

COUNTY OF ORANGE HEALTH CARE AGENCY

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PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIOLOGY AND ASSESSMENT

FAX	Date: Number of pages including cover sheet: 1
From: Orange County Epidemiology	To:
Phone: (714) 834-8180	FAX
Fax: (714) 834-8196	
Remarks: Urgent For your review Reply ASAP Per your request	

Chickenpox Reports from Schools with <3 Cases Over a 2 Month Period

Thank you very much for reporting your case(s) of chickenpox to us. For all schools with one or more cases of chickenpox, we recommend the following:

- 1. **Identify and exclude acute case(s) from school** until all lesions have crusted over. Previously vaccinated children may have a milder form of rash with <50 lesions and/or lesions that don't form blisters and look like little bug bites. These children should be excluded until no new lesions are appearing.
- 2. Notify exposed students and staff. The minimum group that should be notified are the children/staff in the classroom(s) of the affected student(s), but if there are students in multiple grades or the students move from classroom to classroom or have other activities, it may be necessary to notify the whole school. Please see the attached template which we can also provide in electronic form for your convenience. The key messages in a notification letter should include:
 - a. Notification of potential exposure to chickenpox
 - b. Information on chickenpox and potential complications from infection
 - c. Recommendation of vaccination for children and adults who have not been immunized and/or have not had chickenpox
 - d. Recommendation that exposed people with immune problems or who are pregnant consult their physician immediately.
- 3. Continue to monitor for rash illnesses. If your school has 3 or more cases of chickenpox over a 2 month period, you should discuss the situation with a Public Health Nurse at 714-834-8180 as additional measures may need to be implemented.

Thank you again for reporting your chickenpox case(s) to us. If you have any questions, please contact a Public Health Nurse at 714-834-8180.