

APPENDIX E
LENAWEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REFERENCE CHART April 2012

The following chart contains information and public health recommendations for when to keep children home from schools, daycares and group activities due to a communicable disease. Diagnosis should always be made by a physician.

DISEASE	GENERAL SYMPTOMS	INCUBATION PERIOD (time from exposure until symptoms appear)	PERIOD OF COMMUNICABILITY (time when disease can spread from person to person)	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS
CHICKENPOX (Varicella)	Rash of pus-filled itchy blisters all over body; appearance changes over time	2-3 weeks; commonly 13-17 days.	Usually 1-2 days before rash onset until all sores are crusted, normally 5 days after rash onset.	Keep home until sores have crusted over, but not more than 10 days.
CONJUNCTIVITIS (Pink Eye)	Red, swollen eyes & lid with pain, itching, & drainage	Varies.	When symptoms are present	Keep home while symptoms are present or after being on an antibiotic for 24 hours.
FIFTH DISEASE (Erythema Infectiosum)	Fever, flushed appearance, lacy rash	4-20 days.	Before rash appears. Not contagious after rash appears.	OK to go to school as long as diagnosed as fifth disease by physician.
HAND, FOOT & MOUTH DISEASE	Fever, sores that develop into blisters first in mouth then palms and soles	Usually 3-5 days.	While sores are present, about 7-10 days. Can be found in feces (stool) for several weeks during active stage.	Keep home until no new sores appear and other symptoms (fever, sore throat, drooling) are gone.
HEAD LICE (Pediculosis)	Intense itchiness of scalp, sores from itching, eggs and nymphs (baby lice) seen near scalp, adult lice.	Eggs hatch in a week.	Until lice and viable (living) eggs are destroyed.	Keep home only until appropriate treatment is started.
HEPATITIS, TYPE A	Anorexia (loss of appetite), nausea, fever, diarrhea, fatigue, jaundice (yellow skin), dark urine	2-6 weeks; average is 4 weeks (28 days).	2 weeks before onset of symptoms to a maximum of 2 weeks after onset.	OK to attend school. Exclude from food service until have doctor's release.
HEPATITIS, TYPE B	Anorexia (loss of appetite), nausea, fever, diarrhea, fatigue, jaundice (yellow skin), dark urine	45 days-6 months; average is 60-90 days (2-3 months).	Several weeks before onset of symptoms until blood is no longer positive for evidence of virus.	OK to go to school.
HEPATITIS, TYPE C	Anorexia, nausea, fever, fatigue, jaundice, dark urine	2 weeks to 6 months (commonly 6-9 weeks).	1 or more weeks before symptoms start through active stage of disease	OK to go to school.
HERPES SIMPLEX, TYPE I & II	Tingling, burning, & itching followed by blisters	2-12 days.	As long as sores are present. May be in saliva for up to 7 weeks after mouth sores.	OK to go to school. Sores on skin should be covered with a bandage.
IMPETIGO	Open sores on skin (typically the face) with draining pus	Varies. Usually 4-10 days.	While sores are draining.	Keep home until under treatment for 24 hours on oral medication or antibiotic ointment. Cover sores with bandage
INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS	Fever and any of the following symptoms: sore throat, cough, aching in muscles	Usually 1-4 days for seasonal influenza	From one day before symptoms begin to five days after illness onset	Keep home until fever free for least 24 hrs (without the use of fever-reducing medicine). Good cough etiquette and proper hand hygiene should be exercised.
MENINGITIS (Aseptic/Viral)	Sudden fever, severe headache, stiff neck, vomiting, eyes sensitive to light, neurological symptoms	Depends on type of infectious agent.	Depends on type of infectious agent.	Keep home until physician approves return.
MENINGITIS (Bacterial)	Fever, severe headache, stiff neck, vomiting, neurological symptoms, skin rash	Probably short, within 2-4 days.	As long as organisms are present.	Keep home until under treatment and physician approves return.