

FACT SHEET

Disease Surveillance and Investigation in Chester County

The Chester County Health Department promotes the protection of public health through daily surveillance of many diseases, and conducts investigations when warranted.

How is the health of the County monitored?

Hospitals, physician offices, ambulance services, and other healthcare providers are on the front line for identification of patients that might be experiencing symptoms of a communicable disease. Such providers are required to report symptoms and confirmed cases of numerous communicable diseases to the Chester County Health Department (see [Rules and Regulations](#)).

Additionally, the Chester County Health Department conducts daily surveillance of on a variety of factors that impact the County's overall health, including communicable disease symptoms and cases. The Health Department uses state and federal data systems as well as input from healthcare providers to establish an overall view of the health of the County.

What happens when a health concern is identified?

When a concern has been identified, the County Health Department partners with regional and state health departments to share information to better understand the scope of the concern and determine courses of action. Primary goals include the identification of symptoms, the source of the concern and mitigation steps to reduce the spread of the concern. When applicable, information and instructions specific to the concern are disseminated to the healthcare community, the emergency management community, and/or the general public.

The needs and actions required after identification of a potential area of concern can vary widely depending on the concern and the trends seen throughout the region, state, and country. Specific actions needed at the municipal, county, or state level are dictated by the situation.

For more information visit the [Chester County Health Department's website](#), or contact our Disease Investigation Specialists at 610-344-6452.



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Chester County Commissioners