

4-3-03

Kane County Health Department Update on Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)

Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is now reporting five Illinois residents who meet the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) definition of a suspected case of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

There are no suspect cases in Kane County.

The CDC case definition has been updated to the following:

Suspected Case:

Respiratory illness of unknown etiology with onset since February 1, 2003, and the following criteria:

- Measured temperature 100.5 F (>38 C) AND
 - One or more clinical findings of respiratory illness (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, hypoxia, or radiographic findings of either pneumonia or acute respiratory distress

 - Travel within 10 days of onset of symptoms to an area with documented or suspected community transmission of SARS (see list below; excludes areas with secondary cases limited to healthcare workers or direct household contacts)
- OR**
- Close contact* within 10 days of onset of symptoms with either a person with a respiratory illness who traveled to a SARS area or a person known to be a suspect SARS case.

***Close contact** is defined as having cared for, having lived with, or having direct contact with respiratory secretions and/or body fluids of a patient known to be a suspect SARS case.

Areas with documented or suspected community transmission of SARS:

Peoples' Republic of China (i.e., mainland China and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region); Hanoi, Vietnam; and Singapore

For more information go to the website of the Centers for Disease Control

www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/