



PUBLIC FACT SHEET

HANTAVIRUS PULMONARY SYNDROME

What is Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome?

This is a serious and often deadly disease of the lungs. It spread by rats and mice and found mostly in the western United States.

How is Hantavirus spread?

People can become infected through;

- Contact with droppings from infected rats and mice
- Breathing in the virus particles from the urine, droppings or saliva from infected rats and mice
- Bites from infected rats or mice
- It is not usually spread from person to person

What are possible symptoms?

- Fever (101-104 F)
- Headache
- Stomach pain
- Joint pain
- Lower back pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Shortness of breath.

How is Hantavirus diagnosed?

Through blood tests.

What is the treatment for Hantavirus?

There is no cure or vaccine for this disease. If symptoms appear, contact your doctor and be sure to tell him/her if you have had any contact with rats or mice

How can it be prevented?

The virus, which can survive in the air and on surfaces, can be killed by most household cleaners, such as bleach or alcohol.

For more information on Hantavirus:

Ottawa County Health Department
www.miOttawa.org
Center for Disease Control and Prevention
(Enter CDC Website Here)
Phone: (888) 246-2675