

Public Health Services Update

January 10, 2018

Dear Kern County Health Care Provider:

This letter is being sent to call your attention to three important health updates in Kern County. Similar publications will be distributed quarterly or more often if the need arises.

- **Hepatitis A Virus (HAV) Outbreak Among Homeless and Illicit Drug Using Populations in California:**
New cases of HAV related to the ongoing outbreak continue to be identified throughout California. There were no confirmed cases of HAV in Kern County in 2017 and there are no confirmed cases to date this year; however, providers should maintain a high index of suspicion in patients with clinically-compatible illness. There is no increased risk of HAV infection for the general population and no increased risk of HAV infection among health care workers provided they adhere to routine infection control guidelines. For more information, view the complete [local health bulletin](#). Additional information can be found on the California Department of Public Health's [HAV outbreak page](#).
- **Mayo Clinic continuing medical education course on coccidioidomycosis, January 20, 2018 in Phoenix, AZ:**
Webcast registration is \$50. Click [here](#) for additional information and registration.
- **NIH-UA Study of Human Genetics of Disseminated Coccidioidomycosis:**
National Institutes of Health and University of Arizona are seeking patients diagnosed with disseminated coccidioidomycosis who do not have an identifiable immunodeficiency for a genetics study. If a patient is interested in learning more about the study please contact Alexandria, the research coordinator, with the patient's contact information by voice (520) 626-1808, fax (520) 626-9747, or email vfever@email.arizona.edu.
- **Kern County STD Symposium will be held on March 7, 2018 from 5:30-8:30 pm:**
Registration is free and 2.5 CMEs are available. This event will take place at the Bakersfield Marriott Convention Center. Visit this [link](#) to register.

If you have any questions, please contact the Kern County Public Health Services Department by phone at (661) 321-3000, via email at publichealth@kerncounty.com or visit our [website](#).

Thank you,



Denise Smith, PHN, MPA
Director of Disease Control
for
Claudia Jonah, MD
Health Officer