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CATEGORY: Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity (ELC)

The Texas Department of State Health Services Public Health Region 11 learned of a child with probable infectious disease who had crossed the Mexico/U.S. border. Health department staff, the Binational Health Council/COBINA, and CDC were able to leverage their existing collaborative relationship to reach the probable case and plan for any appropriate disease prevention activities.

## The “What”

Mexican authorities were informed that a [child with probable infectious disease](#) and their family had left a migrants' shelter in Reynosa, Tamaulipas and crossed the United States border into Texas. The Mexican authorities then notified the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Public Health Region (PHR) 11 of this probable case.

DSHS staff, including a Binational Border Infectious Disease Surveillance Program (BIDS) epidemiologist who receive funding through the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for the Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases (ELC) cooperative agreement contacted partners to begin a case investigation to learn more about the probable case and [develop a plan to implement disease control measures](#), as appropriate.



## The “So What”


DSHS PHR 11 staff were able to collaborate with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, Texas PHR 11, and Hidalgo County on this report. When meeting at the Brownsville/Matamoros binational health council/COBINA, Mexico partners shared that they had contacted the family and the child had recovered. Binational health council/COBINA meetings and the BIDS epidemiologist were integral parts of this notification process.

## The “Now What”

The PHR 11 BIDS epidemiologist will continue to facilitate timely reporting of binational cases and outbreaks, with border jurisdictions, states, and federal partners. This will remain consistent with local protocols, International Health Regulations, and Binational Case Reporting Standards for BIDS. PHR 11 will continue to collaborate with all partners in an effective way to address any future situations.

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