



BELL COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATION

Lanier Center

(254) 773-4457 • Fax (254) 773-7535

P.O. Box 3745 • Temple, Texas 76505-3745

June 16, 2010

Dear Bell County Physicians,

This letter is to inform you that there has been a recent increase in Shigella infections in Bell County. The increase in cases is primarily in Killeen and Ft Hood, however, Shigella cases have been confirmed throughout Bell County. In our region, McLennan County is also currently seeing a rise in Shigella cases. The majority of cases have occurred in children age 10 and under.

Letters have been sent from our office to all schools/daycares/camps in Bell County with information concerning infection control measures. In addition, all Bell County schools/daycares/camps are distributing the attached Shigella information letter to parents of their program participants.

Please remind the parents of children with Shigella that the child must not return to school/daycare/camp until 24 hours after the cessation of diarrhea. In addition, recreational swimming is restricted until 1 week after the cessation of diarrhea. This includes swimming in pools, lakes, and rivers, and also includes shallow water play areas such as kiddie pools or splash areas.

The attached information letter is for distribution to parents of children with Shigella.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Bell County Public Health District at 254-773-4457.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lisa Cornelius".

Lisa Cornelius, MD, MPH
Health Authority
Bell County Public Health District