



## PAEDIATRIC ACUTE CARE GUIDELINE

### Communicable Diseases - Exclusion

<b>Scope (Staff):</b>	All Emergency Department Clinicians
<b>Scope (Area):</b>	Emergency Department

This document should be read in conjunction with this DISCLAIMER  
<http://kidshealthwa.com/about/disclaimer/>

## Communicable Diseases - Exclusion

Many of the childhood infectious diseases require the patient /staff to be excluded from day care or school for a recommended period of time; if they are unable to provide evidence of immunisation against specific diseases that are known to be highly transmissible they will be excluded.

### Background

- While it is often difficult to prevent the transmission of common respiratory (colds/flu) and gastroenteritis infections that occur, every effort should be made to minimise the spread of infection.
- Adults and children should stay at home in the early stages of illness as at this stage they can be infectious and shed the virus, bacteria or parasite through coughing, sneezing, contaminating surfaces and personal contact.

### Management

Exclusion Periods for Communicable Diseases		
Disease	Exclusion	Infectious Periods

Acute Febrile Respiratory Illness	Do not exclude	Usually for duration of symptoms
Campylobacter sp	Until asymptomatic	2-3 days treated 2-3 weeks untreated
Chicken Pox	Exclude from at least 5 days after the rash appears and until vesicles have formed crusts. Crusts alone do not warrant exclusion.	2 days before rash until all vesicles have formed crusts
Conjunctivitis	Exclude until discharge from eyes has ceased	While eye discharge is present
Cryptosporidiosis	Exclude until diarrhoea has ceased	2-4 weeks
Diarrhoea	Exclude until diarrhoea has ceased	Days to weeks
Glandular Fever	Do not exclude	Months
Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease	Exclude until vesicles have formed crusts	As long as there is fluid in the vesicles. Faeces remain infectious for several weeks.
Head Lice	Exclude until the day after treatment has commenced	Until lice and eggs are killed
Haemophilus Influenzae Type B	Do not exclude	Infectious until treated with antibiotics
Hepatitis A	For 14 days after onset of illness if not jaundiced, or 7 days after jaundice appears	2 weeks before onset of symptoms to 7 days after jaundice appears
Hepatitis B	Do not exclude	Weeks before to months after onset. Carriers may be infectious for life
Hepatitis C	Do not exclude	Weeks before to months after onset. Carriers may be infectious for life

Herpes Simplex I and II	Young children unable to comply with good oral hygiene practices should be excluded if lesions and uncovered and weeping	2-7 weeks
HIV	Do not exclude	As long as HIV infection persists
Human Herpesvirus 6	Do not exclude	Unknown
Impetigo	Exclude for 24 hours after antibiotic treatment commenced. Lesions on exposed skin surfaces should be covered with a waterproof dressing	As long as there is discharge from untreated lesions
Influenza	Do not exclude	Usually 3-7 days from onset of symptoms
Measles	Exclude for 4 days after onset of rash. Unvaccinated or previously infected contacts should be excluded until 14 days after onset of rash of the last case.	4 days before to 4 days after rash appears
Meningococcal Disease	Exclude for 24 hours after antibiotic commenced. Contacts will be managed by the Department of Health.	Until bacteria are no longer present in nose and throat secretions
Molluscum Contagiosum	Do not exclude	As long as lesions persist
Mumps	Exclude for 9 days after onset of symptoms	About 6 days before to 9 days after onset of salivary gland swelling
Parainfluenza	Until asymptomatic	4 days to 3 weeks

Parvovirus B19 (Slapped Cheek Syndrome)	Do not exclude	Not infectious after the rash appears
Pertussis	Exclude for 21 days from onset of cough, or 5 days after starting antibiotic treatment. Contacts will be dealt with by the Department of Health	From onset of running nose to 3 weeks after onset of cough
Pin Worm	Do not exclude	As long as eggs are excreted. Eggs remain infective for up to 2 weeks.
Pneumococcal Disease	Do not exclude	Until <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> are no longer present in nose and throat secretions
Ring Worm	Exclude until 24 hours after treatment has commenced	As long as lesions are present
Rotavirus	Until asymptomatic	10 days
Rubella	Exclude for 4 days after onset of rash	From 7 days before to at least 4 days after onset of rash
RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus)	Until asymptomatic	3 days – 4 weeks
Scabies	Exclude until the day after treatment has commenced	Until mites and eggs are destroyed
Shigella	Until asymptomatic	4 weeks
Shingles	Do not exclude unless rash is uncovered and weeping	Up to 1 week after appearance of the lesions
Tuberculosis	Exclude until medical certificate of recovery is obtained. Contact management will be handled by the Department of Health.	Infectious as long as bacteria are present in discharges
Typhoid	Exclude until three stool specimens are negative	Notifiable disease. Infectious as long as <i>Salmonella typhi</i> are present in faeces or urine.

Warts	Do not exclude	As long as the wart remains
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## Tags

communicable, contagious, day-care, daycare, exclude, exclusion, infection, infectious, keep away, kindy, nursery, play, school

## References

PMH ED Guidelines: Exclusion Periods for Communicable Diseases – Last Updated November 2014

- Department of Health Communicable Disease Control Guidelines

[http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/2/243/3/infectious\\_diseases\\_az\\_for\\_health\\_professionals.pm](http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/2/243/3/infectious_diseases_az_for_health_professionals.pm)


- Australian Immunisation Handbook (current edition).

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/content/handbook/10home>

- Department of Health WA fact sheets and case definitions

[http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/1/9/2/az\\_topic\\_and\\_diseases.pm](http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/1/9/2/az_topic_and_diseases.pm)

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