



ILLNESS ALERT: Croup

Date: _____

Please be advised that a child in our facility was diagnosed with croup. Please read below for more information about this communicable disease and how to prevent illness.

What is Croup? Croup is a respiratory infection that affects young children. Viral infections are the most common cause of the condition. Croup causes swelling of the child's voice box (larynx) and windpipe (trachea). Croup in babies is most common, along with children younger than 3 years old.

Symptoms: Croup is typically mild and lasts less than one week, but symptoms worsen over time.

Mild croup symptoms include: Hoarseness, fever, rash, eye redness, swollen lymph nodes

Symptoms of moderate to severe croup may include: difficulty breathing, restlessness, breathing retractions.

How long is croup contagious? Your child is contagious for three days after their symptoms first appeared or until their fever is gone. You should keep your child home from daycare until 24 hours have passed without a fever and without using fever-reducing medication.

Program actions: The effected classroom(s) have been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected, including toys and furniture.

For more information on Croup: contact the Ohio Department of Health or visit <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/>.