IN THIS PRESENTATION, WE WILL COVER

- The overall definition of Communicable Disease and the various communicable diseases that can be spread in schools, preschools, and childcares.
- The importance of hand-washing
- The explanation of school reporting and why it is required
- Reportable illnesses in Michigan
- Resources for Schools
- Using the Weekly Reporting Website and the new areas to include COVID-19
A communicable disease (CD) is an infectious illness which can result from either direct contact with an infected individual’s discharges (such as mucous, saliva, feces, or body fluids), or by indirect contact (for example, through a mosquito bite).
HOW DISEASES ARE SPREAD

- **Fecal-oral**: contact with human stool; usually ingestion after contact with contaminated food or objects
- **Respiratory**: Contact with respiratory particles or droplets from nose, throat, and mouth
- **Direct skin-to-skin contact**: Contact with infected skin
- **Indirect contact**: Contact with contaminated objects or surfaces
- **Blood borne**: Contact with blood or body fluids
WASH THOSE HANDS!

- **Washing your hands is one of the easiest and best ways to prevent the spread of diseases.**
- **Water basins and pre-moistened cleansing wipes are not approved substitutes for soap and running water.**
- **Alcohol-based hand sanitizers containing at least 60% alcohol may be used when soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly soiled.**
- **Sanitizers should be used to supplement hand washing with soap and water.**
- [CDC Handwashing Website](https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/)
How?

**Wet** your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.

**Lather** your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Be sure to lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.

**Scrub** your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.

**Rinse** hands well under clean, running water.

**Dry** hands using a clean towel or air dry them.

Keeping hands clean is one of the most important things we can do to stop the spread of germs and stay healthy.

www.cdc.gov/handwashing

This material was developed by CDC. The Life is Better with Clean Hands Campaign is made possible by a partnership between CDC, GOJO, and Staples. HHS/CDC does not endorse commercial products, services, or companies.
Michigan law requires that schools, preschools, and childcare centers report total counts of specific illnesses to the local public health department. Physicians, clinical laboratories, schools, preschools, childcare centers, and camps are required to report the occurrence or suspected occurrences of any disease, condition or infection as identified in the Michigan Communicable Disease Rules. (Act 368 of the Public Acts of 1978).
WHY DO SCHOOLS AND CHILDCARE CENTERS HAVE TO REPORT?

- To identify outbreaks and epidemics
- To enable preventive treatment and/or education
- To ensure the safety of the educational environment in your facility
- To target prevention programs, identify care needs, and allocate resources efficiently
- To facilitate research
- To assist with local, state, national, and international disease surveillance efforts.
Michigan Public Health Code (MCL 333.5111) and administrative rules give local and state health departments the authority and responsibility to investigate cases of disease and suspected transmission.

Any information provided by a facility is covered under the Michigan Public Health Code in accordance with state law and will not violate the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) standards.

It is extremely important that facilities maintain confidentiality regarding information shared during a communicable disease investigation.
Be certain to keep this handy!

Immediate reporting of outbreaks of suspected or confirmed communicable diseases, with added definitions of Influenza Like Illness and Gastrointestinal outbreaks

When to exclude a child from school

...and more!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Mode of Spread</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Incubation Period</th>
<th>Contagious Period</th>
<th>Contacts</th>
<th>Exclusions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campylobacteriosis*</td>
<td>Ingesting raw milk, undercooked meat, contaminated food / water, animal contact</td>
<td>Diarrhea (may be bloody), abdominal pain, malaise, fever</td>
<td>Average 2-5 days (range 1-10 days)</td>
<td>Throughout illness (usually 1-2 weeks, but up to 7 weeks without treatment)</td>
<td>Exclude with first signs of illness; encourage good hand hygiene</td>
<td>Exclude until diarrhea has ceased for at least 2 days; additional restrictions may apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickenpox** (Varicella)</td>
<td>Person-to-person by direct contact, droplet or airborne spread of vesicle fluid, or respiratory tract secretions</td>
<td>Fever, mild respiratory symptoms, body rash of itchy, blister-like lesions, usually concentrated on the face, scalp, trunk</td>
<td>Average 14-16 days (range 10-21 days)</td>
<td>As long as 5 days, but usually 2-3 days before onset of rash and until all lesions have crusted</td>
<td>Exclude contacts lacking documentation of immunity until 21 days after last case onset; consult LHD</td>
<td>Until lesions crusted and no new lesions for 24hr (for non-crusting lesions: until lesions are fading and no new lesions appear)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMV (Cytomegalovirus)</td>
<td>Exposure to infectious tissues, secretions, or excretions</td>
<td>None or “mono-like”</td>
<td>1 month</td>
<td>Virus may be shed for 6 months to 2 years</td>
<td>If pregnant, consult OB; contacts should not be excluded</td>
<td>No exclusion necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Cold</td>
<td>Airborne or contact with respiratory secretions; person-to-person or by touching contaminated surfaces</td>
<td>Runny or stuffy nose, slight fever, watery eyes</td>
<td>Variable, usually 1-3 days</td>
<td>24hrs before onset to up to 5 days after onset</td>
<td>Encourage cough etiquette and good hand hygiene</td>
<td>No exclusion necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19</td>
<td>Airborne or contact with respiratory secretions; person-to-person or by touching contaminated surfaces</td>
<td>Fever, sore throat, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, cough, runny nose, congestion, fatigue, vomiting, diarrhea</td>
<td>Average 5 days (range 2-14 days)</td>
<td>2 days prior to symptom onset and potentially after symptom resolution</td>
<td>Exclude for 14 days since last exposure; Contact LHD for additional guidance on contacts of a confirmed or probable case</td>
<td>Exclude until 24hr with no fever and symptoms have improved and 10 days since onset; Contact LHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croup</td>
<td>Airborne or contact with respiratory secretions</td>
<td>Barking cough, difficulty breathing</td>
<td>Variable based on causative organism</td>
<td>Variable based on causative organism</td>
<td>Encourage cough etiquette and good hand hygiene</td>
<td>No exclusion necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diarrheal illness (Unspecified)</td>
<td>Fecal-oral; person-to-person, ingesting contaminated food or liquid, animal contact</td>
<td>Loose stools; potential for fever, gas, abdominal cramps, nausea, vomiting</td>
<td>Variable based on causative organism</td>
<td>Variable based on causative organism</td>
<td>Exclude with first signs of illness; encourage good hand hygiene</td>
<td>Exclude until diarrhea has ceased for 24hr or until medically cleared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. coli* (Shiga toxin-producing)</td>
<td>Fecal-oral: person-to-person, from contaminated food or liquid, animal contact</td>
<td>Abdominal cramps, diarrhea (may be bloody), gas, nausea, fever, or vomiting</td>
<td>Variable, usually 2-10 days</td>
<td>For duration of diarrhea until stool culture is negative</td>
<td>Exclude with first signs of illness; encourage good hand hygiene</td>
<td>Medical clearance required; Exclude until diarrhea has ceased for at least 2 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If you receive a report of any of the rare/serious diseases in the **BOLD TEXT**, call the health department immediately!
Again, please call the Health Department immediately to report any of the following serious illnesses: measles, mumps, rubella, pertussis, Haemophilus Type B, meningitis, encephalitis, hepatitis, or tuberculosis. (This would most likely be made known to you by a phone call from a parent/guardian)

Unusual disease occurrences and outbreaks are also reportable. An outbreak is defined as any increase in a certain type of illness. Influenza-like-illness and gastrointestinal illnesses, too!

(Please call us right away if you suspect an outbreak or increase in illness. We will want “numbers” and information!)
In the event of an actual or potential communicable disease outbreak situation, your district may be contacted to provide information to assist us in the investigation of the disease, and ultimately the protection of the community.
ANSWERING MACHINE AND CHILD ILLNESS INQUIRY SUGGESTIONS:

- List/name the symptoms of the illness (vomiting, diarrhea, fever, cough, sore throat, rash, etc). If calling to report “flu”/influenza, please indicate if this is respiratory or gastrointestinal illness.

- If known, report the type of illness AND who identified the illness.

- Leave a phone number where the parent/guardian can be reached.
Important Notice to Parents/Guardians from the Allegan County Health Department Regarding Absences

The Allegan County Health Department works directly with your child’s school to make Allegan County a healthier place to live. The State of Michigan requires schools to report the possible occurrence of selected communicable diseases to the local public health department on a weekly basis (Public Act 368 of 1978). To assist your child’s school in reporting possible communicable diseases to the Health Department and prevent the spread of illness, please be as specific as possible when reporting your child’s absence.

When calling in for a child, please include the following information:

1. A description of the symptoms of the illness (vomiting, diarrhea, fever, rash, etc.) and report the type of disease if known and who diagnosed the illness.
2. Your phone number (if no phone, please give an address).

Please inform the school if any suspected illness is later confirmed by a physician. Your cooperation with the school and Allegan County Health Department is greatly appreciated.
WHEN TO KEEP A CHILD HOME

- Severely ill
- Fever: Temp. of 101 °F or greater AND behavior changes or other signs and symptoms (keep home until 24 hours fever-free, without use of fever-reducing medications)
- Diarrhea: no loose stools for 24 hours prior to returning to school. **
- Vomiting: no vomiting episodes for 24 hours prior to returning **
- Rash: with fever or change in behavior **
- Skin sores (weeping sores that can’t be covered with waterproof dressing)
- Certain Communicable Diseases: may need to be excluded

**These are general recommendations only! Consult physician or local public health department.
People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.

Report to the Health Department immediately if a staff member or student tests positive for COVID-19.

Resources:
- ACHD
- Michigan.gov/coronavirus
- CDC
INFLUENZA

- Respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs
- Influenza causes more hospitalizations among young children than any other vaccine-preventable disease.
- Fever, chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches
- **ANNUAL INFLUENZA VACCINE** is the best way to protect against the flu!
NOROVIRUS

- Group of viruses that cause gastroenteritis
- Known incorrectly as “the stomach flu”
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach cramping
- Low-grade fever, chills, headache, muscle-aches
- Lasts 1-2 days
- **VERY contagious!**
- Children and staff showing symptoms should be excluded
- See more in Managing Communicable Diseases in Schools, handout
- PLEASE NOTIFY THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT RIGHT AWAY
- Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Guidelines, MDHHS
Recently, Michigan and other states have seen an increased number of bed bug infestations plaguing residents. As bed bugs infest more and more homes, they may find their way into schools. When this happens, the school needs to take proactive action to prevent infestation and stop them from spreading in the school setting.

**What are bed bugs?**

Bed bugs are small, brownish, flattened insects that feed on the blood of people while they sleep. Although the bite does not hurt at the time, it may develop into an itchy welt similar to a mosquito bite. Bed bugs do not transmit disease, but they can cause significant itchiness, anxiety, and sleeplessness. Bed bug infestations are also very difficult and expensive to control.

Usually, bed bugs will hide during the day and only come out to feed during the night. Unlike head lice, they do not live on a person. However, they can hitchhike from one place to another in backpacks, clothing, luggage, books, and other items.

**Could my classroom be infested?**

Actual bed bug infestations in schools are uncommon. More commonly, a few bed bugs will hitchhike to school from an infested home by hiding in a student's clothing or backpack. Bed bugs that hitch a ride into the school in one student's backpack could be carried home by another student, making the school a potential hub for bed bug spread. This is not a minor concern—bed bugs are very expensive and difficult to eradicate.

If a school plans to use pesticides to control pests indoors, then they are required under Michigan law to have an integrated pest management (IPM) plan in place. If a bed bug infestation is suspected or a number of students are getting bitten during class, the school should contact a licensed pest management professional for assistance.

This fact sheet has been published by the Michigan Bed Bug Working Group (Update May 2019).
Feel free to call, BUT the Health Department does NOT have treatments available. If a student has health insurance or Medicaid, his or her health care provider can write a prescription for Nix or another treatment.
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- www.cdc.gov
- www.allegancounty.org/health
- www.michigan/.gov/mdhhs
WEEKLY REPORTING
ACHD will supply a User ID and Password to your facility.

It is your responsibility to keep this information in a secure location.

If you need assistance, please call or e-mail
- Sharon at sweems@allegancounty.org or 269-673-5526
- Erin at eradke@allegancounty.org or 269-686-4551
1. Submit WEEKLY even if there is no disease to report (designate 1 person)'

2. Notify ACHD IMMEDIATELY when you become aware of all illness that is on the “List of Reportable Diseases” OR if the facility is closed due to illness.

3. Have a DETAILED answering machine message requesting specific symptom information regarding a child’s absence.

4. Have a consistent manner of asking parents about child’s illness

5. Educate parents on the importance of reporting illness to schools and child-care centers.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR ONLINE REPORTING:

- Log into the web address www.allegancounty.org/health

- Left Hand Side –
  Quick Links > “click” CD School Reporting
Weekly Communicable Disease Report

Please call the Health Department at 269-673-5411 **immediately** if any of the following illnesses are suspected or confirmed. Measles, mumps, rubella, pertussis, meningitis, encephalitis, hepatitis, varicella (chickenpox), tuberculosis, Haemophilus Influenzae Type B, or any other unusual communicable disease. School closures due to illness should be reported **immediately**.

If you have any questions, please call Erin Radke or Sharon Weems at 269-673-5411 or send an e-mail to schoolreporting@allegancounty.org. Thank you!

User ID: 
This is a required field
Forgot User ID?

Password: 
Forgot Password?

Sign in

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Hints and Tips for Communicable Disease Reporting

https://www.communicablediseaserouting.com/callgenes

Greetings User!

This form is designed to account for illnesses not previously mentioned.

Section A - Other Illness

This section is for reporting all other illnesses that have not been mentioned.

Section B - Facility Change

Indicate here if school was closed during the week due to illness. Remember, you can come back and change this data at any time before 12:00 p.m. Sunday. Clicking the submit button saves the data. It doesn’t submit the data to the county until midnight on Sunday. At any time during the week you can return to the form to make changes. Notice the data you last entered still displays. You can add to this data until midnight on Sunday. After that time, the form will appear empty and the data will be submitted to the county. Changes or corrections at this point will need to be done by calling Sharon (249) 673-9524 or Pooja (249) 686-1553 at Algonac County Health Department.

Section 1 - Facility Information

Please note the “Starting” indicates required data. The form will not submit your weekly numbers without these required items. Remember, you must click the submit button at the bottom of the form to send the data to the health department.

Next you will see the date of the upcoming Friday. Reports are for the school week (Monday - Friday). You can input data anytime during the week at your convenience but no later than 12:00 p.m. on the Sunday after the Friday data was entered. If you have not reported before that Friday at midnight, on your next login to the site, you will be asked to report for which week you are entering data. Be sure to report the previous week’s numbers because at midnight you will no longer be allowed to do so. If you do not submit your numbers on time, you will receive an email requiring you to contact Algonac County Health Department and to provide your weekly data for the previous week during that call.

If you have nothing to report during a reporting period, simply click the Nothing to Report box and then submit the form.

Facility population means the number of children enrolled.

Section 2 - Illness Reporting

Notice that most data in the section is required. This section is dedicated to reporting known communicable diseases. Should you need more information than the initial boxes provided, click the Additional Info button before the last row and seven more rows will result.

Section 3 - Day. This section is for reporting flu and facility illnesses. A description is provided to the right of each choice. Please read these before entering data.

05/2019
**Section 2:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Number of Cases</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Influenza-Like Illness (Respiratory Flu)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Any child with bronchitis, pneumonia, or fever and any of the following symptoms: sore throat, cough, generalized aching in the back or limb muscles. <strong>Vomiting and diarrhea alone is NOT respiratory flu.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gastrointestinal Illness (Stomach Flu)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Any child with vomiting and/or diarrhea for 24 to 48 hours (24-hour flu, winter vomiting disease or norovirus)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown Influenza (T1)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Parent reports my child has flu AND no other symptom information available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Section 4:** Please include the NUMBER of cases. Do not list individually in the section above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Number of Cases</th>
<th>Other Symptoms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cold</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>OTHER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronchitis</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>OTHER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fever</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Scarlet Fever / Strup Throat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth Disease</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Pink Eye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lice</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Scabies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impetigo</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Ring Worm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mononucleosis</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Section 5:**

Did school close this week due to excessive absences?  
- [ ] Yes  
- [ ] No

**Submit**
THAT’S IT – YOU’RE DONE!

WEEKLY COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT

Thank you for submitting the report. This data can be updated at any time prior to Sunday at midnight.

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If your report is not submitted by the Sunday of each week that you are in session...you will receive a reminder e-mail Monday morning. You will NOT be able to go back in and add this later. If you try, it will be counted as the following week’s counts.

When you get the reminder e-mail, you will need to send an e-mail to: schoolreporting@allegancounty.org to report the previous week’s statistics as soon as possible – EVEN if there are no illnesses to report.
ONLINE REPORTING IS QUICK, EASY AND VALUABLE!

- We depend on YOU as one of our primary sources to assist in monitoring the health of our community!
- We appreciate your time and dedication!
- For questions, please contact Sharon Weems at 269-673-5526 sweems@allegancounty.org or Erin Radke at 269-686-4551 eradke@allegancounty.org
Please call the Allegan County Health Department with any questions or concerns regarding Communicable Diseases!

Erin, RN  269-686-4551 or 269-673-5411

Dr. Tooker, Medical Director is happy to help!