



MARCH 30, 2006

HEALTH ADVISORY

Meningococcal Disease, Cavalier County

On March 30, a probable case of meningococcal disease was reported in a Cavalier County resident. The case, a 17-year-old high school student, is hospitalized in Grand Forks and presented with purpuric rash, fever, and had gram negative intracellular diplococci in the CSF.

The investigation and contact tracing are being conducted by the North Dakota Department of Health and the Cavalier County Health Department. All contacts who are candidates for preventive treatment will be notified by public health. Information regarding the case was sent home with students of Langdon High School today.

The case participated in an indoor track meet at the University of North Dakota campus on March 28. Other track meet participants are NOT at any increased risk of disease; however, as word gets out, parents who have students at other participating schools may have concerns and will be seeking further information. Schools that participated at the track meet are:

- Drayton - St. Thomas Valley - Crystal - Hoople
- Northwood-Hatton
- Cavalier
- Park River
- Larimore
- Thompson
- North Border (Walhalla – Pembina – Nече)
- Langdon – Munich

More information regarding meningococcal infection can be found at www.health.state.nd.us/disease/Documents/faqs/Meningococcal.pdf.

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; no immediate action necessary.*
- *Health Information provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.*

This message is being sent to local public health units, clinics, hospitals, physicians, tribal health, North Dakota Nurses Association, North Dakota Long Term Care Association, North Dakota Healthcare Association, North Dakota Medical Association, North Dakota EMS Association and hospital public information officers.