



Parvovirus B19 and Fifth Disease

What You Need to Know

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Our Commitment: Every Student
Collaborative ★ Competitive ★ Successful

Parvovirus B19

Parvovirus B19 is a precursor to Fifth disease. It can affect any age or ethnicity but is most common in children. Typically there are no symptoms or very mild symptoms depending on age and health. Four to fourteen days after exposure children may develop a pink or red rash on the cheeks and chin.

Fifth Disease

Fifth Disease is the rash that appears after Parvovirus B19 infection and is followed by several other symptoms that can last up to 3 weeks. Once the rash appears the child is no longer contagious and when the rash is healed the child may have immunity to future parvovirus B19 exposures.



Notice the prominent red areas on the cheeks, this is sometimes why this disease is called slapped-cheek rash.



Signs and Symptoms



Fever



Runny Nose



Headache



Second rash can appear all over the body and look “lacy”



Red rash on the face (Slapped Cheek)



Swollen and painful joints



Anemia



Treatment

No treatment



- ★ There is no treatment for fifth disease to speed up the healing process, but comfort measures can be done by administering medication. Acetaminophen (Tylenol) can be used for headache and fever and ibuprofen (Motrin) can be used for joint pain and swelling.
- ★ Clear fluids and rest
- ★ Possible blood transfusion for severe anemia

Transmission



Through
respiratory
secretions such as
saliva, sputum, and
nasal mucous

Can be transmitted
through blood and
blood products

If pregnant, it can
be passed from
mother to baby

Cannot be passed
from pets to
humans

Prevention

- ✓ **Washing your hands often with soap and water**
- ✓ **Covering your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze**
- ✓ **Avoid close contact with people who are sick**
- ✓ **Limit touching your eyes, nose , and mouth**

Stop the spread of germs that make you and others sick!

Cover your Cough



Cover your mouth
and nose with a
tissue when you
cough or sneeze

or
cough or sneeze into
your upper sleeve,
not your hands.



Put your used tissue in
the waste basket.





School Attendance

Students are contagious during the flu-like symptoms. Once the rash appears they are no longer contagious and may return to campus if fever-free for **24 hours** without the use of fever reducing medications.

Questions?

For additional guidance regarding Cumberland County Schools' Best Practices contact the office of Health Services at 910-678-2406 or your child's Public Health School Nurse.