

Infectious Diseases Policy and Exclusion From Care Guideline

Published	May 2018
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Sources	<p>Education and Care Services National Regulations, October 2017</p> <p>Guide to the Education and Care Services National Law and the Education and Care Services National Regulations, October 2017</p> <p>Guide to the National Quality Standard, February 2018</p> <p>Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000 and Regulations 2001 (NSW)</p> <p>Public Health Act 1991 (NSW)</p> <p>Staying Healthy in Child Care, NMHRC 5th Edition. 2012- www.nhmrc.gov.au</p> <p>Interim Standards for In Home Care, Funding Agreement Requirements, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, February 2008</p>

Aim:

To ensure all relevant Educators, staff, children and parents are familiar with the procedures to reduce the spread of infectious diseases within the Family Day Care and In Home Care Service.

Explanation:

Children are often infectious before symptoms appear. Therefore, it is important for Educators to operate their business with good hygiene practices at all times. Excluding sick children, Educators and staff is one of the most important ways, together with good hygiene and immunisation of limiting the spread of infection within the service. The spread of certain infectious diseases can be reduced by excluding a person who is known to be infectious from contact with others who are at risk of catching the infection.

It is important that Educators and staff act appropriately, and with sensitivity when dealing with a child and family where there has been an outbreak of an infectious disease.

Educators, Co-ordination Unit staff and parents need to be informed about the range of infectious diseases that are common in early childhood settings. This information is contained in the Exclusion from Care Guideline from Staying Healthy in Childcare, which is attached to this policy.

Responsibilities:

In relation to Co-ordination Unit Staff:

- Be aware of the requirements of the current Education and Care Services National Regulations and the relevant National Quality Standard in regard to the prevention of infectious diseases
- Be aware of the requirements of the Interim Standards for In Home Care Funding Agreement Requirements 2008 in relation to the prevention of infectious diseases
- Provide information and resources to Educators on how to prevent the transmission of infectious diseases
- Model safe hygiene practices to Educators and children where possible
- Ensure Play Sessions implement practices that aim to prevent the spread of infectious diseases
- Report any occurrence of an immune preventable disease to the Department of Health Infectious Diseases Unit
- Report any incidences of an outbreak of an infectious illness to the department of Public Health Unit in Goulburn (02) 48241837

In relation to Educators:

- Abide by their obligations under the current Education and Care Services National Regulations and the relevant National Quality Standard in relation to the prevention of infectious diseases
- Implement good hygiene practices that aim to prevent the spread of infectious diseases
- Ensure that they protect themselves from infections that are vaccine preventable or that may be contracted due to poor hygiene practices
- Seek advice on health matters including immunisation
- Exclude children from care that are sick or have an infectious disease
- Complete the Accident/Illness/Trauma/Near Miss Report form for any child/ren that have been sent home from care
- Record any illness in the Illness Record in the back of the Programming Diary for any illness that occurred whilst the child was in care, or if the child was kept at home due to illness
- Notify parents of the outbreak of an infectious disease as soon as is practicable

In relation to families:

- Keep children home from care if they are sick or have had an outbreak of an infectious disease
- Promptly pick up a sick or infectious child that has become ill whilst in care
- Provide a Doctor's Certificate for their child if requested by the Educator before returning to care
- Notify the Co-ordination Unit if their child has been diagnosed with an immune preventable disease e.g. whooping cough, measles or rubella
- Communicate with the Educator about their child's health and wellbeing
- Notify the Educator if their child is being tested for an infectious disease

In Home Care**In relation to Educators:**

- Abide by their obligations under the Interim Standards for In Home Care Funding Agreement Requirements 2008 (Standard 3.6, 12.3) in relation to the prevention of infectious diseases
- In addition to the information in the preceding policy and, In-Home Care Educators will also adhere to the following points which refer directly to the In-Home Care Standards
- If exposed to an infectious or notifiable disease, the Educator will notify CCEL

Continual Monitoring and Improvement:

Continual improvement and monitoring will occur in the following ways:

- Incidental and planned consultation with families
- Scheme and Co-ordination Staff accessing current relevant information
- Scheme, Co-ordination Staff and Educators accessing current and relevant training
- Internal evaluation of incidences and the improvement of systems

Policy Review

Date Revised	Comments
January 2012	Responsibilities for Educators: added relevant regulations and quality standards in relation to new Education and Care Services National Regulations and National Quality Standard
June 2012	Added Exclusion Periods for Infectious Diseases Table
January 2013	Added information for In Home Care
May 2013	Scheduled Policy Review, added reporting outbreaks to Public Health Unit in Goulburn
November 2014	Scheduled Policy Review – no changes made
May 2016	Scheduled Policy Review- No changes made
May 2018	Update sources

Exclusion Periods for Infectious Diseases

Condition	Exclusion of Case	Exclusion of Contacts
Amoebiasis (Entamoeba Histolytica)	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Campylobacter	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Candidiasis	See 'Thrush'	
Chickenpox (Varicella)	Exclude until all blisters have dried. This is usually at least 5 days after the rash first appeared in unimmunised children and less in immunised children	Any child with an immune deficiency (for example, leukaemia) or receiving chemotherapy should be excluded for their own protection. Otherwise, not excluded.
CMV (Cytomegalovirus Infection)	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Conjunctivitis	Exclude until the discharge from the eyes has stopped unless doctor has diagnosed a non-infectious conjunctivitis	Not excluded
Cryptosporidium Infection	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Diarrhoea (No organism identified)	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Diphtheria	Exclude until medical certificate of recovery is received following at least 2 negative throat swabs, the first swab not less than 24 hours after finishing a course of antibiotics followed by another swab 48 hours later	Exclude contacts that live in the same house until cleared to return by an appropriate health authority.
German Measles	See 'Rubella'	
Giardiasis	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded

Glandular Fever (Mononucleosis, EBV Infection)	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Condition	Exclusion of Case	Exclusion of Contacts
Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease	Exclude until all blisters have dried	Not excluded
Haemophilus Influenzae Type b (Hib)	Exclude until the person has received appropriate antibiotic treatment for at least 4 days	Not excluded
Head Lice (Pediculosis)	Exclusion is NOT necessary if effective treatment is commenced prior to the next day at child care (i.e. the child doesn't need to be sent home immediately if head lice are detected)	Not excluded
Hepatitis A	Exclude until a medical certificate of recovery is received, but not before seven days after the onset of jaundice	Not excluded
Hepatitis B	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Hepatitis C	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Herpes Simplex (Cold Sores, Fever Blisters)	Exclusion is not necessary if the person is developmentally capable of maintaining hygiene practices to minimise the risk of transmission. If the person is unable to comply with these practices they should be excluded until the sores are dry. Sores should be covered by a dressing where possible	Not excluded
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV/AIDS)	Exclusion is NOT necessary. If the person is severely immunocompromised, they will be vulnerable to other people's illnesses	Not excluded
Hydatid Disease	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Impetigo (School Sores)	Exclude until appropriate antibiotic treatment has commenced. Any sores on exposed skin should be covered with a watertight dressing	Not excluded
Influenza and Influenza-like Illnesses	Exclude until well	Not excluded
Legionnaires' disease	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded

Leprosy	Exclude until approval to return has been given by an appropriate health authority	Not excluded
Condition	Exclusion of Case	Exclusion of Contacts
Measles	Exclude for 4 days after the onset of the rash	<p>Immunised and immune contacts are not excluded</p> <p>Non-immunised contacts of a case are to be excluded from childcare until 14 days after the first day of appearance of rash in the last case, unless immunised within 72 hours of first contact during the infectious period with the first case.</p> <p>All immunocompromised children should be excluded until 14 days after the first day of appearance of rash in the last case.</p>
Meningitis (Bacterial)	Exclude until well and has received appropriate antibiotics	Not excluded
Meningitis (Viral)	Exclude until well	Not excluded
Meningococcal Infection	Exclude until appropriate antibiotic treatment has been completed	Not excluded
Molluscum Contagiosum	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Mumps	Exclude for nine days after onset of swelling	Not excluded
Norovirus	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion or vomiting for 48 hours	Not excluded
Parvovirus Infection (Fifth Disease, Erythema Infectiosum, Slapped Cheek Syndrome)	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded

Pertussis	See 'Whooping Cough'	
Respiratory Syncytial Virus	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Condition	Exclusion of Case	Exclusion of Contacts
Ringworm/Tinea	Exclude until the day after appropriate antifungal treatment has commenced	Not excluded
Roseola	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Ross River Virus	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Rotavirus Infection	Children are to be excluded from the centre until there has not been a loose bowel motion or vomiting for 24 hours	Not excluded
Rubella (German Measles)	Exclude until fully recovered or for at least four days after the onset of the rash	Not excluded
Salmonella Infection	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Scabies	Exclude until the day after appropriate treatment has commenced	Not excluded
Scarlet Fever	See 'Streptococcal Sore Throat'	
School Sores	See 'Impetigo'	
Shigella Infection	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Streptococcal Sore Throat (including Scarlet Fever)	Exclude until the person has received antibiotic treatment for at least 24 hours and feels well	Not excluded
Thrush (Candidiasis)	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Toxoplasmosis	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Tuberculosis (TB)	Exclude until medical certificate is produced from an appropriate health authority	Not excluded
Typhoid, Paratyphoid	Exclude until medical certificate is	Not excluded unless

	produced from appropriate health authority	considered necessary by public health authorities
Condition	Exclusion of Case	Exclusion of Contacts
Varicella	See 'Chickenpox'	
Viral gastroenteritis (Viral Diarrhoea)	Children are to be excluded from the centre until there has not been a loose bowel motion or vomiting for 24 hours	Not excluded
Warts	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Whooping Cough (Pertussis)	Exclude until five days after starting appropriate antibiotic treatment or for 21 days from the onset of coughing	Contacts that live in the same house as the case and have received less than three doses of Pertussis vaccine are to be excluded from the centre until they have had 5 days of an appropriate course of antibiotics. If antibiotics have not been taken, these contacts must be excluded for 21 days after their last exposure to the case while the person was infectious
Worms	Exclusion not necessary if treatment has occurred	Not excluded