

FRED UPTON, MICHIGAN  
CHAIRMAN

HENRY A. WAXMAN, CALIFORNIA  
RANKING MEMBER

ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS  
**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE  
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-2927  
Minority (202) 225-3641

October 9, 2012

Thomas R. Frieden, MD, MPH  
Director  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
1600 Clifton Road  
Atlanta, GA 30333

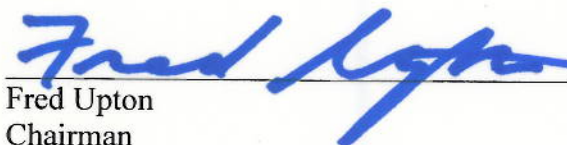
Dear Director Frieden:


Pursuant to Rules X and XI of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Committee is examining the facts surrounding the recent outbreak of fungal meningitis linked to contaminated spinal steroid injections. Federal officials have linked the steroid solution at issue with the New England Compounding Center in Framingham, Massachusetts.

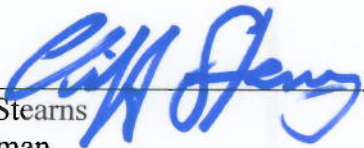
On October 8, 2012, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced that eight people have died and over one hundred people have been sickened across nine states. CDC also confirmed that the number of confirmed cases may rise in the coming weeks given that thousands of patients may have been exposed.

The Committee has a long bipartisan history of conducting drug safety oversight and is very concerned about these recent developments. We intend to learn more from the FDA, CDC, and others who may provide insight into the details surrounding this outbreak and the prevention of future outbreaks. Please contact John Stone of the Committee staff at (202) 225-2927 to schedule a briefing to discuss CDC's ongoing efforts in response to this tragedy. This briefing should occur no later than October 12, 2012.

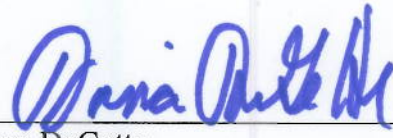
Sincerely,

  
Fred Upton  
Chairman

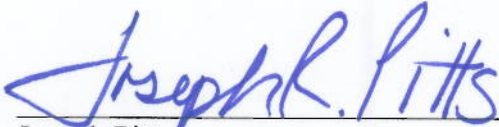
  
Henry A. Waxman  
Ranking Member



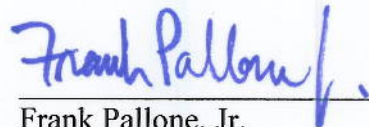
Cliff Stearns  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations



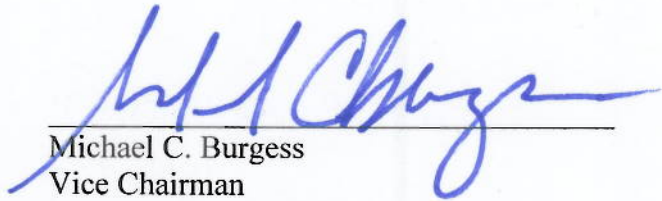
Diana DeGette  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations



Joseph Pitts  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Health



Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Health



Michael C. Burgess  
Vice Chairman  
Subcommittee on Health