

Fifth Disease(Erythema Infectiosum)

Date:

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Fifth Disease has been reported in your student's class.

Fifth Disease is a rash illness that is caused by parvovirus B19.

Symptoms may include:

- Fever
- Runny Nose
- Headache
- Painful or swollen joints
- "Slapped cheek" rash on face, several days after initial symptoms.

Transmission occurs through contact with the secretions from the nose, mouth, and throat of an infected person. Students with these signs and symptoms need to contact their healthcare provider for confirmation of illness and treatment.

Incubation Period: 4-14 days

Contagious Period: Before the appearance of the rash, during the symptomatic phase.

Recommended Actions:

- Please notify your school's health office if diagnosed with Fifth Disease.
- Students are excluded from school until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication even if the rash is still present.
- In rare situations, miscarriages and stillbirths have been associated with Fifth disease during pregnancy. Pregnant women should inform their health care provider of potential exposure to Fifth disease infection.

Prevention: Proper hand washing with soap and water, covering coughs and sneezes, and staying home when you are sick.

Above information from Arizona Department of Health Services.

Thank you,