P) examinations.
 - Multiplex GI PCR panels (e.g., BioFire GI Panel) are the preferred diagnostic test.
 - Testing is also available through the MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories using acceptable preserved stool specimens submitted with the MDHHS Microbiology/Virology Test Request Form (DCH-0583). Select **"Parasitology – Stool"** and specify **"Cyclospora."**
- Treat with trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (TMP-SMX) unless contraindicated.
- Report suspected or confirmed cases to the St. Clair County Health Department.