

**GENESEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REFERENCE CHART**

The following chart contains information and public health recommendations for communicable diseases in schools and other group activity settings. Diagnosis should always be made by a physician. Exclusion period given is a minimum amount of time and applies to uncomplicated cases of the diseases listed.

Note: Please notify the Health Department *immediately* at **(810) 257-1017** if you are aware of an unusual occurrence of a disease or an unusual number of cases of one type of disease on a given day.

DISEASE	GENERAL SYMPTOMS	INCUBATION PERIOD	PERIOD OF COMMUNICABILITY	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS AND/OR EXCLUSION PERIOD
CHICKENPOX (Varicella)	Rash of pus-filled itchy blisters all over body; rash can have several different stages	2-3 weeks; commonly 13-17 days.	Usually 1-2 days before rash onset until all lesions are crusted, normally 5 days after rash onset.	Exclude until lesions have crusted over, but not more than 10 days.
PINK EYE (Conjunctivitis)	Red, swollen eyes & lid with pain, itching, & drainage	Variable depending on infecting agent.	During course of active infection.	Exclude while symptomatic or until 24 hours of antibiotic treatment has been completed.
FIFTH DISEASE (Erythema Infectiosum)	Fever, flushed appearance, lacy rash	Variable about 4-20 days.	Prior to onset of rash.	No exclusion providing rash is diagnosed as fifth disease by physician.
FLU-LIKE ILLNESS*	Fever and any of the following symptoms; sore throat, cough, aching in muscles	Usually 1-4 days for influenza	From one day before symptoms begin to five days after illness onset	Exclude until fever free. Good cough etiquette and proper hand hygiene should be exercised.
HAND, FOOT & MOUTH DISEASE	Fever, sores that develop into blisters first in mouth then palms and soles	Usually 3-5 days.	While sores are present, about 7-10 days. Can be found in feces for several weeks during acute stage.	Exclude until no new sores appear and other symptoms (fever, sore throat, drooling) are gone.
HEAD LICE (Pediculosis)	Intense itchiness of scalp, sores from itching, eggs and nymphs seen near scalp, adult lice	Eggs hatch in a week.	Until lice and viable eggs are destroyed.	Exclusion not necessary. Advise immediate home treatment.
HEPATITIS, TYPE A	Anorexia, nausea, fever, diarrhea, fatigue, jaundice, dark urine	2-6 weeks; average is 4 weeks (28 days).	2 weeks before onset of symptoms to a maximum of 2 weeks after onset.	Exclude from food handling and direct patient care until 7 days after onset. Day care exclusion varies.
HEPATITIS, TYPE B	Anorexia, nausea, fever, diarrhea, fatigue, jaundice, dark urine	45 days-6 months; average is 60-90 days (2-3 months).	Several weeks before onset of symptoms until blood is no longer positive for evidence of virus.	No exclusion.
HEPATITIS, TYPE C	Anorexia, nausea, fever, fatigue, jaundice, dark urine	2 weeks to 6 months (commonly 6-9 weeks).	1 or more weeks before onset through acute clinical course.	No exclusion.
HERPES SIMPLEX, TYPE I & II	Tingling, burning, & itching followed by blisters	2-12 days.	As long as lesions are present. May be in saliva for up to 7 weeks after mouth lesions.	No exclusion recommended. Sores on skin should be covered with a bandage.
IMPETIGO	Open sores on skin (typically the face) with draining pus	Variable, indefinite; commonly 4-10 days.	While sores are draining.	Exclude until after 24 hours on oral medication or antibiotic ointment. Sores should be covered with a bandage.
MENINGITIS (Aseptic/Viral)	Sudden fever, severe headache, stiff neck, vomiting, photophobia, neurological symptoms	Depends on type of infectious agent.	Depends on type of infectious agent.	Exclude until physician approves return.
MENINGITIS (Bacterial)	Fever, severe headache, stiff neck, vomiting, neurological symptoms, skin rash	Probably short, within 2-4 days.	As long as organisms are present.	Exclude until under treatment and physician approves return.

DISEASE	GENERAL SYMPTOMS	INCUBATION PERIOD	PERIOD OF COMMUNICABILITY	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS AND/OR EXCLUSION PERIOD
MONONUCLEOSIS	Fever, sore throat, swollen lymph nodes, enlarged spleen	From 4-6 weeks.	Prolonged communicability may persist up to a year or more.	Exclude until under medical care and physician approves return.
MUMPS	Fever, headache, muscle aches, painful swelling of lymph nodes close to jaw	12-25 days, commonly 18 days.	48 hours before swelling. May be as long as 6 days before gland involvement to 9 days after swelling.	Exclude until swelling or other symptoms have disappeared.
PINWORMS (Enterobiasis)	Itching around anus, disturbed sleep, irritability	2-6 weeks.	As long as eggs are laid.	Exclude until first treatment completed.
RASH, UNDIAGNOSED, WITH OR WITHOUT FEVER	Rash with or without fever	Variable depending on agent.	Variable depending on agent.	Exclude until rash has disappeared and fever is gone or until a physician diagnosis is obtained.
RINGWORM	Round patch of red, dry skin with red raised ring. Hair in ring is broken or absent. Skin in center may clear as patch spreads	10-14 days.	As long as lesions are present.	Exclude until after 24 hours of treatment or as directed by a physician with affected skin covered or after starting Griseofulvin by mouth.
RUBELLA (German Measles)	Mild fever, rash, headache, red eyes	Usually 16-18 days with a range of 14-23 days.	From 1 week before to 4 days after onset of rash.	Exclude until a minimum of 7 days after onset of rash.
ROSEOLA (Sixth Disease/Hard Measles)	Sudden high fever, rash of small separated rose-pink spots	7-18 days; 10 days average.	Beginning of cold symptoms until 4 days after appearance of rash.	Exclude until recovered and feels well.
SALMONELLA	Headache, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, dehydration, stomach aches, fever	6-72 hours; commonly 12-36 hours.	During course of infection and until organism is no longer in feces.	Exclude until symptoms have disappeared. Activity exclusion based on GCHD recommendations.
SCABIES	Burrows or rash of skin all over body, intense itching especially at night, sores from scratching	First exposure 2-6 weeks; subsequent exposure 1-4 days.	Until mites and eggs are destroyed.	Exclude until 24 hour treatment completed.
SCARLET FEVER	Fever, sore throat, flushing of cheeks, fine red rash, nausea and vomiting, dark red tongue	1-3 days usually.	Greatest during acute stage of illness, 2-4 days after rash appears. 10-21 days if untreated.	Exclude until under treatment for 24 hours.
STOMACH VIRUS*	Diarrhea and/or vomiting for 24 to 48 hours	Approximately 24 to 72 hours.	During acute stage to 48 hours after symptoms subside.	Exclusion until symptoms cease. Stress importance of proper hand washing.
STREP THROAT*	Severe sore throat, fever, headache	1-3 days usually.	Greatest during acute stage of illness. 10-21 days if untreated.	Exclude until under treatment for 24 hours.
SHIGELLA	Stomach ache, fever, bloody diarrhea, bowel pressure	12-96 hours, usually 1-3 days.	During course of infection and until organism is no longer in feces, about 4 weeks after onset.	Exclude until symptoms have disappeared and appropriate stool cultures are negative.
WHOOPING COUGH (Pertussis)	Begins with violent coughing spasms producing whoop, coughing may last 1-2 months	Commonly 6-20 days.	After onset of cold-like symptoms until 5 days after start of treatment with erythromycin.	Exclude until 3 weeks from onset of disease if untreated or until on appropriate antibiotic treatment at least 5 days.

All diseases in **bold** are to be reported to Genesee County Health Department.

*Report only aggregate number of cases for these diseases.