



Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) Fact Sheet

September 11, 2014

General Information

- Enteroviruses are common seasonal viruses that generally peak in late summer and early fall. They occur most frequently in children, teens and young adults.
- Enterovirus D68 is a less common strain that causes respiratory symptoms. These often include wheezing, shortness of breath, sneezing, coughing, runny nose and fever.
- Enterovirus is spread person-to-person by coughing, sneezing, or by touching infected persons or surfaces.
- While enterovirus is not generally life-threatening, infections can be severe, and can be especially dangerous for children with asthma or other underlying respiratory conditions.
- There is no vaccine to protect people from enterovirus. Most cases are mild to moderate, and affected persons generally recover on their own.

What You Should Do

- Monitor children, teens and adults for respiratory symptoms.
- If symptoms occur, the individual should:
 - See a physician.
 - Stay away from school, day care, sporting events and other activities where proximity to others can spread the illness.
- Ensure children with pre-existing respiratory conditions, such as asthma, are diligently taking all medications prescribed to control their symptoms.
- Wash hands frequently, with soap and warm water, for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover coughs and sneezes, and remind kids to do the same.
- Avoid sharing beverages, plates, bowls, utensils and other objects that may contact the hands, face or mouth.
- Clean and disinfect commonly-touched surfaces, such as tables, chairs, countertops, toys, appliances, door handles and bathroom fixtures.
- Remember to get annual flu vaccines and other important immunizations for the entire family.
- Contact your physician or call the Montgomery County Health Department at 610-278-5117 with questions or concerns.

For more information, visit: www.health.montcopa.org