



ILLNESS ALERT: RSV

Date: _____

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

What is RSV? Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is a viral disease that primarily affects children but can occur in people of all ages. In babies, young children, and people with weakened immune systems, RSV causes lower respiratory and pneumonia. In older children, RSV resembles the common cold. Most people have been infected with RSV by age two and usually during outbreaks in the winter months (November-April).

Symptoms:

In babies and young children, symptoms include fever, wheezing, difficulty breathing, and pneumonia. In older children and adults, symptoms are like moderate to severe cold symptoms such as fever, runny nose, and cough.

How long is RSV contagious? RSV comes from close contact with someone with the infection or by touching a contaminated object and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth. In either case, saliva, and mucus are the vehicles that carry the virus from one person to another.

Exclusion from School or Childcare: Children often are infectious before symptoms appear. You should exclude until the child has no fever and can tolerate normal activities

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

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