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SUBJECT: Febrile Reactions Following Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Procedures

Brief Summary of Report: As of 7/2/2009, twenty-two (22) nonrespiratory febrile reactions following gastrointestinal endoscopy have been reported to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS). The nonrespiratory febrile reactions have occurred a few hours after procedures. Reported cases (n = 22) occurred on or after 6/19.

Description: DHSS is working with local health departments to collect reports of nonrespiratory febrile reactions beginning one to three hours after gastrointestinal endoscopy procedures. Reported cases occurred on or after June 19, 2009. Symptoms reported thus far are chills, aches, and fever up to 103.5 degrees Fahrenheit, with fairly quick resolution. Health care staff are reminded to read and follow label instructions for products used in these procedures, including limiting use of large vial anesthetics to one patient if so instructed.

DHSS is requesting information from facilities and providers of endoscopy procedures who may have identified similar cases. Report any such cases or clusters to the State Epidemiologist, sarah.patrick@dhss.mo.gov; (573) 301-8828 (including nights, weekends, and holidays).

Date First Case Ill: 06/19/2009
Cause/Agent: Unknown
Setting: Health Care Facilities
Location: Undetermined geographic scope at this time.

Additional Reading:
http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/122217683/abstract