



Scott Harris, M.D., M.P.H.
STATE HEALTH OFFICER

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL TO REBECCA PIERCE@xqu5@cdc.gov

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road
Atlanta, GA 30329

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Letter of Support to Extend Coordination of Multi-state Adverse Events Investigation

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) continues to be concerned about the reports of serious adverse events, including deaths, following receipt of the antibiotic ceftriaxone, first identified in Alabama in December 2024. Historically, serious adverse events following ceftriaxone have been extremely rare. As of mid-January, ADPH was aware of 11 adverse events reported following ceftriaxone use. The etiology of these events is unclear, but the clustered nature of the reports is troubling.

Given this concerning rise in reports of serious adverse events following ceftriaxone, ADPH strongly supported a centrally coordinated centrally coordinated multi-jurisdictional investigation of adverse events following ceftriaxone reported to state, local, and territorial health departments in the U.S. from September 2024 to present. **As case reporting is still ongoing, ADPH supports an extension of this multi-jurisdictional coordinated investigation**, which will provide information to public health jurisdictions regarding key epidemiologic characteristics of events reported at the national level and establish whether there are links to specific medical products or medication administration practices.

This approach will streamline and strengthen the response and support rapid identification of common adverse event presentations and exposures, as opposed to multiple jurisdictional investigations independently addressing serious adverse event reports.

ADPH would continue to retain ownership of and is responsible for all data collected within their respective jurisdiction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sherri Davidson".

Sherri Davidson, Ph.D., M.P.H.
State Epidemiologist
Office of Informatics & Data Analytics, Director

SD/SJ

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