



Health Advisory Shigellosis Extremely Drug Resistant

January 11, 2016

Columbus Public Health &
Franklin County Public Health

What you need to know

The first outbreak in Ohio of extremely drug resistant (XDR) shigellosis among men who have sex with men (MSM) is currently under investigation by Columbus Public Health (CPH) and Franklin County Public Health (FCPH). 9 MSM have been diagnosed with shigellosis resistant to ampicillin, ciprofloxacin and trimethoprim sulfamethoxazole. Further susceptibility testing at Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirms that the *Shigella sonnei* isolates also have decreased susceptibility to azithromycin (DSA). Onset of illness is September 24, 2015 – December 9, 2015.

Of the 9 cases, 7 were hospitalized. Coinfections include: 6 human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infections, 5 syphilis, 1 cryptosporidiosis and 1 giardiasis.

What to watch for

Patients, especially MSM, with shigellosis which does not resolve after antibiotic therapy

Susceptibility results for *Shigella* which demonstrate resistance to multiple antibiotics

What you can do

Order stool cultures and susceptibility for patients, especially MSM, who have prolonged diarrhea.

Treat with antibiotics based upon susceptibility results.

Counsel patients about shigellosis prevention.

Report cases of XDR shigellosis as soon as possible to Infectious Disease Reporting System (IDRS) via phone at 614.525.8888 to expedite submission of *Shigella* isolates to Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Laboratory for pulsed field gel electrophoresis (PFGE).

Who is at risk

MSM are more likely to become infected with shigellosis resistant to azithromycin and ciprofloxacin.

Many outbreaks of shigellosis have occurred among MSM.

HIV infected persons can have severe and prolonged shigellosis with potential sepsis which can be life threatening.

To learn more

Ciprofloxacin & Azithromycin
Non-Susceptible Shigellosis in the United States
<http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00379.asp>

Shigella Infections Among Gay & Bisexual Men
<http://www.cdc.gov/shigella/msm.html>

Infectious Disease Reporting System
<http://idrsinfo.org>

Contact

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