

COMMON CONCERNS IN SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Disease: **Fifth Disease**

Symptoms: Characteristic rash “slapped cheek” redness of cheeks. Rash often later found on arms, upper body, legs. Very fine lacy appearance. Sometimes fever or sore throat.

Incubation Period: 4-21 days.

Usual School Action and Comments on Communicability:

- 1.If other rash-causing illnesses are ruled out, there is no need to exclude.
2. Treat fever and sore throat with over the counter pain medicine (non aspirin).
3. Pregnant women exposed to Fifth Disease should contact their health care provider.

Source of Infection and Mode of Transmission: Most contagious before onset of rash. Spread from nose and throat discharge. Thoroughly wash hands with soap and warm running water. Dispose of soiled tissues.

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