

# Multistate Outbreaks of *Burkholderia Cepacia* Complex Infections Due to Contaminated Medical Products

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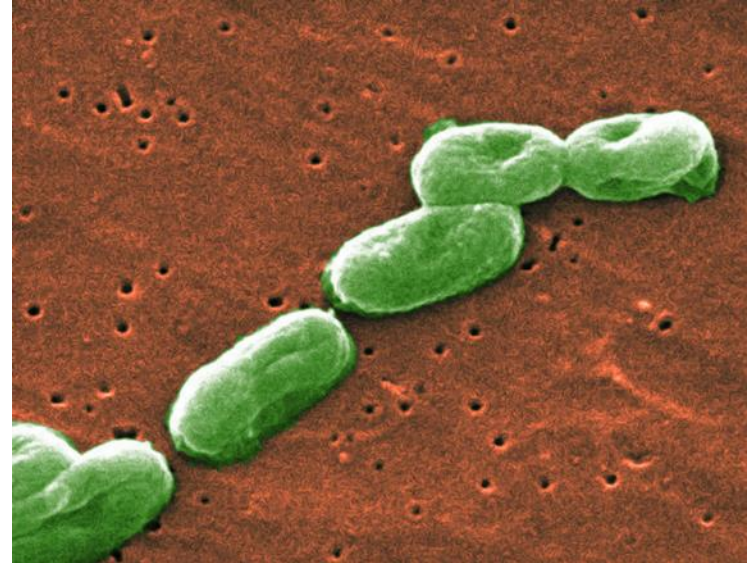
Division of Health Care Quality Promotion

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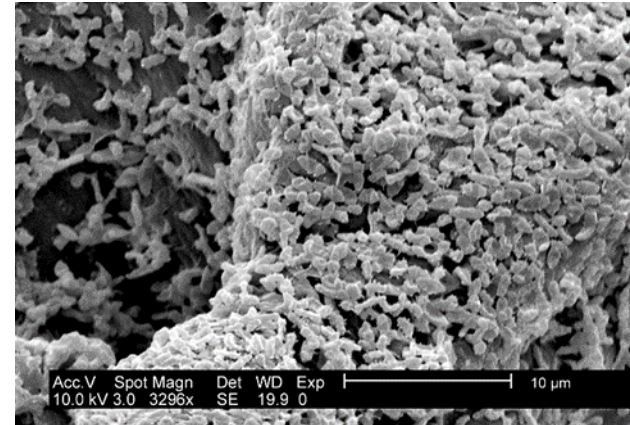
# *Burkholderia cepacia* complex

- Group of gram negative rod bacteria
- Complex contains many species
- Ubiquitous in soil and water
- Colonize and cause pulmonary infections in cystic fibrosis patients
- Can cause healthcare-associated infections



# Characteristics of *Burkholderia cepacia* complex

- Transmissible person to person or from environmental source
- Biofilm formation in water systems
- Intrinsic antimicrobial and preservative resistance
- Outbreaks associated with aqueous products



# Initial Notifications

- CDC notified by TX Department of State Health Services afternoon of 5/3/2016
  - 15 cases of *Burholderia cepacia* complex (Bcc) in ICU patients at a pediatric hospital over 2 month period
  - Did not have cystic fibrosis
  - Various sites of infection: respiratory (majority), blood, urine
- Followed by notification from IL Department of Public Health on the morning of 5/4/2016
  - 4 cases of Bcc in ICU patients at a pediatric hospital over 1 month period
  - Did not have cystic fibrosis
  - Various sites of infection: respiratory (majority), blood, wound

# Molecular Comparison

- Both hospitals had submitted isolates to Burkholderia Research Laboratory at the University of Michigan
- Isolates found to be indistinguishable by box PCR
  - Within each facility
  - Across the two facilities in different regions of the country
- Previously undescribed species within the Bcc

# Initial Actions

- Notified FDA
- Began looking for common exposures across facilities
- Additional case/cluster finding
  - Became aware of a 3<sup>rd</sup> facility in CA that was also having a cluster of Bcc in pediatric critically ill patients
- Obtained isolates from the 3 facilities
  - Isolates across facilities found to be indistinguishable by pulsed field gel electrophoresis (PFGE)
- CDC issued a national call for clusters initially focusing on clusters of Bcc in non-cystic fibrosis pediatric ICU patients

# Developments

- Notified of a cluster in an adult ICU
  - PFGE also showed the Bcc outbreak strain
- Second PFGE pattern emerged
  - Different from the primary pattern but was seen in multiple states
  - Patterns were labeled Pattern A and Pattern B
- Continued to be notified of additional clusters
- Coordinated with state and local health departments
  - Obtained exposure information
  - Facilitated isolate submission to the CDC Clinical and Environmental Microbiology Laboratory

# Investigating Exposures

- Patient care products
  - Oral care
  - Skin care
- Ventilator Products
  - Circuits
  - Sterile water for inhalation
  - Humidifiers
- Common procedures
- Medications
  - Inhaled medications
  - Intranasal
  - Oral medications





# Liquid Docusate

- TX facility sent products and medications to reference laboratory for culture
- On 6/24/16 liquid docusate produced by PharmaTech and distributed by Rugby tested positive for Bcc
- CDC confirmed culture findings
- Isolate indistinguishable from outbreak strain by PFGE
- CDC issued a nationwide health alert recommending facilities immediately suspend use of all oral liquid docusate

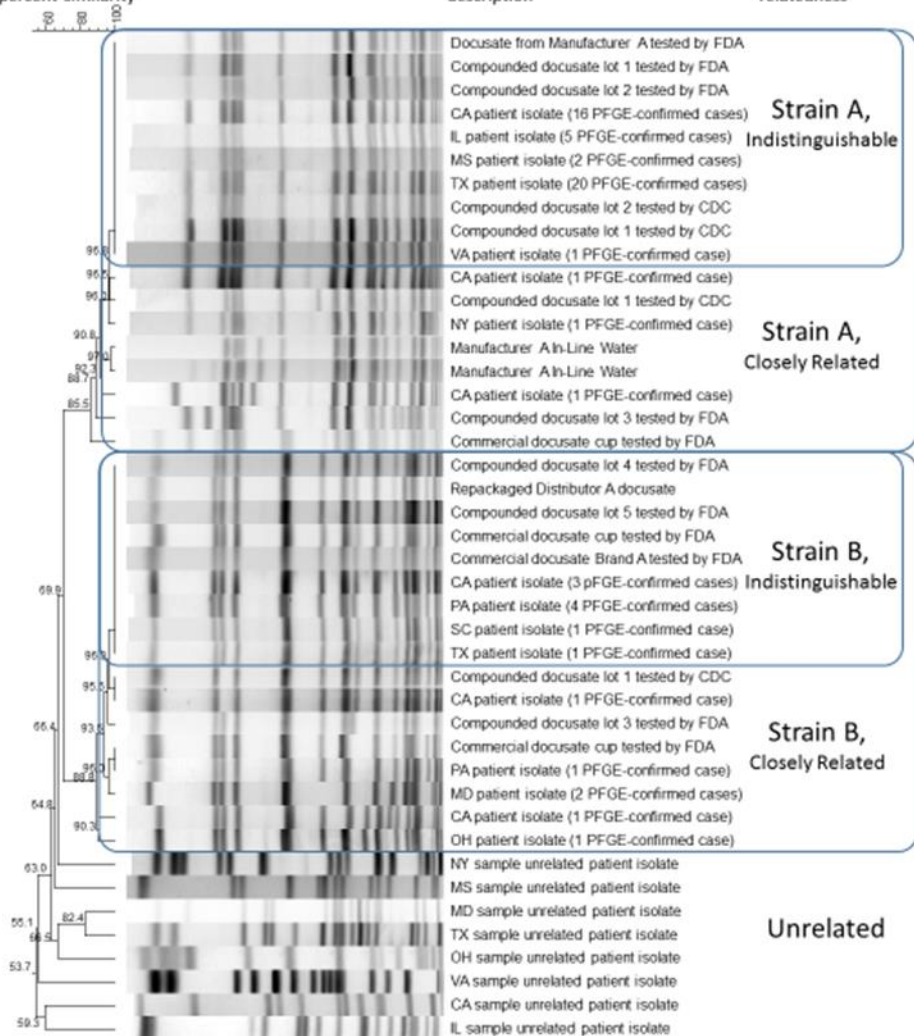
# Case Definition

- Confirmed: Clinical culture of Bcc indistinguishable or closely related to one of the outbreak strains by molecular typing methods collected from a patient on or after 1/1/2016.
- Suspect: Clinical culture yielding Bcc of an unknown strain type, at a facility known to have at least one confirmed case, or with known exposure to recalled liquid docusate, obtained on or after 1/1/2016.

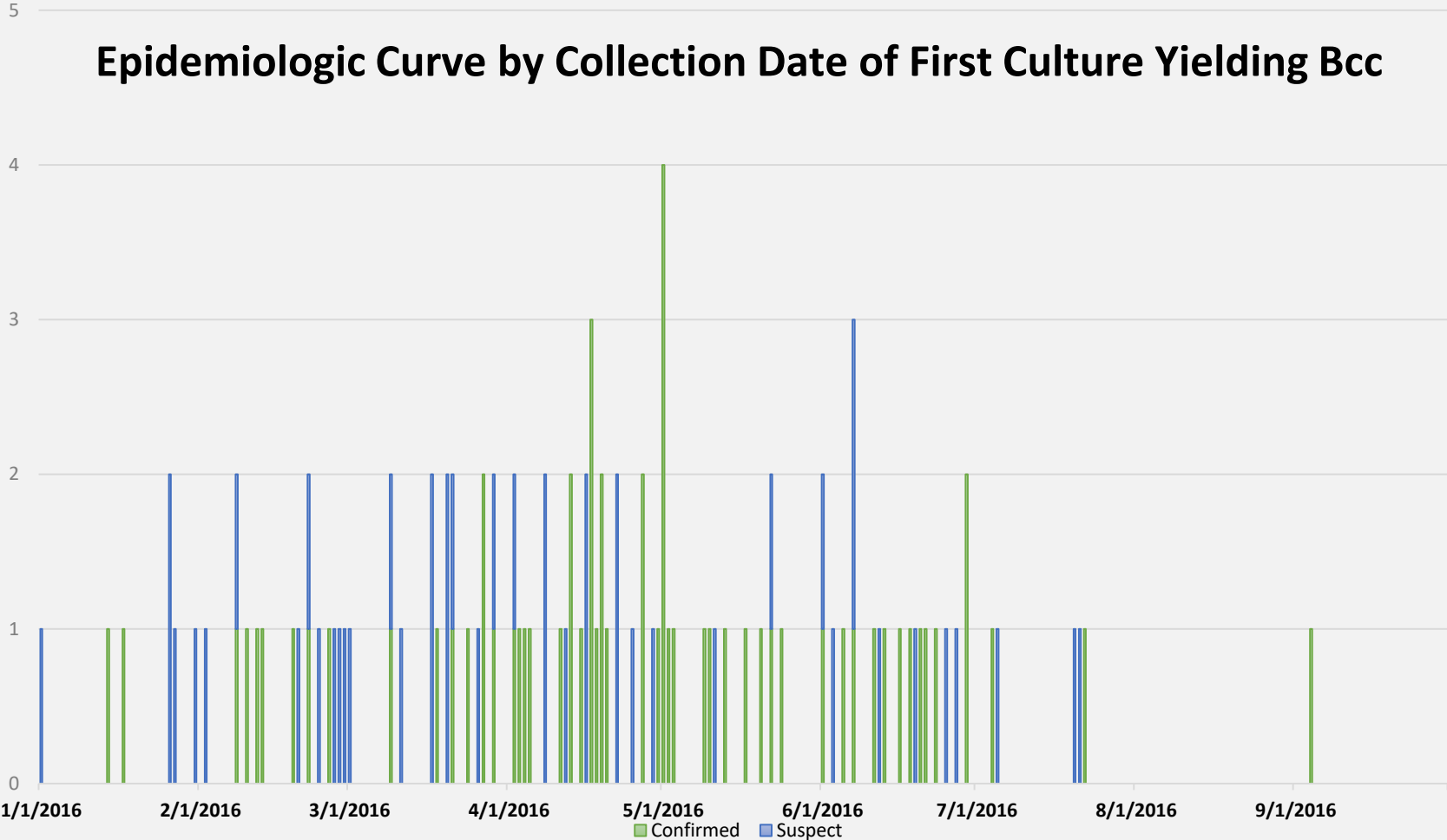
# Product Recall

- FDA performed on-site inspection at PharmaTech
- Additional samples collected for culture
- FDA cultures grew Bcc from multiple lots
  - Product isolates identified which were indistinguishable from clinical isolates with Pattern A and Pattern B
  - In-line water sample from PharmaTech also tested positive for Bcc
- PharmaTech issued voluntary recall :
  - Liquid docusate products 7/14/16
  - All liquid products 8/8/16

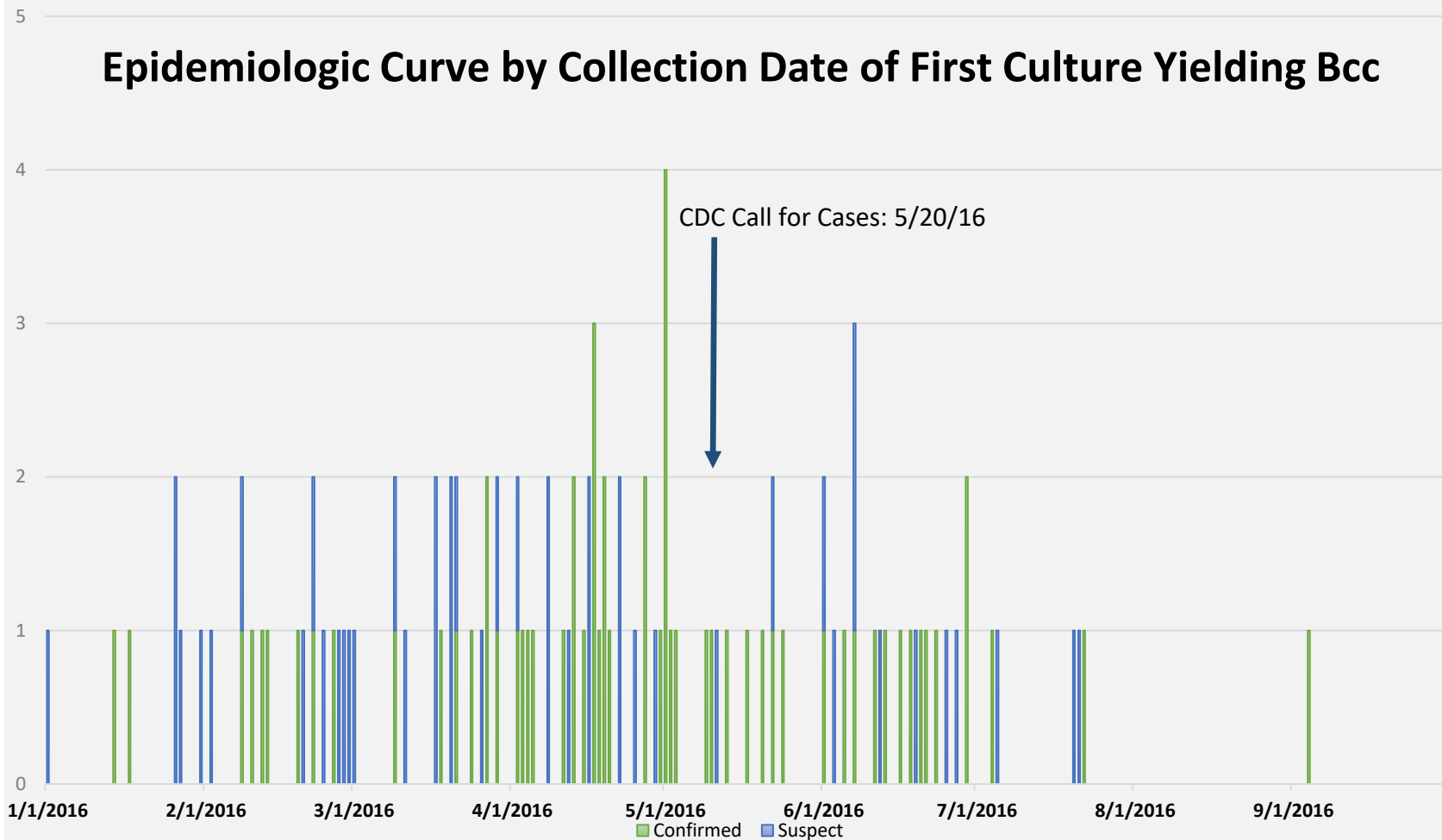
# PFGE Results



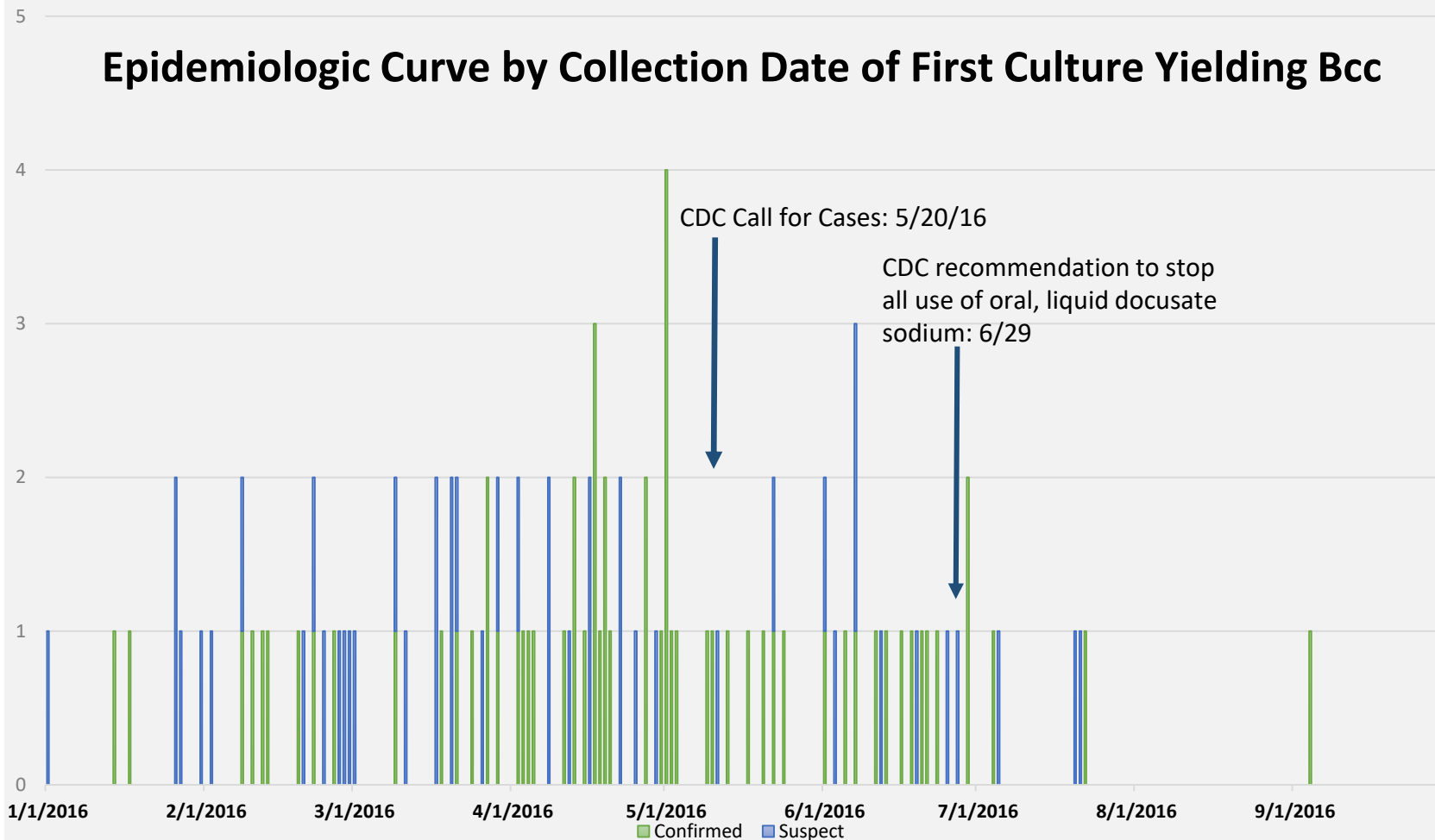
# Epidemiologic Curve by Collection Date of First Culture Yielding Bcc



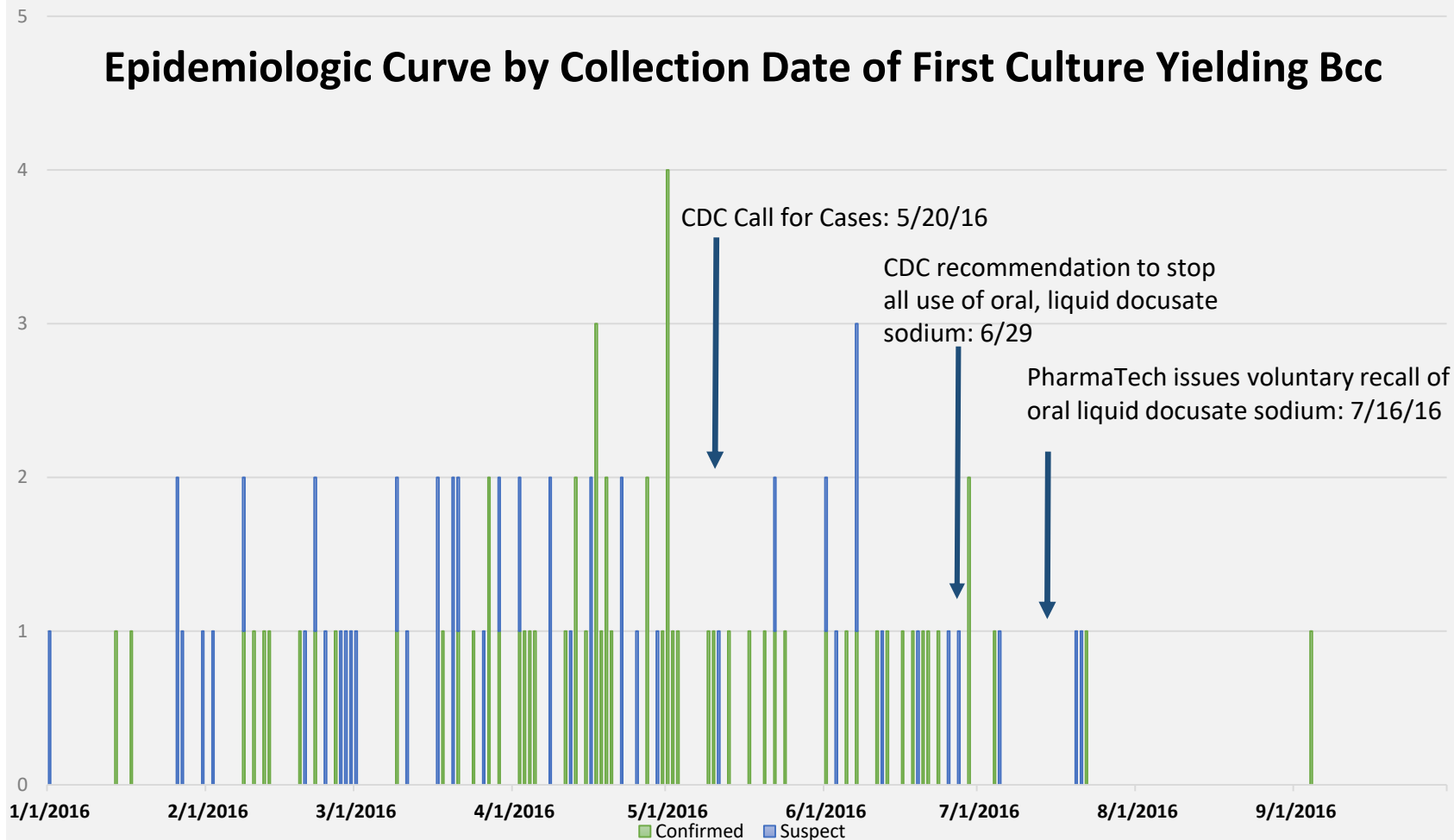
# Epidemiologic Curve by Collection Date of First Culture Yielding Bcc



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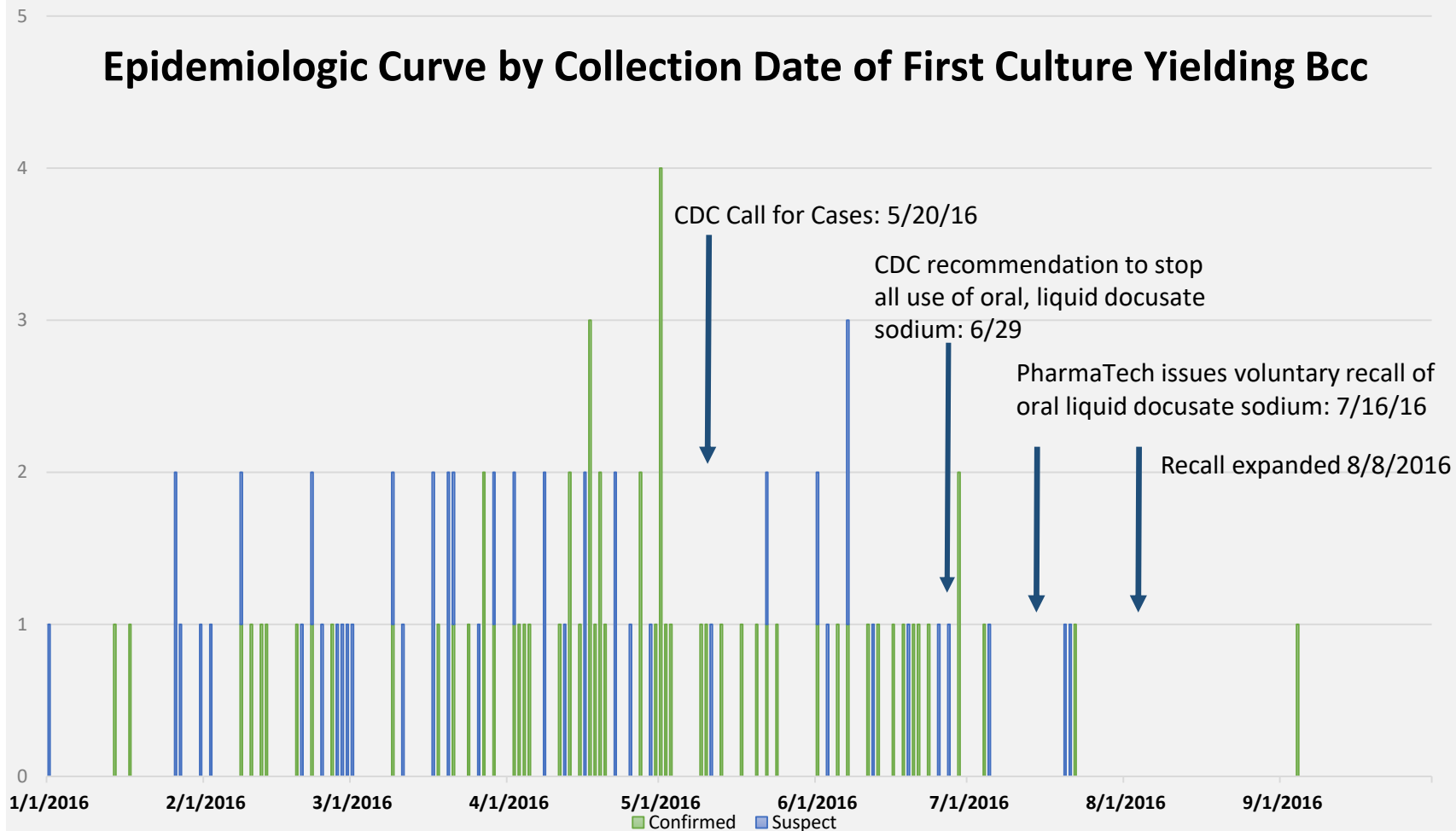


# Epidemiologic Curve by Collection Date of First Culture Yielding Bcc





# Epidemiologic Curve by Collection Date of First Culture Yielding Bcc



# Total Cases

- Received >300 reports of positive cultures from 31 states
- CDC laboratory performed PFGE on over 100 clinical isolates
- 62 confirmed cases from 10 states
  - 48 cases indistinguishable or closely related to Pattern A
  - 14 cases indistinguishable or closely related to Pattern B
- 46 suspect cases which included 1 additional state

## **Outbreak #2**

# The Call...

- On February 16, 2018 the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) contacted CDC to report 6 cases of Bcc infections among non-cystic fibrosis patients from an acute care hospital
  - Sites of infection included urine (1), peritoneal fluid (2), wounds (2), and sputum (1) from November 16, 2017 and January 30, 2018

## The second call...

- On March 7, 2018 the California Department of Public Health contacted CDC to report 8 cases of Bcc infections urine (6), and sputum (2) from 12/26/17 to 2/12/2018 among non-cystic fibrosis patients from an acute care hospital
- On follow up PA DOH reported 4 additional patients from the same facility with urine cultures positive for Bcc

# Multiple Clusters in Different States

- Initial consultations focused on infection control practices particularly near water sources
- Reports from two facilities in different states increased concern for a contaminated product
- 2<sup>nd</sup> group of cases in PA were all urine cultures as were the majority of the CA cases
- The PA DOH sent clinical isolates to the *B cepacia* reference laboratory at the University of Michigan
  - Identified the species as *B cenocepacia*
  - Clinical isolates were identical or closely related by box-PCR

# Identification of a Source

- PA hospital performed cultures on multiple common products
  - On March 13, reported a culture of a bottle of Remedy Essentials No Rinse Foam was positive for Bcc
  - The next day PA DOH collected multiple samples of the product
  - Eight of fifteen bottles collected positive for Bcc at state public health laboratory



# Product Investigation

- FDA notified of contaminated product
  - Product regulated as a cosmetic by FDA
  - Used for skin and perineal care for patients unable to shower or bath
- CA DPH notified of contaminated product
- Investigation by LA County DPH identified that their facility also used Remedy Essentials No Rinse Foam



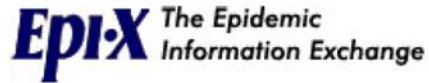
# Product Recall

- Samples of product in sealed boxes collected by FDA
- Samples of unused products in open boxes were sent to CDC
- Three different lots of the product were culture positive for *B. cenocepacia*
- On March 28, the manufacturer issued a voluntary recall of the 3 contaminated lots



# Call for Cases

March 28, 2018



## Burkholderia cepacia complex Infections Associated with Use of Medline Remedy Essentials No-Rinse Foam -- 2018

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Brief Summary of Report: CDC is providing support to state and local health departments in the investigation of two clusters of *Burkholderia cepacia* complex (Bcc) infections at two acute care hospitals in Pennsylvania and California occurring between November 2017 and March 2018.

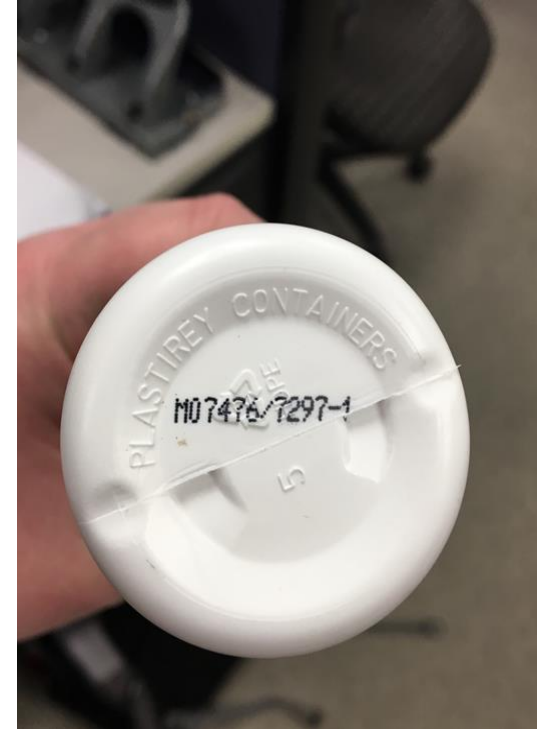
Description: CDC is providing support to state and local health departments in the investigation of two clusters of *Burkholderia cepacia* complex (Bcc) infections at two acute care hospitals in Pennsylvania and California

# Case Definitions

- Confirmed Case:
  - A patient's first culture collected on or after November 1, 2017, yielding Bcc matching or closely related to an outbreak strain by molecular typing
  
- Probable Case:
  - A patient's first culture collected on or after November 1, 2017, yielding Bcc with unknown or pending strain type, and collected from a patient who received care at a facility utilizing aqueous product from a master lot manufactured at Bocchi Laboratories which has tested positive for Bcc

# Exposure Data Collection

- Collected information on exposure to product and lots
  - Unable to know what lot(s) an individual patient was exposed to directly
  - Had to rely on what lots were in the facility at time of positive culture
  - Some facilities only knew what lot(s) were in the facility when they sequestered the product

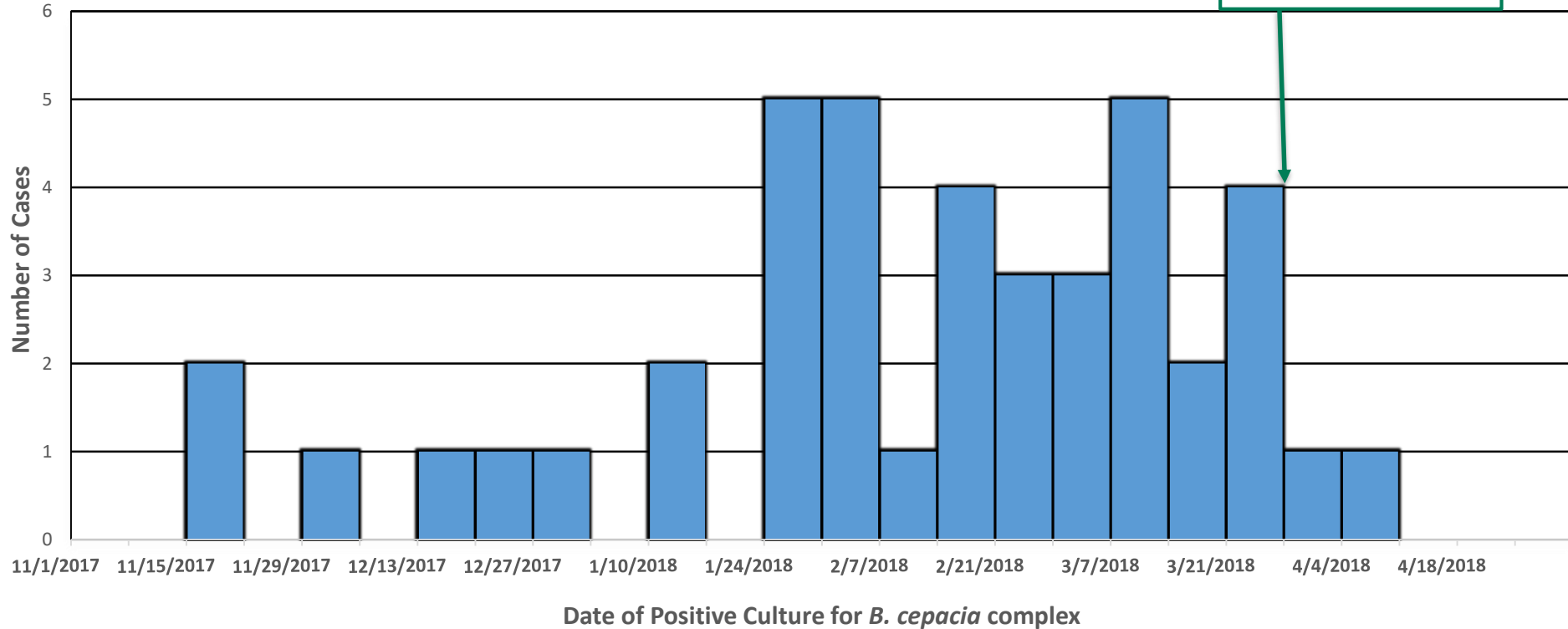


# Cases and Culture Sites

- Identified 17 confirmed and 31 probable cases
- Involved 13 hospitals in 6 states
- Culture site reported for 43 of 48 cases
  - Urogenital tract – 27 (63%)
  - Respiratory tract – 9 (21%)
  - Bloodstream – 4 (9%)
  - Wound – 4 (9%)
  - Peritoneum – 3 (7%)
- Four patients had multiple positive culture sites



## *B. cepacia* complex cases by Culture Date, 2017-2018



\*42 cases had culture dates available

# PFGE Results

Percent similarity	CDC Lab #	State	Description	Relatedness
50				
100				
	2018-13-10		Cleanser, No-rinse foam Lot# M05703/7235-3	Indistinguishable
	2018-13-12		Cleanser, No-rinseFoam	
	2018-13-34-01		Cleanser, No-rinse foam Lot# M06691/7260-3	
	2018-13-47-01		Cleanser, No-rinse foam Lot#M07247/7270-3	
	2018-13-61-01		Cleanser, No-rinse foamLot#M07247/7271-3	
	2018-13-77		Cleanser, No-rinseFoam Lot#M06691/7256-1	
	2018-13-83	CA	Urine isolate	
	2018-13-94	CA	Urine isolate	
	FDA in silico 222		No-rinse Foam Cleanser, Lot#M06691/7255-1	Multi-State Outbreak Cluster Closely Related Patterns (0-3 bands different)
97.3	2018-13-01	PA	Abscess isolate	
	2018-13-03	PA	Tissue isolate	
	2018-13-35-01		Cleanser, No-rinse foam Lot# M06691/7257-2	
	2018-13-36-01		Cleanser, No-rinse foamLot# M06691/7260-3	
99.1	2018-13-96	PA	Urine isolate	
	FDA in silico 221		No-rinse Foam Cleanser, Lot#M06691/7255-1	
	2018-13-105	CA	Urine isolate	
	FDA in silico 209		No-rinse Foam Cleanser, Lot#M06691/7255-1	

# Expanded Recall

- On May 8, 2018 manufacturer issued an expanded voluntary recall
  - Products produced on the same line as the contaminated product
  - Included an additional lot of lot of Remedy Essentials No Rinse Foam
- The site also manufactured several products regulated as over the counter medications
  - Investigated by a separate group at FDA
  - Over the counter medications were also recalled
- No additional lots or other products tested positive for Bcc at either FDA or CDC



# Conclusions

- Demonstrates the importance of timely reporting of unusual clusters of illness and coordinated public health investigation
- Bcc is a problematic pathogen in healthcare due to environmental persistence and ability to contaminate aqueous solutions
- Clusters of Bcc infections in multiple facilities can suggest possible product contamination
- Contamination of aqueous medical products, including hygiene products, can lead to infections among susceptible patients
- Aqueous medical products should be considered as a potential source of Bcc outbreaks in healthcare settings

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## FL DOH

- Nychie Dotson

For more information, contact CDC  
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



# Questions?

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