09-ID-07

Committee: Infectious

Title: Recommendation to remove invasive group A *Streptococcus* (GAS) from the CSTE list of nationally notifiable diseases.

I. Statement of the Problem:

Disease caused by invasive group A *Streptococcus* (GAS) infection can be severe, and sometime life-threatening. About 9,000-11,500 cases of invasive GAS disease occur each year in the United States, resulting in 1,000-1,800 deaths annually. Streptococcal toxic shock syndrome and necrotizing fasciitis each comprise an average of about 6%-7% of these invasive cases. Invasive GAS infections are a significant cause of disease and death in the United States. However, no vaccine against GAS is currently available and effective public health interventions to control invasive GAS infections are currently limited to preventing nosocomial infections and spread among residents of long term care facilities. Current passive surveillance for invasive GAS is thought to be too incomplete to accurately represent the epidemiology of the disease. Because of these factors and the number of invasive GAS infections estimated to occur annually, CDC subject matter experts have recommended removing invasive GAS from the nationally notifiable disease list.

II. Statement of the desired action(s) to be taken:

CSTE requests that CDC remove invasive GAS from the list of nationally notifiable diseases at least until such time as there are more widespread public health interventions related to case reports or FDA approval of a vaccine against GAS becomes imminent.

III. Public Health Impact:

This recommendation will decrease the work load on local and state health departments with minimal impact to their ability to intervene to control GAS disease.

IV. References:

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http://www.cdc.gov/ncphi/disss/nndss/casedef/index.htm Last updated: 2008 Jan 9. Accessed: 2008 Nov 5.

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5. Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE). Revised case definitions for public health surveillance: infectious disease. CSTE position statement 1996-18. Atlanta: CSTE; June 1996. Available from: http://www.cste.org.

6. Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE). CSTE official list of nationally notifiable conditions. CSTE position statement 07-EC-02. Atlanta: CSTE; June 2007. Available from: http://www.cste.org.

7. Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE). Criteria for inclusion of conditions on CSTE nationally notifiable condition list and for categorization as immediately or routinely notifiable. CSTE position statement 08-EC-02. Atlanta: CSTE; June 2008. Available from: http://www.cste.org.

8. Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE). Data Release Guidelines of the Council of State & Territorial Epidemiologists for the National Public Health System. Atlanta: CSTE; June 1996.

9. Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CDC-CSTE Intergovernmental Data Release Guidelines Working Group (DRGWG) Report: CDC-ATSDR Data Release Guidelines and Procedures for Re-release of State-Provided Data. Atlanta: CSTE; 2005. Available from: http://www.cste.org/pdffiles/2005/drgwgreport.pdf or http://www.cdc.gov/od/foia/policies/drgwg.pdf.

10. Heymann DL, editor. Control of communicable diseases manual. 18th edition. Washington: American Public Health Association; 2004.

V. Coordination:

Agencies for Response:

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