Protocol

Diarrhea

Diarrhea in school-age children usually will be caused by a specific intestinal disease. The intestinal disease may be viral, and be minor and of short duration. It is important to note that often times children with mild diarrhea have a low-grade fever. Mild meaning the diarrhea last 2-3 days and dissipates by itself.

Some children develop more severe diarrhea with high fever. This is likely to be associated with stomachache from intestinal cramping and will usually have the most severe cramping pain just before a bowel movement.

Management Guidelines

1. If fever is present (see protocol for fever) or soiling of clothes has occurred with diarrhea, notify parent/guardian to pick up the child.

2. For diarrheal episodes of two or more in a row, call parent/guardian to pick up the child.

3. Thoroughly clean the contaminated area as the causative agent can be highly contagious.

4. If parent/guardian will be greater than 1 hour in arrival or cannot be reached, sips of clear liquids should be offered at least hourly.

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Date

Dr. Nancy Bizzell, M.D.
Medical Consultant
Union County Public Schools