

I've had a few questions from student families and staff about the recent outbreak on Enterovirus D68 and wanted to give you a little information.

1. Enterovirus has been around for a LONG LONG time. It is NOT new. It is very common and similar to rhinovirus, adenovirus, and RSV (viruses we see in the fall, winter, and sometimes spring).
2. Enterovirus (as with other viruses) symptoms can range from mild to severe.
3. There is no increased incidence in respiratory symptoms/illnesses in our area at this point.



The current recommendations from the CDC and King County Department of Health are the **standard precautions we should be using on a regular basis:**

- Wash hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds, especially after changing diapers
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid kissing, hugging, and sharing cups or eating utensils with people who are sick
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as toys and doorknobs, especially if someone is sick
- Stay home if you have a fever.

Please notify me if you have more than “the usual” number of students who are absent due to illness.

Resources

- CDC non-polio enterovirus web page: <http://www.cdc.gov/non-polio-enterovirus/index.html>
- CDC MMWR (Clusters of Acute Respiratory Illness Associated with Human Enterovirus 68 --- Asia, Europe, and United States, 2008—2010) <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6038a1.htm>
- Prevention and treatment of non-polio enterovirus infections (CDC): <http://www.cdc.gov/non-polioenterovirus/about/prevention-treatment.html>

Thnaks,
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