



# BUG BITES

A monthly publication from the Infectious Disease (ID) department

MONTHLY INFECTIOUS DISEASE NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE - MEASLES, BACTERURIA, VANCOMYCIN

## MEASLES OUTBREAK

From January 1 to June 16, 2018, **93** people from 19 states (including CA) have already been reported to have measles. The majority of these people were unvaccinated. Measles is highly contagious ~ 90% of susceptible individuals will develop measles if exposed. This ongoing outbreak is very concerning, since measles elimination was documented in the US in the year 2000. Measles can cause a variety of symptoms from fever and rash, to severe life threatening pneumonia, blindness, encephalopathy, neurologic deficits and death. If you were not vaccinated/exposed as a child, please remember to get vaccinated now or check your titers for immunity!

## ASYMPTOMATIC BACTERURIA

Please do not check a urinalysis if the patient is able to tell you that they have no urinary symptoms. Often urine is colonized with bacteria and a positive urine culture does not always equal a urine infection. There are only a few scenarios in asymptomatic bacteruria when antibiotics are indicated such as pregnancy, urologic intervention, & renal transplant recipients. Another situation may be if the patient is unable to communicate their symptoms and urine infection may explain their acute issues.

## Question of the Month

How many people in the U.S. die each year due to resistant infections?

Each year in the United States, at least 2 million people become infected with bacteria that are resistant to antibiotics and at least 23,000 people die each year.

## Did you know?

Vancomycin dosing is now officially operated by our amazing Pharmacy department! Ordering providers must still review the necessity of Vancomycin, specify the goal trough, and be intimately involved in ensuring no other nephrotoxic medications are ordered at the same time.

