

STARK COUNTY INFECTION PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

MONDAY 6/30/25

commdis@starkhealth.org



Measles Awareness

Measles is a common topic of conversation when discussing communicable disease and public health due to the increased number of cases so far in 2025 compared to previous years. While we have not had any cases in Stark County in 2025, it is important to stay prepared for cases. Here are some ways that facilities can prepare and stay up to date on the evolving situation.

1. Know the vaccination status of your staff and residents! You can [use this link](#) to find the definition of immunity for healthcare workers and healthcare setting measles guidance, and [this link](#) for the standard definition of immunity.
2. Review [this CDC website](#) and [this ODH website](#) to stay informed on cases. To view 2025 cases in Stark County, adjust the event start date to 1/1/2025, the reportable condition to measles (select both types in the dropdown), and select Stark for the county.

Please reach out if you have any questions related to measles, we are always happy to help however we can.

SCHD Communicable Disease Team

Training and Education Resources

In this section, we share links to various training and education resources. Each resource shared is important to IPC and picked based on value for time and relevancy to your work. Please share these trainings with others who may be interested.

- [Environmental Cleaning in Healthcare Facilities Webinar](#)
- [Addressing Antimicrobial Resistance Using IPC Practices Webinar](#)
- "Education Stations" Provided by SCHD Communicable Disease Team. Our team will come to your facility to provide education, snacks, and prizes! Contact us at commdis@starkhealth.org to schedule.





IPC Resources

- [This video](#) is an interactive training program featuring a series of individuals in a healthcare setting who missed opportunities to practice IPC and prevent an infection.
- [This landing page](#) provides quick access to information about selected EPA-registered disinfectants.
- [This link](#) takes you to Project Firstline's "How to Read a Disinfectant Label."
- [This APIC page](#) focuses on IP competencies and includes a self-assessment tool to help you identify your own gaps and needs.

Communicable Disease Update

Warmer months mean a shift in the pattern of reported diseases away from respiratory illness and toward foodborne, waterborne, and vector-borne diseases. Most of these don't affect residents of healthcare facilities due to the nature of the exposures (i.e. spending a lot of time outdoors hiking or camping, eating at restaurants, and recreational swimming), though it is important to note that staff may require work exclusion based on symptoms or infection. For example, individuals with Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* (STEC) who provide direct patient care are excluded from work until diarrhea has ceased and after two follow-up stools are negative for STEC. If this happens, the local health department jurisdiction staff reside in should provide documentation of the need for exclusion.

Each year, facilities update their risk assessments and need local tuberculosis data. SCHD has received the official data from the state. You can [find the data you need for risk assessments at this link](#) under the "Tuberculosis Statistics" section. Stark County remains a low-risk community for tuberculosis.

