

**Information Bulletin on Ebola, Enterovirus D68 & Flu: Strategies for Child Care, Schools
From the American Academy of Pediatrics, via Listserv Email on 10/7/2014**

There are numerous news reports about the epidemic of [Enterovirus D68](#) affecting many children, and now [Ebola virus](#).

To ensure the health of all children in child care and school settings, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends caregivers and teachers continue the current procedures already in place to manage infectious diseases (e.g. immunizations, infection control, and proper exclusion practices).

Children with Enterovirus D68, for example, may have symptoms that look similar to children with the common cold, the flu, or other respiratory viruses. Remember, it is not the job of caregivers and schools to diagnose children.

There are steps that Child Care Providers, Facilities, and Schools can take to prevent the spread of infection and illness, including having policies that encourage:

- Routine childhood and adult [immunizations](#).
- [Handwashing and hand hygiene](#).
- Infection control measures such as [sanitation, disinfection, and maintenance](#).
- Excluding (*sending home*) children if the illness prevents the child from participating comfortably from activities, results in a need for care that is greater than staff members can provide (*without compromising the care of other children*), or poses a risk of harmful diseases to others.
- Preparing in advance for infectious disease [outbreaks or epidemics](#).

By following these recommendations, you will be doing your part to maintain a healthy environment for all the children in your care, regardless of illness.

Additional resources for Child Care Providers & Schools:

- [Preventing the Spread of Illness in Child Care or School](#) Preventing the Flu: Resources for Parents & Child Care Providers
- [Enterovirus: What Parents Need to Know](#)
- [Ebola: What Parents Need to Know](#)
- [Managing Infectious Diseases in Child Care and Schools, 3rd Edition](#) (AAP Bookstore - shop.aap.org)
- [Caring for Our Children Manual](#) (National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education)
- [Caring for Our Children: Standard 3.3 Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Disinfecting](#) (National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education)
- [Model Child Care Health Policies](#) (A Publication of the AAP and the Pennsylvania Chapter of the AAP)
- [HealthyChildren.org](#)