

Your child may have been exposed to:

Salmonellosis

Salmonellosis is a bacterial infection of the intestines.

If you think your child has Salmonellosis:

- Tell your childcare provider or call the school.
- **Need to stay home?**

Childcare:

Yes, until diarrhea has stopped.

School:

No, unless the child is not feeling well and/or has diarrhea and needs to use the bathroom frequently.

In addition, anyone with salmonellosis should not use swimming beaches, pools, water parks, spas, or hot tubs until 2 weeks after diarrhea has stopped.

Symptoms

Your child may have diarrhea, cramps, headache, vomiting, or fever. Illness may last up to 7 days.

If your child is infected, it may take 6 to 72 hours for symptoms to start.

Spread

- By eating or drinking contaminated food or beverages.
- By touching contaminated hands, surfaces, or objects.
- By handling chicks, ducklings, reptiles, and amphibians.

Contagious Period

The illness can spread as long as *Salmonella* bacteria are in the stool. This could be for several weeks.

Call your Healthcare Provider

- ◆ If anyone in your home has symptoms. There is a medical test to detect the bacteria.
- ◆ Ask how to prevent dehydration. Your child may lose a lot of water due to vomiting and diarrhea.

Prevention

- Wash hands after using the toilet or changing diapers and before preparing food or eating. Your child may need help with handwashing.
- Clean and disinfect any objects that come in contact with stool. This includes toilets (potty chairs), sinks, toys, and diaper changing areas. Use a product that kills germs.
- Chicks, ducklings, reptiles (e.g., pet turtles, iguanas, snakes), and amphibians can carry *Salmonella*. Wash your hands after touching these pets.
- Cook foods thoroughly and do not drink unpasteurized milk or unpasteurized juice. Always disinfect cooking surfaces.

For more information, call Hennepin County HSPHD-Epidemiology at 612-543-5230 or call your local health department.