

Acute respiratory illness due to EV-D68 increased in late summer 2022

September 30 2022



In late summer 2022, for children and adolescents, there was an increase

in acute respiratory illness (ARI) resulting from enterovirus (EV)-D68 in the United States, according to research published in the Sept. 27 early-release issue of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

Kevin C. Ma, Ph.D., from the CDC in Atlanta, and colleagues analyzed [surveillance data](#) from multiple national data sources to characterize reported trends in ARI, asthma/reactive airway disease (RAD) exacerbations, and the percentage of positive rhinovirus (RV)/EV and EV-D68 test results during 2022.

In late summer 2022, the researchers identified an increase in emergency department visits by children and adolescents with ARI and asthma/RAD. During this time, there was an increase in the percentage of positive RV/EV test results in national laboratory-based surveillance and in the percentage of positive EV-D68 test results in pediatric sentinel surveillance.

"Clinicians are advised to consider EV-D68 as a possible cause of severe respiratory illness in children and adolescents, particularly those with wheezing or who require respiratory support," the authors write. "Past increases in EV-D68 circulation were also associated with increased reports of acute flaccid myelitis. Providers should have a high index of clinical suspicion for [acute flaccid myelitis](#) in patients with acute flaccid limb weakness, neurologic signs and symptoms, or neck or back pain who have a recent history of respiratory illness or fever."

More information: [Abstract/Full Text](#)

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Citation: Acute respiratory illness due to EV-D68 increased in late summer 2022 (2022,

September 30) retrieved 26 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2022-09-acute-respiratory-illness-due-ev-d68.html>

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