October 4, 2012

To: Marin Medical Providers

From: Craig A Lindquist, MD PhD
Interim Public Health Officer
Medical Director HHS

///// PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY /////

Dear Colleagues;

Earlier today, the Marin Department of Health & Human Services was updated by State health officials concerning an outbreak of fungal meningitis scattered across a multi-state region. The Center for Disease Control has identified 35 cases of suspected/confirmed cases of fungal meningitis in patients who had recently received injections of methyl prednisolone acetate from three lots of drug produced by single manufacturer, New England Compounding Center. Three health jurisdictions in California have received shipments of methyl prednisolone acetate from this manufacturer. None of these shipments involved Marin providers/faculties.

Health practitioners are nonetheless advised to be alert to patients presenting with symptoms of meningitis with a history of recent steroid injection. Suspect cases matching this history should be reported to State and Local Health Departments.

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