



# Indiana State Department of Health

## Indiana Health Alert Network Advisory—July 1, 2016

### **CDC Requests Immediate Assistance: Report *B. cepacia* in Pediatric and Adult ICU Patients**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is collaborating with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), multiple state and local health departments, and numerous healthcare facilities to investigate a multistate outbreak of *Burkholderia cepacia* infections since January, 2016. These infections have occurred primarily in ventilated patients without cystic fibrosis and who are being treated in intensive care units.

Preliminary information indicates that a contaminated liquid docusate product might be related to cases in one state. Until more information is available, the CDC recommends that facilities not use any liquid docusate products for patients who are critically ill, ventilated, or immunosuppressed. Institutions with non-cystic fibrosis (CF) patients in whom there are *B. cepacia* infections should sequester all liquid docusate products. There is no evidence to suggest oral capsules or enemas are affected.

Healthcare providers and laboratories should be on alert for *B. cepacia* cases occurring among non-cystic fibrosis patients and should inform infection prevention staff when these infections occur. Report cases to your local health department and Nicole Hearon, ISDH Healthcare Acquired Infections Epidemiologist, at 317-233-7125 or [nhearon@isdh.in.gov](mailto:nhearon@isdh.in.gov). Please keep culture isolates of non-CF *B. cepacia* complex cases until contacted by ISDH.

#### General Information about *B. cepacia*

*Burkholderia cepacia* is the name for a group or “complex” of bacteria that can be found in soil and water. *B. cepacia* bacteria are often resistant to common antibiotics and pose little medical risk to healthy people. However, people who have certain health problems such as weakened immune systems or chronic lung diseases, particularly cystic fibrosis, are more susceptible to these bacteria. *B. cepacia* is a known cause of infections in hospitalized patients. These infections have occurred primarily in ventilated patients without cystic fibrosis and who are being treated in intensive care units.

For additional information on *B. cepacia* please visit  
<http://www.cdc.gov/HAI/organisms/bCepacia.html>.

For questions, please contact Nicole Hearon, ISDH Healthcare Acquired Infections Epidemiologist, at 317-233-7125 or [nhearon@isdh.in.gov](mailto:nhearon@isdh.in.gov).