

Enterovirus D68 Fact Sheet

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General Information

Virology

Enterovirus is part of the Picornaviridae family of viruses. There are over one hundred types of Enteroviruses. Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) was first isolated in 1962 in California.

Clinical Manifestations

Mild symptoms of EV-D68 may include: body and muscle aches, sneezing, cough, runny nose, sneezing and fever. Severe symptoms may include: difficulty breathing and wheezing. Enterovirus is usually spread in the summer and fall.

Epidemiology of Transmission

EV-D68 is spread through direct contact (human to human transmission) when an infected person coughs or sneezes or contaminates a surface that is touched by others. The virus can be found in an infected person's respiratory secretions: saliva, sputum or (nasal) mucus.

Basic Prevention

There is no specific treatment for those exhibiting respiratory symptoms of EV-D68 as there are no antivirals available at this time. For those who are infected or caring for those that are infected should perform frequent hand hygiene- if hands are not clean avoid touching your mucous membranes (eyes, nose mouth), clean and disinfect contaminated surfaces, exercise proper coughing and sneezing etiquette - do not cover your coughs/sneezes with

your hands, avoid close contact where possible and avoid sharing eating utensils.

Healthcare Prevention Measures

In addition to Standard Precautions, Droplet and Contact Precautions must be applied for all persons under investigation or infected with enterovirus.

- Follow hand-hygiene guidelines by either carefully washing hands with soap and water or using Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizers (ABHS) after contact
- Use gowns, gloves, face mask and eye protection when in contact with or caring for patients and for all interactions that may involve contact with the patient or potentially contaminated areas in the patient's environment

Environmental Control Measures

Products used for disinfection must have an appropriate general virucidal claim, that is the product must demonstrate efficacy against enveloped and non-enveloped viruses. Routine cleaning and disinfection should be performed on frequently touched environmental surfaces. There should be prompt removal of blood and body fluids followed by routine disinfection. All patient care equipment should be cleaned and disinfected as per Routine / Standard Practices before reuse with another patient or a single use device should be used, disinfected and discarded in a waste receptacle after use.

References:

1. Enterovirus 68. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enterovirus_68
2. Enterovirus D68. <http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/BrowseByTopic/InfectiousDiseases/Pages/Enterovirus-D68.aspx>
3. Non-polio Enterovirus. <http://www.cdc.gov/non-polio-enterovirus/about/ev-d68.html>

