

Health Alert Network (HAN) — May 23, 2023



For more information, please contact:
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Outbreak of Suspected Fungal Meningitis in U.S. Patients who Underwent Surgical Procedures under Epidural Anesthesia in Matamoros, Mexico

Good afternoon —

The Jackson County Health Department's Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program would like to bring your attention to a recent Health Alert Network (HAN) Official CDC Health Advisory, which notifies clinicians and public health authorities of an outbreak of suspected fungal meningitis in U.S. patients who underwent surgical procedures under epidural anesthesia in Matamoros, Mexico.

[The Full Health Advisory Can Be Read Here](#) - The key points covered in the update are as follows:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is issuing this Health Alert Network Health Advisory about an outbreak of suspected fungal meningitis among U.S. patients hospitalized in Texas after undergoing cosmetic procedures under epidural anesthesia in the city of Matamoros, state of Tamaulipas, Mexico. It is currently unknown which organism(s) is causing the outbreak. A fungal etiology is suspected based on elevated cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) levels of the fungal biomarker (1,3)-beta-D-glucan in at least one patient.
- As of May 12, 2023, five patients have been diagnosed with suspected fungal meningitis; all have been hospitalized, and one has died.
- All these patients received epidural anesthesia and underwent cosmetic procedures. Affected patients underwent procedures in at least two clinics in Matamoros, Mexico, including River Side Surgical Center and Clinica K-3. Other facilities might be identified through further investigation.

Recommendations for Healthcare Providers, Clinical Laboratories and the Public can be found here:

<https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2023/han00491.asp>

Healthcare providers should **immediately report** suspected fungal meningitis cases, including those possibly related to this outbreak, to Jackson County Health Department Communicable Disease by

Phone: 816-404-9898

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Health Advisory- provides important information for a specific incident or situation; contains recommendations or actionable items to be performed by public health officials, laboratorians, and/or clinicians; may not require immediate action.

Health Update- provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

HAN Info Service- provides general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.

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The Jackson County Health Department's mission is to offer services, provide programs and advocate for policies so that all people have a fair and just opportunity to be healthy. Find more information about how the health department is fostering a community where all people can live their healthiest lives at jaco hd.org.

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