

SHIGELLOSIS PARENT FACT SHEET

PARENT/GUARDIAN

Your child may have been exposed to: SHIGELLOSIS

Shigellosis is a bacterial infection of the intestines.

Need to stay home?

Yes, additional testing may be required prior to readmission. Consult with Health Department.

If you think your child has Shigellosis tell your childcare provider or call the school.

Symptoms

Your child may have diarrhea (may be watery and/or contain blood or mucous), stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting, or fever. Illness may last 4 to 7 days.

If your child is infected, it may take 1 to 7 days for symptoms to start.

Spread

- By eating or drinking contaminated food or beverages.
- By touching contaminated hands, surfaces, or objects.

Contagious Period

The illness can spread as long as *Shigella* bacteria are in the stool, this could be for up to 4 weeks.

Call your Healthcare Provider

- If anyone in your home has symptoms. There is a medical test to detect the bacteria. Antibiotic treatment is available.
- Ask how to prevent dehydration. Your child may lose a lot of water due to vomiting and diarrhea.

Prevention

- Wash hands after using the toilet or changing diapers and before preparing food or eating. Your child may need help with handwashing.
- Clean and disinfect any objects that come in contact with stool. This includes toilets (potty chairs), sinks, toys, and diaper changing areas. Use a product that kills germs.
- Everyone with *Shigella* in their stools should not use swimming beaches, pools, water parks, spas, or hot tubs until 2 weeks after the diarrhea has stopped.

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)

Email: dpbhepi@health.nv.gov