

CHICKENPOX

Varicella-Zoster Virus



Chickenpox is a highly contagious vaccine-preventable illness that is most common in children.

This is a REPORTABLE disease. All cases must be reported to the Department of Health.



Phase 1: Papules (raised bumps) **Phase 2:** Vesicles (fluid filled blisters) **Phase 3:** Crust and scabs cover broken blisters.

Symptoms:



Fever



Itchy Rash

Headache



Headache



No Appetite

Fatigue



Contagious for 48 hours prior to rash onset & until all blisters crust over. Infected people should stay home during this time.

Rash Duration: 5-10 days

Spreads via airborne droplets from coughs and sneezes.

Typically vaccine or initial infection results in lifetime immunity, but can reemerge in the body later in life as Shingles.

Contact your doctor if patient is a newborn, immunocompromised, pregnant, or if you experience symptoms such as signs of skin infection, dizziness, paralysis, fast heartbeat, stiff neck, worsening cough, fever over 102° F or confusion.

Do not take aspirin while infected as it increases risk of Reye's syndrome.