



# Enteroviruses

Enteroviruses cause a variety of illnesses.

## If you think your child has an enterovirus infection:

- Tell your childcare provider or call the school.
- Keep your child home from childcare until 24 hours after diarrhea and vomiting have stopped.
- School-aged children do not need to stay home unless they are not feeling well and/or have diarrhea and need to use the bathroom frequently.
- Anyone with diarrhea should not go in lakes, pools, splash pads, water parks, or hot tubs until after diarrhea has stopped.
- For more information, call Hennepin County Epidemiology at 612-543-5230 or your local health department.

## Parent/Guardian information

### Symptoms

Your child may have cold-like symptoms with fever. Sore throat, mouth sores, rash, vomiting, body aches and diarrhea are the most common symptoms.

If your child is infected, it may take 3 to 6 for symptoms to start.

### Spread

- By coughing or sneezing.
- By touching hands, objects, or surfaces that have been contaminated with stool.
- By eating food or beverages contaminated with stool.

### Contagious period

During symptoms and as long as the virus is in the stool. This could be for several weeks, even after symptoms stop.

### Call your health care provider

- No specific treatment is available.

### Prevention

- Cover nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing. Use a tissue or your sleeve. Dispose of used tissues in the trash.

## Enteroviruses

- Wash hands after touching anything that could be contaminated with the secretions from the mouth or nose or with stool. Wash hands before preparing food or eating. Your child may need help with handwashing.
- Clean and disinfect any objects that come in contact with stool or secretions from the nose or mouth. This includes toilets, potty chairs, sinks, toys, diaper changing areas, and surfaces. Use a product that kills germs.

Hennepin County Public Health  
Epidemiology  
612-543-5230  
[epi-envhlth@hennepin.us](mailto:epi-envhlth@hennepin.us)

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