

# Communicable Disease Newsletter

## In this edition:



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## Communicable Disease Control In Schools

Each year the health department receives many calls during the school year with questions regarding whether a child should be excluded from school or daycare. The information below may provide guidance.

The following are symptoms of communicable diseases. A child with the listed symptoms should be kept at home. Should any symptoms be noted while the child is in school, he/she should be directed to the principal, or to another responsible person, who should contact the parents and urge them to have the child seen by a physician or health care provider. The child should be excluded from school until fully recovered or until approved to return by the physician or health care provider.



Symptoms common to communicable disease:

- ◇ Red or watery eyes, sneezing, or nasal discharge.
- ◇ Cough; if persistent or productive.
- ◇ Sores and/or crust on the scalp, face, or body (particularly if red, swollen, draining, or spreading.)
- ◇ Skin eruption or rash.
- ◇ Swelling and tenderness of lymph glands.
- ◇ Sore throat.
- ◇ Fever of 100°F or greater (should be verified with a thermometer).
- ◇ Nausea and vomiting
- ◇ Headache, stiff neck
- ◇ Jaundice (yellowing of eyes or skin).
- ◇ Diarrhea and/or persistent abdominal pain

Any of the above symptoms may be associated with communicable disease, or they may be symptoms of non-communicable diseases which may require medical attention.

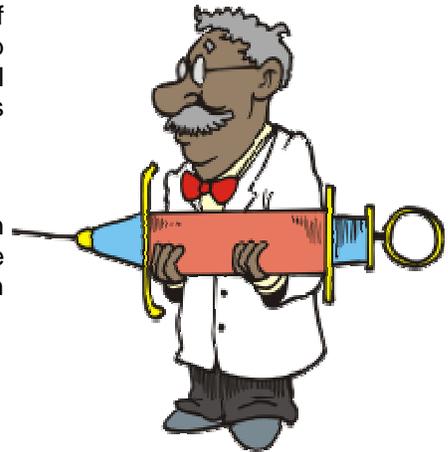


## Immunization News!

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Vaccines are designed to prevent specific diseases by causing a chain of reactions within the immune system. This cause and effect relationship ultimately produces a response similar to natural infection without the potential complications. The prevalence of many vaccine-preventable diseases has been eliminated or greatly reduced through increased immunization efforts.

Vaccines and immunization principles are complicated and ever-changing. In order to provide the best protection possible, it is necessary to possess the most up-to-date information. Recent changes to immunization recommendations and the vaccination schedule include:



- Reinstatement of the Hib Booster Dose (July 1, 2009).
- IPV (Inactivated Polio Virus Vaccine) vaccination now required at 4-6 years of age regardless of the number of previous doses. Prior to the new guidance, any IPV series which honored the recommended minimum ages and intervals was considered complete, even if those doses were administered prior to 4 years of age.
- Specific guidance has been issued on the use of Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine for revaccination of those previously vaccinated with Meningococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine and who still remain at risk for meningococcal disease.
- Tentative chickenpox (Varicella) and adolescent immunization requirements for school programs (pending approval and effective January 1, 2010):
  - ◇ 2 doses of Varicella vaccine or history of chickenpox disease for all children entering kindergarten and all children changing school districts
  - ◇ All children enrolled in 6<sup>th</sup> grade **and** all children 7-18 years of age who are changing school districts, must receive the following on or after the 11<sup>th</sup> birthday:
    - 1 dose Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine
    - 1 dose Tdap Vaccine (Tetanus/diphtheria/acellular pertussis)
    - 2 doses Varicella Vaccine (or history of chickenpox disease)

Please contact the Saginaw County Department of Public Health Immunization Program at (989) 758-3840 or (989) 758-3856 for further information. Nurse Educators are available to provide updates on various vaccine related topics.

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## It's Back To School Time-Check Your Child's Head Often

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Early detection of communicable diseases such as head lice or ringworm of the scalp can be detected earlier and spread of disease prevented when parents or caregivers check children's heads on a regular basis. So, check each day during bathing or shampooing and especially when you notice them scratching their heads. For more information on this and other communicable diseases, please refer to our website ([www.saginawpublichealth.org](http://www.saginawpublichealth.org)) and click on the "Got These? Get This" and/or "Library" links. You may also contact the Community Resource Nurse at (989) 758-3675.

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASE  
REPORTED FOR SAGINAW COUNTY  
1/1/2008 – 12/31/2008**

Disease	No. Reported
AMEBIASIS	1
ANIMAL BITE	8
CAMPYLOBACTER	13
CHICKENPOX (Varicella)	1
CHLAMYDIA (Genital)	996
COCCIDIOIDOMYCOSIS	1
CRYPTOCOCCOSIS	1
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS	1
E-COLI	3
FLU-LIKE DISEASE	193
GIARDIASIS	8
GONORRHEA	289
HEPATITIS B ACUTE	1
HEPATITIS B CHRONIC	23
HEPATITIS C ACUTE	4
HEPATITIS C CHRONIC	191
HISTOPLASMOIS	1
HIV	26
LEGIONELLOSIS	4
MENINGITIS ASEPTIC	11
SALMONELLOSIS	22
SHIGELLOSIS	7
TOXIC SHOCK	1

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASE YTD  
REPORTED FOR SAGINAW COUNTY  
1/1/2009 – 8/31/2009**

Disease	No. Reported
ANIMAL BITE	8
BLASTOMYCOSIS	1
CAMPYLOBACTER	10
CHICKENPOX (Varicella)	27
CHLAMYDIA (Genital)	814
COCCIDIOIDOMYCOSIS	2
FLU-LIKE DISEASE	13050
GIARDIASIS	4
GONORRHEA	176
HEPATITIS B CHRONIC	21
HEPATITIS C ACUTE	2
HEPATITIS C CHRONIC	166
HIV	13
INFLUENZA	8

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASE YTD. cont.  
REPORTED FOR SAGINAW COUNTY  
1/1/2009 – 8/31/2009**

Disease	No. Reported
INFLUENZA, NOVEL	3
LEGIONELLOSIS	1
MENINGITIS ASEPTIC	7
PERTUSSIS	2
RABIES ANIMAL	1
RHEUMATIC FEVER	1
ROCKY MT SPOTTED FEVER	1
SALMONELLOSIS	4
SHIGELLOSIS	3
STAPHYLOCOCCUS	2
STREPTOCOCCAL DISEASE	1
STREPTOCOCCUS	1
SYPHILIS (Latent)	4
YERSINIA ENTERITIS	1

This newsletter is provided to all Saginaw county healthcare providers, hospitals, schools, local colleges, universities, urgent care facilities and local media centers.

**If you would like to get this newsletter by e-mail please submit your e-mail address to:**

**eatkins@saginawcounty.com**

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Please visit our website at [www.saginawpublichealth.org](http://www.saginawpublichealth.org) where our communicable disease pamphlets are available.



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