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Staff Report
Page 1 of 1

Ada County whooping cough cases up in 2017

The Central District Health Department is warning health care providers in Ada County to be on alert for a rise in whooping cough cases.

Health care officials say whooping cough cases, also known as pertussis, have increased in recent months compared to last year. In the last three months, 14 pertussis cases were reported in Ada County. That's twice the number compared to the same time last year.

Most cases are in kids and young adults between 13 and 20 years old. One-quarter are in adults 40 and older. Some people had been vaccinated against pertussis and showed a milder cough than the traditional "whoop" that so many recognize. That's why health care providers are urged to test all instances of a cough, according to a news release from St. Luke's.

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