

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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COMMUNICABLE DISEASE UNIT

PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

To: All Healthcare Providers

From: Arnold Leff, MD, Interim Health Officer County of Santa Cruz

Date: August 1, 2016

Subject: Cryptosporidiosis cases associated with Simpkins Swim Center

INFORMATION

After receiving lab results of two individuals diagnosed with Cryptosporidiosis and conducting public health investigations, it is suspected the Simpkins Swim Center pools may have been contaminated. As a result, the pools have been closed and treated with an extremely high concentration of chlorine known to kill the organism because standard levels of chlorine used in swimming pools and hot tubs may not kill Cryptosporidium (also known as Crypto).

Symptoms of Crypto infection can begin 2 to 12 days after ingesting the parasite. Watery diarrhea is the most common symptom. Other symptoms include stomach cramps or pains, nausea, vomiting, fever, weight loss, dehydration.

For more information about Cryptosporidiosis: http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HEALTHINFO/DISCOND/Pages/Cryptosporidiosis.aspx

Santa Cruz County health care providers are requested to do the following:

- 1. Be alert for cases of Cryptosporidiosis.
- 2. Collect stool samples and request specific testing for the parasite.
- Immediately report suspect and confirmed cases to the Communicable Disease Unit Mon-Fri 8-5, call (831) 454-4114 or Fax: (831) 454-5049
 After hours, call (831) 471-1170 and ask for the Health Officer.
 Forms and Instructions for reporting are available at: www.SantaCruzHealth.org/CDUnit



Santa Cruz County

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

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