

WISCONSIN CHILDHOOD COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat

Disease Name (aka, causative agent)	Spread By	Incubation Period Time from exposure to symptoms	Signs and Symptoms	Time Period When Person is Contagious	Criteria for Exclusion from School or Group
Cold Sores (Herpes simplex virus)	Direct contact with open sores or saliva	2 days to 2 weeks	Fever, irritability, blisters (in mouth, on gums or lips), conjunctivitis, keratitis	2-7 weeks after symptoms appear, virus shedding possible without symptoms	Exclude until fever-free, child able to control drooling, blisters resolved
Mononucleosis (Mono, Epstein-Barr virus)	Person to person contact with saliva	30-50 days	Fever, sore throat, swollen lymph nodes, fatigue	Many months after infection; excretion of virus can occur intermittently for life	None, unless illness prevents participation; no contact sports until spleen no longer enlarged
Mumps R/V (Mumps virus)	Inhalation of respiratory droplets, direct contact with saliva of infected person	12-25 days; usually 16-18 days	Fever, swelling and tenderness of parotid glands, headache, earache, painful swollen testicles, abdominal pain with swollen ovaries	From 2 days before to 5 days after swelling	Exclude for 5 days after swelling onset (day of swelling onset is day zero); exclude susceptible* contacts from day 12 through day 25 after exposure
Pink Eye (Bacterial or viral conjunctivitis)	Direct or indirect contact with eye discharge	Variable depending on causative organism	Bacterial: red/pink itchy eye(s), green/yellow eye discharge	While signs and symptoms are present	None, unless fever, behavior change or unable to avoid touching eyes; antibiotics not required for return
Strep Throat and Scarlet Fever (Streptococcal pharyngitis, Group A <i>Streptococcus</i>)	Contact with infectious respiratory droplets and saliva, direct contact with mouth or nose secretions	2-5 days	Sore throat, fever, headache, tender swollen lymph nodes, decreased appetite, chills and sweats	Until 24 hours after initiation of appropriate antibiotic treatment	Exclude for 24 hours after initiation of appropriate antibiotic and fever resolved

Onsite Control and Prevention Measures

For all diseases: Good handwashing and hygiene; avoid kissing, sharing drinks, or utensils; use proper disinfection of surfaces and toys

Mumps: Provide immunization records for exposed individuals to public health officials

Strep Throat: Avoid kissing, sharing drinks, or utensils; exclude infected food handlers; minimize contact with respiratory and oral secretions

R = Reportable to state and local health departments V = Vaccine available to prevent illness ***Susceptible/At Risk** = Persons not immunized, with compromised immune systems, or pregnant ***High-Risk Settings** = Health care, child care, food service. **Three Key Criteria for Exclusion:** Most childhood illnesses do not require exclusion. Caregiver/teacher should determine if the illness 1) prevents child from participating comfortably in activities, 2) results in need for care that is greater than staff can provide without compromising health and safety of other children or 3) poses risk of spread. If any of these criteria are met, child should be excluded regardless of the type of illness.

This chart of selected communicable diseases information is meant only as a guide to answer questions frequently asked of persons who have responsibility for groups of children in day care centers, schools, summer camps, or other similar situations. The chart is not meant to be an all-inclusive list of significant diseases, or be a comprehensive guide to all the information about each disease. More specific information about these or other diseases may be obtained from your local public health agency or at: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/index.htm>.



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