

Purpose

These guidelines are intended to help child care facilities with the identification, reporting, control, and prevention of suspected influenza and/or influenza-like illness (ILI) outbreaks.

Criteria for Reporting Suspected Influenza/ILI Outbreaks

Monitoring for absenteeism, parent reports of influenza, and ILI in attendees and staff can help in identifying potential influenza outbreaks. ILI is defined as a fever ($\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ [37.8°C], oral or equivalent) AND cough and/or sore throat (without a known cause other than influenza). Immediately notify the regional health department when:

1. 10% or more of the total child care facility enrollment is absent or sent home on a given day for reasons not otherwise specified (e.g., a facility with 50 children would contact DHEC when at least five children are absent on the same day for reasons not attributable to vacation, inclement weather, etc).
- OR**
2. Two individuals with ILI are reported in a shared setting (e.g., classroom or shared room) within 72 hours of each other with at least one reported as testing positive for influenza (i.e., individual is reported to have tested positive for influenza by a lab test such as a rapid influenza test, culture, real-time PCR, DFA, or IFA).

Please note: Outbreaks should be considered over when the above mentioned criteria no longer present for five consecutive business days. Report a new outbreak if your child center facility meets the above listed criteria again during the influenza season and a minimum of five business days has passed.

What to Report

Report as much of the following information as available when notifying the regional health department of a suspected influenza outbreak:

- Child care facility name
- Number of attendees and staff who are absent
- Baseline attendee absenteeism per day (i.e., the number of attendees who are typically absent per day)
- Number of individuals who have tested positive for influenza
- Number of individuals who have ILI
- Earliest illness onset date and latest illness onset date
- Total facility enrollment
- Total number of attendees and staff in shared setting (e.g., classroom or shared room), if applicable

Subsequent Reporting

Report all ill cases (e.g. children and staff) utilizing a line list (provided by the regional health department personnel) at the following intervals: weekly or as deemed appropriate.

How to Report

Contact information for regional health departments can be found at: www.scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/CR-009025.pdf

Completed	Recommendations for Prevention and Control	Resources
Vaccination		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Encourage the annual influenza vaccine. CDC recommends everyone who is 6 months of age and older should get the influenza vaccine, unless medically contraindicated.	cdc.gov/flu/protect/children.htm
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recommend yearly flu shots for anyone who cares for children <6 months of age.	
Good Hygiene Etiquette		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Ensure staff members are trained on appropriate hand hygiene practices.</p> <p>Post signage to remind staff of proper handwashing procedures.</p> <p>Provide available, suitable sinks for children. Staff should assist children with handwashing and teach children proper procedures.</p> <p>Reinforce to staff that handwashing should occur after each diaper change.</p> <p>Reinforce to children and staff that they should cover their nose and mouth with a tissue or their upper sleeve (if tissue is not available) when they cough or sneeze. Place tissue in a trash receptacle after use.</p> <p>Wash hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer after coughing or sneezing.</p>	<p>cdc.gov/handwashing/</p> <p>www.youtube.com/watch?v=8iFEvkbaFh4</p> <p>cdc.gov/flu/protect/covercough.htm</p>
Limit Contact with Others When Sick		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Avoid close contact (i.e., within six feet) with ill persons.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stay home when experiencing influenza or ILI until free from fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure staff and students with influenza or ILI are appropriately excluded from school. Follow the guidance outlined in the School and Childcare Exclusion List.	www.scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/CR-011634.pdf
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure procedures are in place to monitor reports of illness in children and staff, including checking the health status of children as they arrive at the facility each day.	
Clean and Disinfect Surfaces		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Follow your facility's policies for cleaning and disinfecting. In particular, ensure that frequently touched surfaces such as door knobs, tables, desks, computer keyboards, handrails, etc., are routinely cleaned.	<p>cdc.gov/flu/school/cleaning.htm</p> <p>cdc.gov/flu/school/</p>