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Health Department

fastFACTS

about Sedgwick County Government

July 2009

## Mumps

### What is mumps?

Mumps is a highly communicable, vaccine-preventable disease.

### What are the symptoms of mumps?

Symptoms of the mumps usually include:

- Fever
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Tiredness
- Loss of appetite
- Swelling of the salivary glands

### How soon do symptoms appear?

Symptoms occur 14 to 21 days after infection.

### How long are the mumps contagious?

The infectious period, or time that an infected person can transmit mumps to a non-infected person, is from 3 days before symptoms appear to about 5 days after the symptoms appear.

### How is mumps spread?

The virus resides in the mucus in the nose and throat of the infected person. When that person sneezes or coughs, droplets spray into the air. The infected mucus can land in other people's noses or throats when they breathe or put their fingers in their mouth or nose after touching an infected surface.

### How to get more information on mumps or other health topics:

Call the  
Sedgwick County Health Department  
at 660-7392.

Or visit the Sedgwick County website at:  
[www.sedgwickcounty.org](http://www.sedgwickcounty.org)

### How is mumps treated?

Because mumps is caused by a virus, there is not a prescription treatment available. Rest and time will cure most infected persons.

### How can you prevent the mumps?

The best way to prevent mumps is to be vaccinated against it. Mumps vaccines can be obtained from the Sedgwick County Health Department.

Transmission of illness can be reduced by good hand washing habits and avoiding sharing drinking and eating utensils.