

Infectious Insights

Tracking trends. Sharing knowledge. Supporting healthier communities.
April 2026



What's Happening This Quarter

May is Lyme Disease Awareness Month

- Lyme disease, caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*, is the most common tick-borne disease in Michigan. Cases in Michigan have **increased up to 168% in the last five years.**
- Signs and symptoms of lyme disease usually present 1-2 weeks after a tick bite, or being in a wooded area where ticks are common.
- Early symptoms tend to be non-specific, including fever or chills, rash, headache, fatigue, or muscle aches. Rashes are not always the typical "Bull's-eye" rash. Early treatment with appropriate antibiotics can decrease serious side effects.



Chippewa County By the Numbers*

Communicable Disease	Number of Cases*
Campylobacter	1
Salmonellosis	1
Varicella (Chickenpox)	0
Measles	0
Pertussis (Whooping cough)	0
Lyme Disease	0
Active Tuberculosis (TB)	0
Latent Tuberculosis (TB)	1
Influenza/ Flu-like Disease	350
Covid-19	94
Hepatitis C**	4
Chlamydia	9
Gonorrhea	1

*Preliminary data from 1/1/26 - 3/31/26

**Newly identified Hepatitis C cases, does not include those living with chronic Hepatitis C

Meningococcal B (MenB) Vaccines

MenB vaccination is recommended for those **ages 16-23**, based on shared clinical decision-making. The preferred age for vaccination is 16-18.

Several colleges and universities encourage MenB vaccination before a student can live on campus, making this a great time of year to start the series.

MenB is a **two dose series** given 6 months apart.

There are two brands of MenB vaccines: Bexsero and Trumemba. The are NOT interchangeable. A series must be started and completed with the same brand.



Contact Us

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Hepatitis C Treatment

National Hepatitis Screening Day is Tuesday May 19, 2026.

Chippewa County Health Department provides Hepatitis C testing and treatment. **All adults, regardless of risk, should be tested at least once in their lifetime.**

Referrals for treatment can be faxed to 906-259-0280 or call 906-630-3015.

Measles

Measles cases continue to rise nationwide. The best prevention is a completed series of the MMR vaccine.

Stay up-to-date on measles in Michigan here: www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/adult-child-serv/childrenfamilies/immunizations/measlesupdates

STI Awareness Week

STI Awareness Week, observed April 12-18 2026, provides a chance to raise awareness about sexually transmitted infections (STIs). This week also allows people to have the tools and information they need for prevention, testing, and treatment.

National and state trends show a decrease of chlamydia and gonorrhea. However, there is an increase of syphilis, especially among women of child-bearing age and among newborns (congenital syphilis).

CCHD offers free condoms, HIV PrEP medication appointments, as well as testing and treatment for chlamydia, gonorrhea, trichomoniasis, syphilis, HIV, and hepatitis C. All low-cost to free. All sexual health services at CCHD are confidential and for all ages, teen to adult. Clients can call 635-3577 to schedule or walk-in.

