

CMV Awareness Month, 2016

Written by Ashleigh Balog

Thursday, 02 June 2016 12:32 - Last Updated Thursday, 02 June 2016 13:11

CMV Awareness Month - June 2016

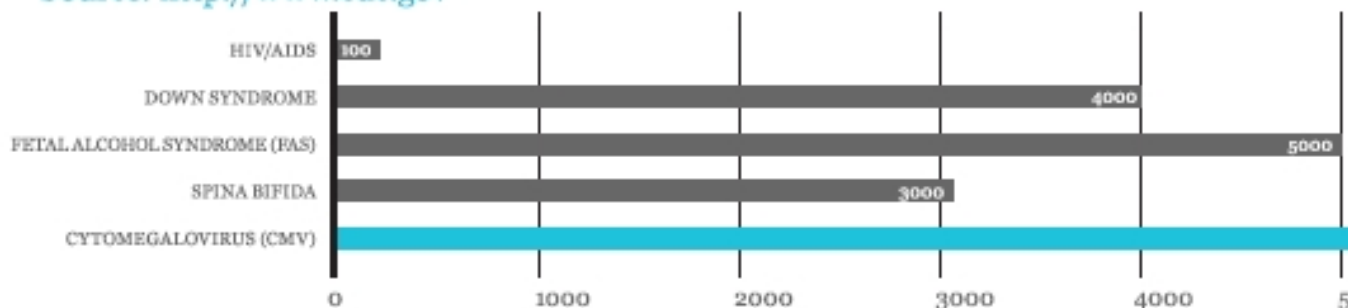
On Tuesday (May 31), the Board of County Commissioners approved a proclamation recognizing June, 2016 to be CMV Awareness Month.

Cytomegalovirus, commonly referred to as CMV, is a member of the herpesvirus family. It is common and typically harmless to the general population - between 50 and 80 percent of people in the United States have had a CMV infection before the age of 40. Once CMV is in a person's body, it stays there for life. CMV is the most common viral infection that infants are born with in the United States. Approximately 1-4 percent of uninfected women have a primary (or first) CMV infection during a pregnancy, and about 40 percent of women who become infected with CMV for the first time during pregnancy pass the virus to their babies (quoted from nationalcmv.org). For more information about CMV, visit the NationalCMV.org website.

A 2010 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) survey reported that only 13% of OB/GYNs were aware of prevention measures against the transmission of CMV (cytomegalovirus), and very few were aware of prevention measures against the transmission of CMV. The College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) and the CDC recommend that OB/GYNs provide counseling on basic prevention measures to guard against CMV infection, but only 44% of OB/GYNs provide their patients about preventing CMV, according to a 2007 survey.

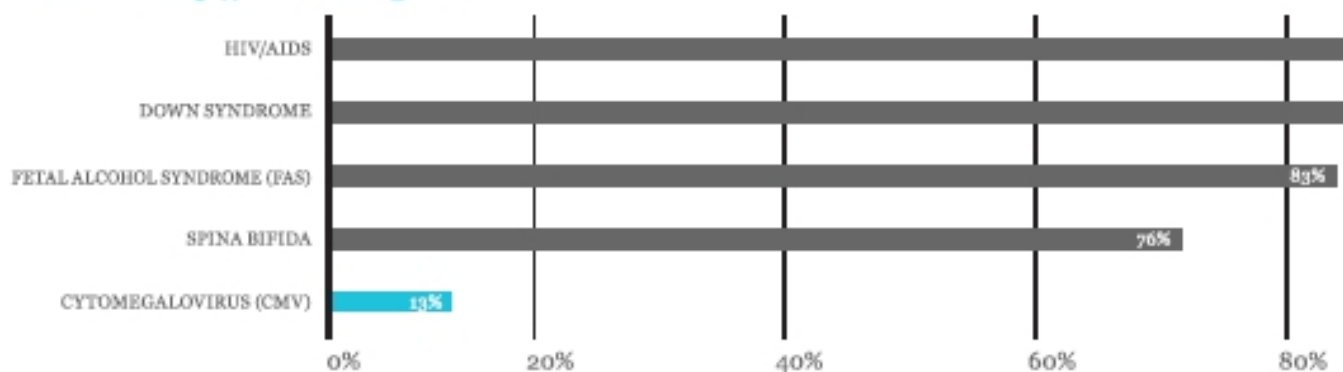
US CHILDREN BORN WITH OR DEVELOPING LONG-TERM MEDICAL CONDITIONS EACH YEAR

Source: <http://www.cdc.gov>



WOMEN'S AWARENESS OF CONDITIONS AFFECTING CHILDREN

Source: <http://www.cdc.gov>



PREVENTING CMV AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN

CMV is a very common virus in young children, and it is estimated that up to 70% of healthy children between 1 and 3 years of age may have CMV.

Simple steps to prevent exposure to saliva and urine might contain CMV:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 15-20 seconds, especially after changing a diaper, feeding a young child, wiping a young child's nose or drool, and handling children's toys.
- Do not share food, drinks, or eating utensils with young children.
- Do not put a child's pacifier in your mouth.
- Do not share a toothbrush with a young child.
- Avoid contact with saliva when kissing a child.

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