

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 02/03/2017

TO: Grant County Healthcare Providers
Grant County School Nurses
Grant County Emergency Management

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT

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Update: Grant County Mumps Outbreak

Confirmed and Additional Probable Mumps Cases Identified

GRANT COUNTY, WA – Grant County Health Officer, Dr. Alexander Brzezny, issues the following mumps update to all healthcare providers, school nurses, and Grant County Emergency Management. GCHD has identified five mumps cases in students at Columbia Basin Job Corp located near Moses Lake. Also being investigated are an additional nine patients with mumps-like symptoms.

GCHD is asking healthcare providers to:

- Remain vigilant for other possible mumps cases in the community, test those suspected for mumps using correct and approved approaches (PCR buccal swab, urine test).
- Provide proper isolation and exclusion information to suspect cases.
- Contact infection control staff when a suspect mumps case is going to be seen.
- Contact GCHD if you have a suspect mumps case. Public health nurses will continue to identify and investigate any additional cases of mumps. GCHD and Washington State Department of Health (DOH) worked collaboratively to facilitate diagnoses and laboratory testing.

GCHD is strongly encouraging healthcare facilities to check all staff vaccination records for protection against mumps, or verifying immunity to mumps. Those born before 1957 are usually considered immune, BUT during an outbreak, date of birth prior to 1957 would not suffice as proof of immunity (see criteria listed below).

During an outbreak there are stricter requirements for proof of immunity:

- **Written documentation of 2 doses of mumps vaccine (MMR) regardless of birth year,**
OR
- **Written documentation of physician-diagnosed mumps, OR**
- **Serologic evidence of immunity (Blood Titer Test).**

If there is a mumps outbreak associated with your facility, those staff without written documentation of immunity or MMR vaccination and they are not immune, they will be EXCLUDED through 25 days after the last possible exposure (contact). If there are additional cases in the facility then the duration of the exclusion will be extended, often for additional weeks.

Grant County schools and college have been notified and are encouraged to review their staff and student immunization records and communicate the need for vaccinations to those who are not up to date. If there are mumps cases identified in the schools, there will be exclusion orders from the Grant County Health Officer.

Infection Control:

- Hospitalized patients should be cared for using droplet precautions until the 6th day after the date of parotitis onset.
- Isolated all cases with parotitis for at least five days or until negative results.
 - Cases (including suspected cases) should stay home and not go to school, work, public places or social activities until 5 full days have passed since the date of parotitis onset. Family members who are not immune should avoid contact during the time the case is infectious. Healthcare workers with mumps illness should be excluded from work until the 6th day after the onset of parotitis, with the date of onset being day 0.
- Cases should be taught “respiratory etiquette”.

Consultations

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Additional information about Mumps

[Grant County Mumps](#) | Grant County Health District
[Mumps](#) | WA-DOH
[About Mumps](#) | CDC

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