



WHEN STAFF SHOULD BE EXCLUDED OR DISMISSED FROM A CHILDCARE SETTING

A facility should not deny admission to or send home a staff member or substitute with illness unless one or more of the following conditions exists. The staff member should be excluded as follows:

- a) Chickenpox, as directed by Communicable Disease Control Section;
- b) Shingles, only if the lesions cannot be covered by clothing or a dressing until the lesions have crusted;
- c) Rash with fever or joint pain, until diagnosed not to be measles or rubella;
- d) Measles, as directed by the Communicable Disease Control Section;
- e) Rubella, as directed by the Communicable Disease Control Section;
- f) Diarrhea illness, nausea and /or vomiting three or more episodes of diarrhea during the previous 24 hours or blood in stools, until 48 hours after the resolution of symptoms unless vomiting is identified as a non-communicable condition such as pregnancy or digestive disorder or deemed non-infectious by a healthcare professional;
- g) Hepatitis A virus, as directed by the Communicable Disease Control Section;
- h) Pertussis, as directed by the Communicable Disease Control Section;
- i) Skin infections (such as impetigo), until 24 hours after treatment has been initiated;
- j) Tuberculosis, as directed by the Communicable Disease Control Section and the Tuberculosis program;
- k) Strep throat or other streptococcal infection, until 24 hours after initial antibiotic treatment and end of fever;
- l) Head lice, from the end of the day of discovery until the first treatment;
- m) Scabies, until after treatment has been completed;
- n) Purulent conjunctivitis, defined as pink or red conjunctiva with white or yellow eye discharge, often with matted eyelids after sleep, and including eye pain or redness of the eyelids or skin surrounding the eye, until examined by a physician and approved for readmission;
- o) *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib), until directed by the Communicable Disease Control Section;
- p) Meningococcal infection, until directed by the Communicable Disease Control Section;
- q) Respiratory illness, if the illness limits the staff member's ability to provide an acceptable level of childcare and compromises the health and safety of the children.

Childcare providers who have herpes cold sores should not be excluded from the childcare facility, but should:

- 1) Cover and not touch their lesions;
- 2) Carefully observe handwashing policies;
- 3) Refrain from kissing or nuzzling infants or children, especially children with dermatitis.

Excerpted from Care For Our Children, National Health and Safety Performance Standards: Guidelines for Out-Of-Home Childcare Programs, The American Public.