

EPI SCOPE

Florida
HEALTH

YOUR QUARTERLY DOSE OF DISEASE AWARENESS



ABOUT EPI SCOPE

Epi Scope is a quarterly newsletter published by the Florida Department of Health in Seminole County, one of 67 county health departments in Florida that achieved statewide accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board. The Florida Department of Health works to protect, promote, and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county, and community efforts. The purpose of this newsletter is to relay epidemiological information, including current events, health alerts, guidelines, and surveillance data to health care partners and the general community. Reportable disease surveillance data that are included in this report are provisional as of the time the newsletter issue is published and is subject to change. For the latest reportable disease data, visit FLHealthCharts.gov.

If you have questions, contact DiseaseControlSeminole@FLHealth.gov. Do not send any confidential information by email.

Notifiable disease reporting should not be emailed. For required reporting, call 407-665-3243 (afterhours: 407-665-3000, option 1).

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Hurricane Preparedness

Inonge Kaloustian, MHS

Hurricane season officially began on June 1, and runs through November 30. Ensure that your emergency plan is up-to-date to protect safety and health during a disaster.

Some of the epidemiologic areas of concern during hurricane season include carbon monoxide poisoning from generator use, enteric illnesses due to spoiled food and water, arboviral illnesses, and exacerbation of ongoing medical conditions. With preparation, the risk of these issues can be minimized.



Helpful Tips

- Never use generators indoors, do not use gas ovens to heat your home, and do not leave a car or generator running in the garage, even with the door open.



- With no power, food will stay safe to consume in a refrigerator for up to four hours and in a full-size freezer for up to 48 hours. Avoid foodborne illness – when in doubt, throw it out.



- If you have a medical condition, plan ahead as much as possible to ensure your medical needs are not interrupted during an emergency event.

County Health Department Role

The Florida Department of Health in Seminole County (DOH-Seminole) plays a large role in hurricane preparation and response activities. Before the hurricane, we work to ensure all necessary functions are still operable during the storm in order to assist residents. Many resources are directed toward the hurricane shelters which are open to residents who need to evacuate and are free of charge. For residents who require additional medical support beyond a general shelter, DOH-Seminole operates Special Needs Shelters. Residents should be accompanied by a caretaker at all times at the Special Needs Shelters. After the hurricane is over, post-surveillance measures increase to minimize health impacts from the storm.

For information about hurricane preparedness and resources, visit [Seminole.FloridaHealth.gov/Prepare](https://www.seminole.floridahealth.gov/prepare).

RABIES

Madison Fausnaugh, MPH

Rabies virus is a neurotropic virus of the Lyssavirus family, found in the brain, cerebrospinal fluid, tears, and saliva of infected mammals. Humans are exposed when virus enters an open wound or comes into contact with infected mucus membranes. Learn more at [Seminole.FloridaHealth.gov/Rabies](https://www.seminole.floridahealth.gov/rabies).

Let's Talk About RABIES



Rabies Exposure Risks

- Bites or scratches from unknown animals or wildlife.
- Contact or possible contact with a bat:
 - Bites or scratches from bats may not be easily recognized.
 - Some bat rabies variants may have increased capacity to replicate in epithelial cells, suggesting that virus inoculation is possible following a relatively minor skin wound.
 - Any situation where a bat is physically present and the possibility of a bite exposure or mucus membrane contact is reasonably certain, post exposure prophylaxis should be given unless capture and testing of the bat excludes rabies.
- Cases involving children, persons of limited recall, or presence of bats in a sleeping area must be considered for possible exposure.

Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)

For possible rabies exposures, follow the guidelines on [Seminole.FloridaHealth.gov/Rabies](https://www.seminole.floridahealth.gov/rabies).

Neither rabies vaccine, nor rabies immunoglobulin should be administered in the gluteal muscles.

WHEN IN DOUBT- REACH OUT

DOH-Seminole Epidemiology:

- 407-665-3243 during business hours
- 407-665-3000 option 1 after hours

Low Risk

Livestock, rodents, owned dogs and owned cats:

- If the bite animal can be observed for 10 days following the incident (14 for livestock), rabies PEP is NOT warranted.
- A bite report should be sent to Seminole County Animal Services for all dog and cat exposures.
- If the dog/cat cannot be confirmed alive and well on day 10 following the incident (day 14 for livestock), rabies PEP should be considered.

Medium Risk

Stray cats or unvaccinated cats:

- If the bite animal appeared healthy and can be observed for 10 days following the incident, rabies PEP is NOT warranted.
- If the animal displayed abnormal symptoms, appeared unkempt, or is unlikely to be found/identifiable for 10 days, rabies PEP is warranted.

High Risk

Wildlife, including bat exposures that do not leave a bite or scratch

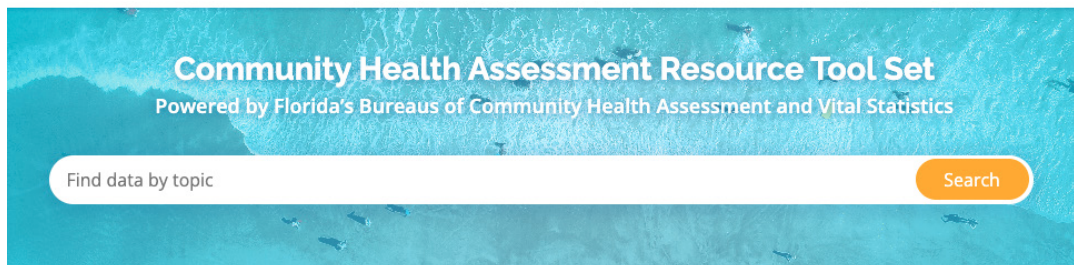
- Rabies PEP is almost always warranted.

SEMINOLE COUNTY QUARTERLY SURVEILLANCE DATA APRIL- JUNE 2026

To review Seminole County's quarterly surveillance data, visit FLHealthCharts.com and the [Reportable Diseases Frequency Report](#).

Confirmed and probable cases of select notifiable diseases as per 64D-3, Florida Administrative Code.

FLHealthCHARTS



HEALTH ALERTS AND ADVISORIES

View the latest health alerts and advisories at Seminole.FloridaHealth.Gov/News.

For any questions, contact DiseaseControlSeminole@FLHealth.gov, or call 407-665-3243, option 1.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Florida Department of Health, Disease Reporting and Surveillance](#)

[Florida Department of Health in Seminole County](#)

Data Sets: [Florida Health CHARTS \(FL CHARTS\)](#) • [Agency for Health Care Administration](#)

Disease Reporting Resources

Disease Reporting Forms: [Practitioners](#) • [Laboratories](#)

[Food and Waterborne Illness Complaint Form](#)

Health Alerts and Advisories

[CDC Travel Health Notices](#)

[FDA Food Recalls](#)

[CDC Health Alert Network](#)

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN SEMINOLE COUNTY

Locations

Main Office

400 W Airport Blvd., Sanford, FL 32773
407-665-3000

Environmental Health

130 San Carlos Ave., Sanford, FL 32773

WIC Satellite Office

132 Sausalito Blvd., Casselberry, FL 32707

Leadership and Public Information

Ethan Johnson, Dr.PH, MPH

Health Officer

Ana Scuteri, MPH

Assistant County Health Department Director

LaTasha Scott APRN, FNP-BC

Executive Community Health Nursing Director

Meena Joseph, MD

Medical Director

Thomas Kellis, FCCM

Administrative Services Director

Mirna Chamorro

Public Information Officer

Disease Reporting

Epidemiology Program

407-665-3243

Fax: 407-665-6055

After Hours Urgent Disease Reporting

407-665-3000 option 1

Tuberculosis Program

407-665-3243

Fax: 407-665-3279

STD Program

407-665-3384

Fax: 407-845-3295

HIV/AIDS Program

407-723-5065

Fax: 407-858-5985

Agency Programs

Asthma Education and Prevention:

407-665-3032

Birth and Death

Certificates:

407-665-3226

Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention

407-665-3185

Dental Care

407-665-3346

Diabetes Prevention

407-665-3235

Environmental Health

407-665-3604

Epidemiology and Surveillance

407-665-3243

Fall Prevention Program

407-665-3028

Family Planning

407-665-3700

Financial Eligibility

407-665-3700

Florida Healthy Babies

407-665-3064

Health Promotion and Education

407-665-3379

HIV/AIDS Services

407-665-3371

HIV PEP/NPEP

407-665-3371

HIV PrEP

407-665-3690

Immunizations

407-665-3281

Insulin Distribution

407-665-3700

Mobile Health Services

407-665-3026

Public Health

Preparedness

407-665-3311

Refugee Health

407-665-3243

School Health

407-665-3433

School Physicals

407-665-3700

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

407-665-3700

Teen Clinic

407-665-3700

Tobacco Prevention

407-665-3278

Tuberculosis

407-665-3243

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

407-665-3705

Disease Reporting

Epi Scope Editor

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