Health Update:

Update: Febrile Reactions Following Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Procedures

July 14, 2009

This document will be updated as new information becomes available. The current version can always be viewed at http://www.dhss.mo.gov

The Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS) is now using 4 types of documents to provide important information to medical and public health professionals, and to other interested persons:

Health Alerts convey information of the highest level of importance which warrants immediate action or attention from Missouri health providers, emergency responders, public health agencies or the public.

Health Advisories provide important information for a specific incident or situation, including that impacting neighboring states; may not require immediate action.

Health Guidances contain comprehensive information pertaining to a particular disease or condition, and include recommendations, guidelines, etc. endorsed by DHSS.

Health Updates provide new or updated information on an incident or situation; can also provide information to update a previously sent Health Alert, Health Advisory, or Health Guidance; unlikely to require immediate action.

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FROM: **MARGARET T. DONNELLY**
DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: **Update: Febrile Reactions Following Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Procedures**

This is an update to the July 2 Health Advisory "Febrile Reactions Following Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Procedures", which reported the recent occurrence of cases of non-respiratory febrile reactions following gastrointestinal endoscopy procedures. Symptoms, which occurred a few hours after the procedures, were chills, aches, and fever up to 103.5^0F, with fairly quick resolution.

Subsequent investigation by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and other public health agencies (including the St. Louis County Department of Health) has revealed that all affected patients received the anesthetic propofol from 100 mL vials manufactured by Teva Pharmaceutical Industries. Testing conducted by FDA revealed that two lots of this product used in facilities reporting reactions were positive for elevated levels of endotoxin. The lots are 31305429B and 31305430B. Teva Pharmaceuticals is initiating a voluntary recall for these lots, and clinicians are advised to immediately stop using these lots of Teva Pharmaceuticals propofol. CDC, FDA, and Teva Pharmaceutical Industries are continuing to investigate this issue.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) continues to ask medical providers to report any cases of febrile reactions following gastrointestinal endoscopy procedures to DHSS at 800/392-0272 (24/7).

Questions should be directed to DHSS' Bureau of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention at 573/864-5317, or 800/392-0272.