



CITY OF MELROSE

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Board of Health

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December 12, 2024

Re: **October-December 2024 Regional Public Health Nurse's Report**

Melrose Communicable Diseases - confirmed, probable and suspect cases for October 15, 2024 –
December 10, 2024

1 Case	Campylobacteriosis	Confirmed
1 Case	Group A streptococcus	Confirmed
1 Case	Hepatitis B	Probable
5 Cases	Hepatitis B	Suspect
6 Cases	Influenza (not followed)	Confirmed
2 Cases	Lyme disease (not followed)	Suspect
28 Cases	Novel Coronavirus – adult/child (not followed)	Confirmed
2 Cases	Novel Coronavirus – adult/child (not followed)	Probable
3 Cases	Pertussis (and other Bordetella species)	Confirmed
2 Cases	Pertussis (and other Bordetella species)	Suspect
1 Case	Shigellosis	Confirmed
1 Case	Hepatitis C	Confirmed
1 Case	TB	Suspect (in treatment)

Reviewed Melrose MAVEN cases and provided support/coverage for Stoneham and Wakefield. Over the last few months Melrose had 9 positive cases of pertussis while Stoneham and Wakefield had 1-2 cases. Most cases have been middle and high school students who are fully vaccinated for pertussis. Total number of cases may be under counted as all family members of a positive case are treated with antibiotics but may not have been tested.

Information about FDA recalls for contaminated food products (Boarshead lunchmeat and Grimway Farms whole and baby carrots) was posted on the city's website.

An article on Food Safety over the holidays was also posted with the city and in the Health & Human Services newsletter. A medication and sharps disposal guide was also published in the newsletter.

Milano Center BP Screenings and counseling for 6-10 residents/session. Volunteer Debbie Powers, RN provides BP screenings on alternate weeks. Kara Powers is providing health education and resources 1-2 times/month.

Provided UmassBoston and Middlesex Community College nursing students with exposure to public health staff and programs (inspections, communicable disease tracing, health education, grant management, school educational programs, e.g. Stop Violence; tobacco control and NFG, gambling, etc.)

2024 Flu clinics for Melrose, Wakefield and Stoneham completed. Even with a reduced Melrose vaccine order there are still 38 High Dose and 64 Regular doses of flu vaccine remaining. More staff and volunteer training needed in Melrose and Stoneham on insurance registration to increase vaccine reimbursement.

Researching nursing program information re: student requesting Masters in Nursing preceptorship. Information to be discussed with Director.

Providing “as needed” support to School Nurse Leader for mandated school hearing and vision screenings.

Held monthly PHN meeting to discuss vaccine clinics/surplus, recreational camp concerns and MAVEN case concerns. PHN goals for 2025 to be discussed at next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Lowry, MS, RN