

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Local Health Department and Regional Offices of the Illinois Department of Public Health, Hospital Emergency Departments, Infection Control Professionals and Infectious Disease Physicians

**FROM:** Communicable Disease Control Section

**DATE:** September 18, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Mumps Cases in Illinois

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The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is assisting several local health departments with the investigation of multiple clusters of cases in central Illinois. Mumps, an acute vaccine-preventable viral illness transmitted by respiratory droplets and saliva, has an incubation period of 16-18 days (12-25 days min/max respectively). This statewide notification is being sent to inform health care providers and local health departments of this situation so you can be vigilant in looking for signs and symptoms of mumps, especially in those attending a college, university, high school, or other type of institution.

Up to half of people who get mumps have very mild or no symptoms, and therefore do not know they were infected with mumps. The most common symptoms include:

- Fever
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Tiredness
- Loss of appetite
- Swollen and tender salivary glands under the ears on one or both sides (parotitis)
- Orchitis, oophoritis, meningitis, encephalitis, hearing loss, mastitis, and pancreatitis can also occur but are rare.

Laboratory confirmation of suspect cases is important, so buccal swabs should be collected from suspect cases and sent to a commercial laboratory that conducts Mumps PCR testing, or you may contact your local health department to seek approval for testing at the IDPH laboratory. The optimal time for swab specimen collection is preferably within three days of onset in those previously vaccinated or within eight days after symptom onset in unvaccinated individuals.

Children should receive the first dose of mumps-containing vaccine, MMR, at 12-15 months and the second dose at 4-6 years. All adults born during or after 1957 should have documentation of one dose of MMR. Adults at higher risk, such as university students, health care personnel, international travelers, and persons with potential mumps outbreak exposure should have documentation of two doses of mumps vaccine or other proof of immunity to mumps. If you need to be vaccinated or need your vaccination records evaluated, contact your healthcare provider.

Mumps is a reportable condition in Illinois within 24 hours. Prevention and control measure are needed for cases and contacts, so prompt notification is critical. Patients diagnosed with mumps should stay home for at least five days after onset of parotitis. Health care providers should report cases of mumps to their local health department.