

**Emergency Rule**  
LSA Document #08-738(E)

**DIGEST**

Temporarily adds rules to require the reporting of severe cases of Staphylococcus aureus infection in a previously healthy person to the department. Authority: [IC 4-22-2-37.1](#); [IC 16-19-3-4](#); [IC 16-41-1-2](#). Effective September 29, 2008.

**SECTION 1. The definitions in this document apply throughout this document.**

**SECTION 2. "Commissioner" means the state health commissioner or authorized officers, employees, or agents of the department.**

**SECTION 3. "Department" means the Indiana state department of health.**

**SECTION 4. "Local health officer" means the county/city health officer or authorized officers, employees, or agents of the county/city health department.**

**SECTION 5. "Previously healthy person" means a person who has not been hospitalized or had surgery, dialysis, or residency in a long-term care facility in the past year and did not have an indwelling catheter or percutaneous medical device at the time of culture.**

**SECTION 6. "Severe Staphylococcus aureus infection" means a Staphylococcus aureus infection of a previously healthy person that results in death or admission to an intensive care unit.**

**SECTION 7. It shall be the duty of each:**

**(1) physician licensed under [IC 25-22.5](#); and**

**(2) administrator of a hospital licensed under [IC 16-21](#), or the administrator's representative;**

**to report all cases of severe Staphylococcus aureus infection in a previously healthy person. Reporting of specimen results by a laboratory to health officials does not nullify the physician's or administrator's obligations to report said case.**

**SECTION 8. The report required by SECTION 7 of this document shall be made to the local health officer in whose jurisdiction the patient normally resides or, in the absence of such information, in whose jurisdiction the patient was examined at the time the diagnosis was made or suspected. If the patient is a resident of a different jurisdiction, the local health jurisdiction receiving the report shall forward the report to the local health jurisdiction where the patient resides. If the patient is not a resident of Indiana, the report shall be forwarded to the department. If a person who is required to report is unable to make a report to the local health officer within the time mandated by SECTION 10 of this document, a report shall be made directly to the department within the time mandated by SECTION 10 of this document.**

**SECTION 9. The report required by SECTION 7 of this document shall, at a minimum, include the following:**

**(1) The patient's:**

**(A) Full name.**

**(B) Street address.**

**(C) City.**

**(D) Zip code.**

**(E) County of residence.**

**(F) Telephone number.**

**(G) Date of birth or age, if date of birth is not available.**

**(H) Sex.**

**(I) Race and ethnicity, if available.**

**(2) Date of onset.**

**(3) Diagnosis.**

**(4) Definitive diagnostic test results.**

**(5) The name, address, and telephone number of the attending physician.**

**(6) Other epidemiologically necessary information requested by the local health officer or the**

commissioner.

(7) The name, address, and telephone number of the person completing report.

SECTION 10. Reports required by SECTION 7 of this document shall be reported immediately to the local health officer by telephone or other instantaneous means of communication on first knowledge or suspicion of diagnosis. During evening, weekend, and holiday hours, those required to report should report to the after-hours duty officer locally, or, if one has not been designated locally, those required to report shall file their reports with the after-hours duty officer at the department at (317) 233-1325 or (317) 233-8115.

SECTION 11. Failure to report constitutes a Class A infraction as specified by [IC 16-41-2-8](#).

SECTION 12. All information obtained pursuant to this document is confidential as specified by [IC 16-41-8-1](#).

SECTION 13. SECTIONS 1 through 12 of this document take effect September 29, 2008.

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