

CDRS

Communicable Disease Reporting System

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE FACT SHEET

MUMPS

Mumps is an acute viral disease caused by the mumps virus and characterized by fever, swelling and tenderness of one or more of the salivary glands.

Symptoms

- The symptoms of mumps include fever, headache and swelling and tenderness of one or more of the salivary glands located close to the jaw (cheek).
- Approximately one-third of infected people do not exhibit symptoms.

Transmission

- Mumps is spread when an infected person coughs or sneezes and sends the mumps virus into the air.
- The virus can land in other people's noses or throats when they breathe or put their fingers in their mouth or nose after handling an infected surface.

Treatment

- Acetaminophen (Tylenol) can be used to reduce the discomfort and fever.

Prevention

- The single most effective preventative measure is to receive the Mumps vaccine. It is given on or after a child's first birthday, and is given in combination with the measles and rubella vaccine.
- The MMR vaccine is highly effective and usually produces lifelong immunity against mumps.
- Children with mumps should not attend school during their infectious period (3 days before symptoms appear to 4 days after).

Additional Information

Although older people may contract the disease, mumps usually occurs in children between the ages of 5 and 15. Mumps occurs less regularly than other common childhood communicable diseases. The greatest risk of infection occurs among older children. Mumps is more common during winter and spring.

All information is general in nature and is not intended to be used as a substitute for appropriate professional advice.

Franklin County



Board of Health

Report Disease With Ease - 24 hours a day

www.cdrsinfo.com

Columbus and Franklin County Communicable Disease Reporting System

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