

Meningitis outbreak toll: 119 cases, 11 deaths

October 9 2012, by Mike Stobbe

(AP)—The number of people sickened by a deadly meningitis outbreak has now reached 119 cases, including 11 deaths.

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) updated the count on Tuesday.

New Jersey is the 10th state to report at least one illness. The other states involved in the outbreak are Tennessee, Michigan, Virginia, Indiana, Florida, Maryland, Minnesota, North Carolina and Ohio.

Officials have tied the outbreak of rare [fungal meningitis](#) to steroid shots for [back pain](#). The steroid was made by a specialty pharmacy in Massachusetts. At least one contaminated vial was found at the company.

The company recalled the steroid that was sent to clinics in 23 states, and later recalled everything it makes.

More information: CDC:
www.cdc.gov/HAI/outbreaks/meningitis.html

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