



# Department of Public Health



**MAYOR**  
Oscar Leeser

## **HEALTH ADVISORY**

**DATE:** May 8, 2023

**CITY COUNCIL**

**District 1**  
Peter Svarzbein

**District 2**  
Alexandra Anello

**District 3**  
Cassandra Hernandez

**District 4**  
Joe Molinar

**District 5**  
Isabel Salcido

**District 6**  
Claudia L. Rodriguez

**District 7**  
Henry Rivera

**District 8**  
Cissy Lizarraga

**CITY MANAGER**  
Tommy Gonzalez

## **Reportable and Unusual Conditions due to Migrant Surge**

This advisory is posted on the City of El Paso Department of Public Health (DPH) website found at [www.ephealth.com](http://www.ephealth.com) (under Healthcare Providers).

### **Background Information:**

The Public Health Emergency invoked under Title 42 is set to end on May 11, 2023 and a surge of migrants is expected on the borderland. The Office of Emergency Management is expecting migrants to be released from custody to shelters and to other areas of the city; however, many more migrants are expected to enter the country illegally and may seek assistance from shelters.

Congregate settings such as shelters pose a high risk for the spread of infectious diseases leading to outbreaks. The Department of Public Health (DPH) has been working closely with shelters providing support to migrants and is conducting active surveillance for early detection of any notifiable condition and unusual disease patterns that may affect the shelters and our community.

Recently, we have been receiving reports of Chickenpox, TB, infestations and other conditions such as Sexually Transmitted Illnesses (STI) among migrants receiving assistance at shelters. With the influx of migrants, the majority from Latin America, DPH is expecting to have individuals affected by conditions of Public Health importance not commonly found in our community.

**Hector I. Ocaranza, MD, - Interim Director/Health Authority**  
Department of Public Health | 5115 El Paso Dr. | El Paso, TX 79905  
O: (915) 212-0200 | [ephealth.com](http://ephealth.com)





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**Actions Requested from Medical Providers:**

- Report to the DPH Epidemiology Division at (915) 212-6520 any Reportable Condition or unusual disease patterns identified while providing medical care.
- Consider a broader differential diagnosis on migrant patients and obtain detailed sexual and travel histories of those patients.
- DPH Epidemiology Division can assist in providing recommendations and facilitate the submission of samples for any of the Reportable Conditions.
- If you suspect or confirm a communicable disease, please call DPH Epidemiology Division at (915) 212-6520 to report the condition before discharging the patient to a shelter.

**DPH Epidemiology Division**  
**(915) 212-6520**  
**Epireporting@elpasotexas.gov**

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