

**OAKLAND COUNTY HEALTH DIVISION  
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REFERENCE CHART**

The following chart contains information and public health recommendations for various 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 Division immediately at 248-858-1286 or 1-888-350-0900 ext. 81286, 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	INCUBATION PERIOD	PERIOD OF COMMUNICABILITY	ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN AND/OR EXCLUSION PERIOD
<b>ANIMAL BITES (Rabies)</b>	Variable. Rabies in man: 5 days to over 1 year; commonly 2-8 weeks.	Variable depending on species involved.	Seek medical attention immediately. Report to local animal control center.
<b>CHICKENPOX</b>	2-3 weeks; commonly 13-17 days.	As long as 5 but usually 1-2 days before onset of rash and not more than 5 days after first crop of lesions appear.	Exclude until 5 days after the eruption of the first crop of lesions. This includes Zovirax therapy.
<b>CONJUNCTIVITIS (Pink Eye)</b>	Variable depending on infecting agent.	During course of active infection.	Exclude until under medical care and drainage from eyes has cleared.
<b>FIFTH DISEASE (Hungarian Measles)</b>	Variable about 4-20 days.	Prior to onset of rash.	No exclusion providing rash is diagnosed as fifth disease by physician.
<b>HAND, FOOT &amp; MOUTH DISEASE</b>	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.
<b>HEPATITIS, TYPE A</b>	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 14 days after onset. Day care exclusion varies.
<b>HEPATITIS, TYPE B</b>	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 except for open sores or if child is biting people.
<b>HEPATITIS, TYPE C</b>	2 weeks to 6 months (commonly 6-9 weeks).	1 or more weeks before onset through acute clinical course.	No exclusion except for open sores or if child is biting people.
<b>HERPES SIMPLEX, TYPE I &amp; II</b>	2-12 days.	Usually as long as lesions are present. Has been found in saliva for as long as 7 weeks after mouth lesions.	No exclusion recommended. Sores on skin should be adequately covered with a bandage.
<b>IMPETIGO</b>	Variable, indefinite; commonly 4-10 days.	While sores are draining.	Exclude until under treatment and lesions healing and no new lesions appear.
<b>MENINGITIS (Aseptic/Viral)</b>	Depends on type of infectious agent.	Depends on type of infectious agent.	Exclude until physician approves return.
<b>MENINGITIS (Haemophilus influenzae)</b>	Probably short, within 2-4 days.	As long as organisms are present.	Exclude until under treatment and physician approves return.
<b>MENINGITIS (Meningococcal)</b>	2-10 days; commonly 3-4 days.	As long as organisms are present.	Exclude until under treatment and physician approves return.
<b>MONONUCLEOSIS</b>	From 4-6 weeks.	Prolonged communicability may persist up to a year or more.	Exclude until under medical care and physician approves return.
<b>MUMPS</b>	12-25 days, commonly 18 days.	Usually 48 hours before swelling. As long as 6 days before gland involvement to 9 days after swelling.	Exclude until swelling or other symptoms have disappeared.

DISEASE	INCUBATION PERIOD	PERIOD OF COMMUNICABILITY	ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN AND/OR EXCLUSION PERIOD
PEDICULOSIS (Head Lice)	Eggs hatch in a week.	Until lice and viable eggs are destroyed.	Exclude until 1st treatment completed and child is nit-free. A 2nd treatment may be necessary 7-10 days after 1st treatment.
PERTUSSIS (Whooping Cough)	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 antibiotic treatment at least 5 days of a minimum 14 day course.
PINWORMS (Enterobiasis)	2-6 weeks.	As long as eggs are laid.	Exclude until first treatment completed.
RASH, UNDIAGNOSED, 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	10-14 days.	As long as lesions are present.	Exclude until on oral medication for 48 hours for lesions of scalp and scalp line including back of neck. Exclude until under topical treatment for face, trunk and extremities. Exclude from swimming and contact sports until lesions are cleared.
RUBELLA (German or 3-day Measles)	Usually 16-18 days with a range of 14-23 days.	From 1 week before to 4 days after onset of rash.	Exclude until 5th day after onset of rash.
RUBEOLA (Hard or 10-day Measles)	7-18 days; 10 days average.	Beginning of cold symptoms until 4 days after appearance of rash.	Exclude until 5th day after onset of rash.
SALMONELLA	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 OCHD recommendations.
SCABIES	First exposure 2-6 weeks; subsequent exposure 1-4 days.	Until mites and eggs are destroyed.	Exclude until 12 hour treatment completed.
SCARLET FEVER AND STREP THROAT	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.
SHIGELLA	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 or on antibiotic one week.
SHINGLES (Herpes Zoster)	No incubation period - reactivation of dormant virus.	As long as 5 but usually 1-2 days before rash and not more than 1 week after lesions appear.	If lesions can be covered, no exclusion necessary. If unable to be covered, exclude as for chickenpox.

1200 North Telegraph Road  
Pontiac, Michigan 48341

27725 Greenfield Road  
Southfield, Michigan 48075

1010 East West Maple Road  
Walled Lake, Michigan 48390

Web Site Address: <http://www.co.oakland.mi.us/>

Oakland County ensures that no person shall on grounds of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or handicap be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under our programs.

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Reviewed for 2001/2002 school year