



RECOMMENDATIONS

for Temporary Exclusion from a CHILD CARE SETTING

Children should be excluded from a child care setting for the following conditions:

- Illness that **prevents the child from participating** comfortably in program activities.
- Illness that results in a **greater need for care** than the staff can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children.
- **Fever, lethargy, irritability, persistent crying, difficult breathing** and/or other manifestations of possible severe illness.
- **Persistent abdominal pain** (continuous for more than two hours) or intermittent abdominal pain associated with fever, dehydration, or other systemic signs or symptoms.
- **Chicken pox (Varicella):** exclude until all lesions have dried and crusted or, in immunized children without crusts, until no new lesions appear within a 24-hour period.
- **Diarrhea:** exclude if
 - * stool not contained in diaper
 - * fecal accidents occur in a child normally continent
 - * stool frequency exceeds two or more stools above normal for that child
 - * stool contains blood or mucus
- **E. coli, shiga toxin-producing (STEC):** exclude until diarrhea resolves and two stool cultures are negative.
- **Head lice (Pediculosis):** refer for treatment at end of program day and readmit on completion of first treatment.
- **Hepatitis A:** exclude until one week after onset of illness.
- **Influenza and Influenza-like illness:** exclude as long as fever ≥ 100 degrees Fahrenheit is present in an unmedicated state. Additional exclusions may be necessary for documented novel strain or pandemic influenza based on state or federal guidance.
- **Impetigo (Streptococcal infection of the skin):** exclude until after 24 hours of antibiotic treatment.
- **Measles:** exclude until 4 days after onset of rash.
- **Meningitis:** exclude until cleared to return by a health professional.
- **Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA):** generally no exclusion; considerations may exist if confirmed MRSA is present from a wound in which drainage is occurring and cannot be covered and contained.
- **Mouth sores:** exclude if associated with drooling, unless a physician has determined it is not a communicable disease.
- **Mumps:** exclude until 5 days after the onset of parotid gland swelling.
- **Pertussis (Whooping cough):** exclude until completion of 5 days of recommended course of antibiotic treatment. If appropriate antibiotic treatment is not received, exclude until 21 days after onset of symptoms.
- **Pinkeye or purulent conjunctivitis** (pink or red conjunctiva with white or yellow eye discharge, often with matted eyelids after sleep and eye pain or redness of the eyelids or skin surrounding the eyes): exclude until examined by a physician and approved for re-admission, with treatment.
- **Rash (with fever or behavior change):** exclude until a physician has determined it is not a communicable disease.
- **Rubella:** exclude until 7 days after onset of rash.
- **Scabies:** exclude until after treatment has been completed.
- **Shigella:** exclude until 24 or more hours after diarrhea resolves.
- **Strep throat (Streptococcal pharyngitis):** exclude until after 24 hours of antibiotic treatment.
- **Tuberculosis:** exclude until a physician, concurring with the SD Department of Health, states the child is not infectious.
- **Vomiting:** exclude if vomiting occurs two or more times in 24 hours, unless the vomiting is determined to be caused by a non-communicable condition and the child is not in danger of dehydration.

2015 Red Book, American Academy of Pediatrics, 30th Edition; 2013 Managing Infectious Diseases in Child Care and Schools, A Quick Reference Guide, American Academy of Pediatrics, 3rd Edition; 2015 Control of Communicable Diseases Manual, American Public Health Association, 20th Edition.



If you have questions about infectious diseases or immunizations,
contact the Department of Health or your physician.

South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Disease Prevention: 605-773-3737 or 800-592-1861

Local Disease Intervention Specialist: _____ Phone: _____

Local DSS Child Care Licensing Office: _____ Phone: _____

See also Department of Health disease fact sheet website: <https://doh.sd.gov/diseases/infectious/diseasefacts/>

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