COMMON CONCERNS IN SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Disease: **Cold Sores (Herpes Simplex)**

*Symptoms:* Vesicles usually on lips but may occur anywhere on skin or in mucous membranes. May be confused with Impetigo.

*Incubation Period:* 2-12 days

*Usual School Action and Comments on Communicability:*  
1. No restriction.  
2. May be communicable as long as seven weeks after lesion appears.

*Source of Infection and Mode of Transmission:*  
Virus is transmitted by direct contact with infected persons, a majority of whom have unapparent infections.

Note: Children and adolescents should not be given aspirin containing medications unless specifically prescribed by physician. Good hand washing is the best prevention of disease.