

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 2, 2014

## Ontario County Reports Laboratory Confirmed Enterovirus D68

Hopewell, NY, October 2, 2014 - Ontario County Public Health has been notified of a laboratory-confirmed case of enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) in an adult residing in the county. The affected individual has a history of asthma and is recovering.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has reported widespread circulation of D68 across the United States including recent cases in Western New York. A laboratory confirmed case in Ontario County is not unexpected. Enterovirus D68 causes symptoms very similar to a cold or influenza. They can be mild, moderate, or severe. People with EV-D68 may have body aches, runny nose, cough, sore throat, fatigue and in some cases fever. Most people who get EV-D68 recover on their own. Children and those with asthma are at increased risk for more severe illness.

People can help protect themselves from respiratory illnesses by washing their hands with soap and water, avoiding close contact with sick people, and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces. Individuals with asthma should take their routine medications as directed and get their flu shot. If residents are concerned about how they are feeling, they should contact their healthcare provider.

Clinicians should consider EV-D68 as a possible cause of severe respiratory illness, particularly in children, and report unusual increases in the numbers of patients with severe respiratory illness to their health department.

Ontario County Public Health is in frequent contact with the New York State Department of Health, area hospitals, physicians, and schools regarding illness in our community. Additional information and guidance concerning EV-D68 will be communicated as it becomes available.

More information can be found at [www.co.ontario.ny.us](http://www.co.ontario.ny.us), [www.health.ny.gov](http://www.health.ny.gov), and [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

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