

C&FS Child & Family Services Operations Manual	Program Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Procedure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Policy
	Document Title: Short-Term Medical Exclusion Policy				
	Content Area: Health/Nutrition				
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	Other Rec/App. Required: Health Advisory Committee / Health Advisor Reviewed on: <u>9/16/21</u>				
	Regulatory References: HSPS; Child Care Licensing Rules				
	Key Word1: Daily Health Checklist Key Word2: _____				
Related Documents: Medication Procedure Notifiable Conditions Notifiable Conditions Reporting From					

Policy:

It is the intent of our program to provide a healthy environment for children and staff to prevent the spread of germs and illness. This policy addresses acute and communicable diseases as it pertains to child's attendance in our program. In addition to this policy, KVCAP Child & Family Services references and considers:

- Collaborative partner policies
- *Managing Infectious Diseases in Child Care and Schools*
- Maine Center for Disease Control
- Maine Rules for Licensing of Child Care Facilities

Definitions:

- *Acute Disease* – An illness that usually has rapid onset, severe symptoms, and a short course.
- *Communicable Disease* – A disease that may be transmitted directly or indirectly from one person to another. It is caused by an infectious agent or toxic products produced by the disease.

Guidance for Daily Health Check:

- Observe the child every day at the time of arrival and throughout the child's day for obvious signs of illness.
- Connect with families each day (when possible) and listen for information about a child's health.
- Observe changes in behavior or appearance.
- If any signs of illness are observed and the child is displaying atypical behavior, staff will consult with the team and Supervisor; discuss if the child can remain in care participating in activities, including outdoor, without compromising programming and health for other children. Consult *Managing Infectious Diseases in Child Care and Schools* (see Signs & Symptoms) as appropriate.
- The Health Coordinator should be consulted as needed.

Concerns that *may* require action and/or exclusion include, but are not limited to:

- **Skin rashes** and itchy skin or scalp:
 - A non-oozing rash would not require exclusion without concerns of other symptoms.
- **Fever (100.4 or higher):**
 - Temperature monitoring and exclusion in the absence of behavior change is not recommended for children over 4 months.
 - **Recommend immediate medical attention when children younger than 4 months have unexplained fever.**
- **Complaints** of pain or not feeling well.
- **Vomiting.**
- **Diarrhea:** Consider age, normal movements for the child, or any recent dietary changes
- **Eye irritation:** Consider severity and the child's ability to refrain from touching eyes.
- **Lice:** Treatment required before returning to care/group setting.
- **Activity level and ability to participate.**

- Any combination of symptoms above.

Definite exclusions include:

- Specific communicable diseases.
- When child has vomited 2 or more times in 24 hours.
- Oozing/open wounds or rashes.
- Temperature of 100.4 with other symptoms.

Child Exclusion:

- Notify the parent/guardian as soon as exclusion is recommended by the team.
- Staff will supervise and provide child with a comfortable location away from other children whenever possible until the child is picked up.
- Staff will complete an “Illness Report Form” and provide a copy of the illness form to the parent.
- Staff will discuss with parents/guardians if additional medical information and instructions are needed to assure the child can return to the program and/or meet the needs of the child.
- The child may return when the child is free of fever for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication, symptom free, not contagious, and is able to participate in the program’s activities of the day, including outside play. Under most circumstances, the child may also return to care upon the receipt of a note from the child’s medical provider supporting return to care. The Health Coordinator should be consulted as needed.

Staff Exclusion:

- Staff with a communicable or contagious disease that pose a health risk for children shall be excluded from work during that time; see 9.15 Rules for the Licensing of Child Care Facilities.
- During the time of an outbreak for certain communicable diseases, a staff without a record of up-to-date immunizations or verification of immunity may be excluded. Maine’s CDC and Prevention provides direction regarding exclusion and return to the program for certain communicable diseases or conditions.

Communicable diseases:

- Examples of communicable diseases or conditions include, but are not limited to:
 - Chicken Pox
 - Strep Throat
 - Influenza
 - Pertussis
 - RSV
 - Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease
 - Fifth Disease
- In the event of a confirmed communicable disease, staff will consult with their supervisor, the C&FS Health Coordinator and designated public school personnel (if needed) for guidance on exclusion and communication to families. In general, supervisors should notify the Health Coordinator.
- Information provided for parents may include information on signs/symptoms and prevention.
- During the time of an outbreak, a child without record of up-to-date immunization may be excluded.
- The Health Coordinator will contact the program’s Medical Advisor, Maine Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention, and other resources as needed and required by regulation.
- Maine’s CDC and Prevention provides direction regarding exclusion and return to the program for certain communicable diseases or conditions, as well as direction if a center closure. The C&FS Chief Operating Officer will be notified.
- Staff responds and acts on CDC recommendations as promptly as possible.

- The [CDC Notifiable Conditions List](#) outlines all reportable communicable diseases. The Health Coordinator will refer to this list to assure appropriate reporting requirements are met.

Health Reminders:

Please talk with your child's teacher if you notice any symptoms or if you have questions about health topics. Some symptoms may require a doctor's note and/or instructions before child can return to school.

Staff consult *Managing Infectious Diseases in Child Care and Schools* for guidance on child exclusion.