



DATE: May 2003

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TO: Trauma Coordinators, Infection Control Practitioners, Emergency Room Physicians and Pertinent Medical Personnel

FROM: The Houston Department of Health and Human Services

SUBJECT: Heat-Related Illness Surveillance 2003

During the summer of 2002, Harris County experienced 4 heat-related deaths. Heat related deaths are preventable. The Houston Department of Health and Human Services (HDHHS) goal for 2003 is no deaths due to hot weather conditions.

HDHHS needs your help in our annual surveillance of heat-related illness from June through October 2003. Please report the name, date of birth, address, occupation, phone number, diagnosis, and illness circumstances of cases treated to the HDHHS Bureau of Epidemiology by fax or phone (numbers listed above). For your convenience, the following are included with this Health Alert (please make copies as needed or contact the number above for reprints):

- Heat-Related Illness Report Form
- Heat Precautions/Precauciones para las Altas Temperaturas

Your cooperation will help HDHHS in assessing the burden of heat-related illness in our area and help provide necessary preventive measures to combat it. Please contact the HDHHS Bureau of Epidemiology at the above number should you have questions regarding heat-related illness.