Campylobacteriosis

Campylobacteriosis is caused by a Gram-negative bacterium. It is characterized by acute onset of diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fever and malaise. Campylobacteriosis is the most common bacterial enteric infection reported. It is of worldwide epidemiologic importance due to the fecal-oral route of infection and the extensive reservoir of the organism in both wild and domestic animals.

Children aged 0-4 years have the highest rates of illness. Infections occur year-round in Oregon, with peak incidence in the summer months. Campylobacteriosis is not nationally reportable. Rates are highest in Malheur and Harney counties.

Most illnesses are sporadic, but outbreaks may be associated with undercooked meat (often chicken), unpasteurized milk, direct contact with animals or non-chlorinated water. Since 1998, eight outbreaks of campylobacteriosis have been investigated: three foodborne, two waterborne, two from animal contact, and one of unknown etiology. Proper food handling and water treatment, along with good hygienic practices (hand washing!) are the keys to prevention.
Incidence of campylobacteriosis by age and sex: Oregon, 2009


Not a nationally notifiable disease.
Chlamydiosis

*Chlamydia trachomatis* is Oregon’s most commonly reported infection. In 2009, there were 11,497 cases reported for a rate of 303.3 cases per 100,000 population. Compared to 2008 this is an increase of 635 cases (5.8%). The highest rates of infection in 2009 were observed in females aged 15-19 followed closely by females aged 20-24. As with gonorrhea and syphilis, chlamydial infections are transmitted by vaginal, rectal and oral sexual contact. Chlamydiosis may be prevented by abstaining from sexual contact or only having sex with one uninfected sex partner. Those who are sexually active outside of a mutually monogamous relationship can lower their risks of infection by using a condom when engaging in sexual activity.

Chlamydial infections are likely to be silent, with neither men nor women having symptoms. However, reproductive health complications, especially among women, may lead to infertility and an increased risk of tubal pregnancy.