

# COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTING

Good communication among health care providers, childcare providers, school health staff, parents/guardians, and the public health can play a major role in preventing the spread of communicable diseases. It is important that parents/guardians let childcare providers and/or school health staff know whenever their children are diagnosed with a communicable disease. Childcare providers and school health staff should check with their local or state health department to find out if any special control measures are needed when informed of a child or staff member who has a communicable disease.

## Minnesota reporting rule

Many diseases must be reported to the health department. According to Minnesota rule (MCAR 4605.7040 to 4605.7900), 77 specific diseases are reportable. Disease fact sheets included in Section 6 indicate which diseases are reportable, and reportable diseases are marked with an asterisk (\*) in the table of contents.

Childcare providers and school health staff are required by the rule to report diseases to the health department. You do not need to worry about privacy issues or confidentiality when you make a report. Health care providers, laboratories, and others are also required to report. Some communicable diseases can be very serious, so it is important that you call right away, even if you think that someone else may have already made a report. Check the MDH website for any changes in the disease reporting rule:

[www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/reportable/rule/index.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/reportable/rule/index.html)

## The following diseases are reportable in Minnesota:

Amebiasis ( <i>Entamoeba histolytica/dispar</i> )	Gonorrhea
Anaplasmosis	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> disease (all invasive disease)
Anthrax	Hantavirus infection
Arboviral disease	Hemolytic uremic syndrome
Babesiosis	Hepatitis (all viral types)
Blastomycosis	Histoplasmosis
Botulism	Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection
Brucellosis	including <i>Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)</i>
Campylobacteriosis	Influenza (unusual case incidence, critical illness, or laboratory confirmed cases)
Cat scratch disease	Kawasaki disease
Chancroid	<i>Kingella</i> spp.
Chlamydia	Legionellosis
Cholera	Leprosy (Hansen's disease)
Coccidioidomycosis	Leptospirosis
Cryptosporidiosis	Listeriosis
Cyclosporiasis	Lyme disease
Dengue virus infection	Malaria
Diphtheria	Measles
<i>Diphyllobothrium latum</i>	Meningitis (caused by viral agents)
Ehrlichiosis	Meningococcal disease ( <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> )
Encephalitis (caused by viral agents)	
<i>Enterobacter sakazakii</i>	
Enteric <i>E. coli</i> infection	
Giardiasis	

## DISEASE REPORTING

Mumps	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (special situations involving vancomycin resistance or death or critical illness in an otherwise healthy individual)
Neonatal Sepsis	Streptococcal disease (invasive disease)
Orthopox virus	Syphilis
Pertussis	Tetanus
Plague	Toxic shock syndrome
Poliomyelitis	Toxoplasmosis
Psittacosis	Transmissible spongiform encephalopathy
Q fever	Trichinosis
Rabies	Tuberculosis
Retrovirus infections (other than HIV)	Tularemia
Reye syndrome	Typhus
Rheumatic fever	Unexplained deaths and unexplained critical illness (possibly due to an infectious cause)
Rocky Mountain spotted fever	Varicella-zoster disease (primary (chickenpox) and recurrent (shingles))
Rubella and congenital rubella syndrome	<i>Vibrio</i> spp.
Salmonellosis (including typhoid)	Yellow fever
Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) Includes SARS-CoV-2 (COVID)	Yersiniosis
Shigellosis	
Smallpox	

Unusual or increased case incidence of any suspect infectious illness is also reportable.

### Reports from parents/guardians

Parents/guardians can also help to stop the spread of communicable diseases by telling the childcare provider or school health staff whenever their children are diagnosed with a communicable disease. Minnesota Department of Human Services Division of Licensing DHS Rule 3 (Childcare Centers) requires parents/guardians to notify the childcare of a reportable diseases within 24 hours. The childcare provider or school health staff then can watch other children for symptoms, notify all the other parents/guardians, and check with the health department to see if anything else needs to be done. The sooner everyone is notified, the faster control measures can be started and the spread of disease can be reduced or stopped.

### Reports from staff

Childcare or school staff who are diagnosed with a reportable disease are responsible for letting the person in charge of the childcare facility or school health office know about the diagnosis.

### Reports to local/state health department

Cases of reportable communicable diseases should be reported to your local health department or to the Minnesota Department of Health. When you call to report a disease, please have the following information ready:

- Name of disease
- Person's name, date of birth, address, parent or guardian's name and phone number(s)
- Date of onset of symptoms
- Symptoms the child is experiencing (e.g., cough, diarrhea, vomiting, rash, etc.)
- Health care provider's name and phone number
- Immunization dates (depending on the illness)

The health department staff person taking the report will advise you if you need to take any specific control measures.

### **Local and state health department disease prevention and control resources in Minnesota**

If you have a communicable disease question, please try to contact your local public health department first. If your local public health department is not listed or not available within a reasonable amount of time, contact the Minnesota Department of Health at 1-(877) 676-5414 or (651) 201-5414.

#### **Local Health Departments**

#### **Telephone**

Anoka County	(763) 422-6970
Bloomington, Edina, Richfield	(952) 563-8900
Carver County	(952) 361-1329
Dakota County	(952) 891-7500
Goodhue County	(651) 385-6100
Hennepin County	(612) 543-5230
Olmsted County	(507) 328-7500
Saint Paul – Ramsey County	(651) 266-1277
Scott County	(952) 496-8584
Washington County	(651) 430-6655
Wright County	(763) 682-7469

#### **Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)**

#### **Telephone**

Metro area	(651) 201-5414
Toll free	(877) 676-5414

For persons in Greater Minnesota, call the MDH District Office nearest to you. To determine which district you are located in, see [www.health.state.mn.us/about/locations/dist.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/about/locations/dist.html)

#### **District Office**

#### **City**

#### **Telephone**

Central	St. Cloud	(320) 223-7300
South Central	Mankato	(507) 344-2700
West Central	Fergus Falls	(218) 332-5150
Southeast	Rochester	(507) 206-2700
Southwest	Marshall	(507) 476-4220
Northwest	Bemidji	(218) 308-2100

**DISEASE REPORTING**

Northeast

Duluth

(218) 302-6166

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