



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**This is an official
MS Health Alert Network (HAN) Advisory**

MESSAGE ID: MSHAN-20180504-00138-ADV (Health Advisory)
RECIPIENTS: All Physicians, Hospitals, ERs, ICPs, NPs, and
Healthcare Providers - Statewide
DATE: Friday, May 04, 2018
SUBJECT: Multistate Outbreak of *Serratia marcescens* infections - 2018

Key Messages:

- CDC is investigating multiple clusters of infections caused by *Serratia marcescens* since January 2018.
- The majority of the infections are bloodstream infections in patients with central venous catheters or medication ports.
- Contact the MSDH Office of Epidemiology at 601-576-7725 to report a case of *S. marcescens* bloodstream infection or to submit isolates for additional testing at CDC.

Dear Colleagues,

The CDC is working with state and local health departments and the FDA to investigate multiple clusters of primarily bloodstream infections caused by *Serratia marcescens* since January 2018. The majority of patients affected have had central venous catheters or medication ports in place at the time of infection. To date, the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) has received a report of one case of *S. marcescens* in a Mississippi resident with a dialysis catheter. CDC continues to work with health departments and the FDA to investigate possible common sources of exposure.

Local providers are encouraged to report any recent (since April 1, 2018) cases of *S. marcescens* bloodstream infections to MSDH. This should include any cases in outpatients with central venous catheters or ports, as well as clusters (i.e. 2 or more cases) at a single healthcare facility. MSDH will arrange for further investigation and submission of isolates to CDC for further testing as appropriate.

For questions, to report a case of *S. marcescens* bloodstream infection, or to submit isolates for further testing at CDC, please call the MSDH Office of Epidemiology at 601-576-7725.

Regards,

Kathryn Taylor, MD
Medical Consultant
Office of Epidemiology



Alerting Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency: Mississippi State Department of Health
Alerting Program: MS Health Alert Network (MS HAN)
Message Identifier: MSHAN-20180504-00138-ADV
Program (HAN) Type: Health Advisory
Status (Type): Actual ()
Message Type: Alert
Reference: MSHAN-00138
Severity: Unknown
Acknowledgement: No
Sensitive: Not Sensitive
Message Expiration: Undetermined
Urgency: Undetermined
Delivery Time: 600 minutes

Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency: A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.

Alerting Program: The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.

Message Identifier: A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT (**ALT=Health Alert**, **ADV=Health Advisory**, **UPD=Health Update**, **MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service**)).

Program (HAN) Type: Categories of Health Alert Messages.

Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

Health Info Service: Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.

Status (Type):

- Actual: Communication or alert refers to a live event
- Exercise: Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
- Test: Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded



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Message Type:

Alert: Indicates an original Alert
Update: Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded
Cancel: Indicates prior alert has been cancelled
Error: Indicates prior alert has been retracted

Reference: For a communication or alert with a Message Type of “Update” or “Cancel”, this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. “n/a” = Not Applicable.

Severity:

Extreme: Extraordinary threat to life or property
Severe: Significant threat to life or property
Moderate: Possible threat to life or property
Minor: Minimal threat to life or property
Unknown: Unknown threat to life or property

Acknowledgement: Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

Sensitive:

Sensitive: Indicates the alert contains sensitive content
Not Sensitive: Indicates non-sensitive content

Message Expiration: Undetermined.

Urgency: Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

Delivery Time: Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).