

Promoting and Protecting Public Health
Midtown Campus, 1111 South 41st Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68105

Adi M. Pour, Ph.D.
Health Director
(402) 444-7471

May 26, 2016

Administration & Finance
(402) 444-7216

To: Douglas County Health Care Providers
From: Douglas County Health Department

Emergency Response &
Preparedness
(402) 444-7213

A student who attends Westside High School has been diagnosed with a PCR-confirmed case of mumps. Public health investigation has identified that some students at Westside High School may have been exposed to the student. Only individuals who had close contact with this student during the period of May 20th through May 23rd are at risk for developing mumps. Privacy laws prevent us from identifying this student.

Epidemiology
(402) 444-7214

Food and Drink
(402) 444-7480

Health Promotion
(402) 444-7475

A letter will be sent to parents and guardians of Westside High School students (see next page). Parents are being advised to contact their physician **if their child develops any symptoms consistent with mumps before June 17th** (the maximum incubation period following the last exposure). They were instructed to call the clinic first before arriving to prevent possible transmission to other people at the clinic.

Lead Prevention Program
(402) 444-7825

Public Health Clinic &
Immunizations
(402) 444-6163

A mumps outbreak is occurring in Fremont, NE among students at Midland University, with the first onset on April 16, 2016. More information is in an advisory sent by Nebraska DHHS (<http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/han%20Documents/ADVISORY051916.pdf>). Mumps outbreaks are also occurring in various college campuses across the country. See <http://www.cdc.gov/mumps/outbreaks.html> for more information about national outbreaks.

STD Control
(402) 444-7750

Sanitation Control
(402) 444-7481

Sanitary Engineering
(402) 444-7485

WIC
(402) 444-1770

Mumps laboratory testing may be difficult to interpret in patients with a history of vaccination. If you suspect a patient may have mumps, please contact DCHD at (402) 444-7214 to discuss the case and determine the necessity of testing. Mumps is the only known cause of epidemic parotitis. Classic symptoms and epidemiologic links to other cases may be enough to confirm a case. Cases should be isolated for 5 days after symptom onset and reported promptly to DCHD, as required by Nebraska Statutes.

Civic Center Location
1819 Farnam Street, H01
Health Data
(402) 546-0847

Vital Statistics
(402) 444-7205

Please feel free to call DCHD at (402) 444-7214 for more information. Mumps information is posted on our web site at <http://www.douglascountyhealth.com/disease-a-immunization/mumps>.

Health Center Location
4102 Woolworth Ave.
Laboratory Services
(402) 444-7496

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Dear Westside High School parent/guardian:

A student who attends Westside High School has been diagnosed with mumps. Mumps is a contagious disease caused by a virus that is preventable by vaccination with the MMR (measles-mumps-rubella) vaccine. However, a small portion of vaccinated persons may lose immunity to mumps and may still become infected, as was the case with this student. Mumps is spread by close contact with an infected person through coughing and sneezing or sharing cups or eating utensils (droplet transmission).

You are receiving this notification because the public health investigation has identified that some students at Westside High School may have been exposed to the student with mumps. Only individuals who had close contact with this student during the period of May 20th through May 23rd are at risk for developing mumps. Privacy laws prevent us from identifying this student.

If your child is fully vaccinated (had two doses of MMR vaccine), their risk of getting mumps is low. However it is important to be aware of the signs and symptoms of mumps, because it is still possible for a person to get mumps even if they have been vaccinated. If a person has not been vaccinated, their risk for developing mumps is much higher. **Unless additional cases are identified, your child's risk for developing mumps from this exposure will end on June 17th (the maximum incubation period for mumps following the last exposure).** If your child has not been vaccinated or you are unsure, please contact your health care provider.

Mumps symptoms include swollen glands in front of and below the ear or underneath the jaw, which may last two or more days. Other symptoms may include headache, low-grade fever, and earache. Mumps can also cause complications in other glands in the body. **If your child develops any of these symptoms before June 17th, please contact their physician or health care professional and mention this possible exposure to mumps. Call the clinic first before arriving to prevent possible transmission to other people at the clinic.** If your child has no symptoms during this period, it is not necessary to call your physician.

For more information, please review the attached fact sheet provided by the Douglas County Health Department or visit their website at <http://www.douglascountyhealth.com/disease-a-immunization/mumps>.