

# BRONCHITIS PARENT FACT SHEET

## PARENT/GUARDIAN

Your child may have been exposed to: BRONCHITIS

Bronchitis/bronchiolitis are respiratory illnesses caused by viruses or bacteria.

If you think your child has bronchitis:

- Tell your childcare provider or call the school.
- Keep your child home from childcare and school until fever is gone (without the use of a fever reducing medicine) and your child is healthy enough for routine activities.
- Do not give aspirin or salicylate-containing medicines to anyone under 18 years of age.

**Symptoms** Your child may have a runny nose and fever. Cough starts out dry and harsh and becomes looser after your child has been sick for a while.

Your child may have a sore throat. The cough can last 1 to 2 weeks.

**Spread** By sneezing or coughing. By touching contaminated hands, objects, or surfaces.

**Contagious period** Shortly before and while your child has symptoms.

**Call your health care provider** If your child has a high fever, sore throat, or cough that does not go away.

*Antibiotics do not work for illnesses caused by viruses, including some types of bronchitis.*

## Prevention

- Cover nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing. Use a tissue or your sleeve.
- Dispose of used tissues in the trash.
- Wash hands after touching anything that could be contaminated with the secretions from the mouth or nose.
  - Your child may need help with handwashing.
- Do not share anything that goes into the mouth, such as drinking cups, straws, and water bottles.
- Clean and disinfect anything that comes in contact with secretions from the nose or mouth. Use a product that kills germs.
- Do not expose your child to second-hand tobacco smoke. Smoke increases the risk for serious respiratory infections and middle ear infections.

**For more information, please contact your local health department.**

[Carson City Health & Human Services](#) (Carson City, Douglas, Lyon Counties) 775-434-1690 & 775-887-2190 (after hours)

[Central Nevada Health District](#) (Churchill, Mineral, Eureka, Pershing Counties) 775-866-7535

[Northern Nevada Public Health](#) (Washoe County) 775-328-2447 (24 hours)

[Southern Nevada Health District](#) (Clark County) 775-759-1300 (24 hours)

[Division of Public and Behavioral Health](#) (All other Counties) 775-400-0333 (24 hours)

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