



COUNTY OF YOLO

Health and Human Services Agency

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www.yolocounty.org

HEALTH ADVISORY

To: All Healthcare Providers

From: Ron Chapman, MD, MPH
Health Officer, Yolo County

Date: January 14, 2020

Subject: Chickenpox Advisory

Identification and Reporting of Chickenpox Cases

Situation Update

A cluster of epidemiologically-linked chickenpox (Varicella Zoster Virus) cases was reported on Monday, January 13, 2020 in adults between the ages of 30 and 60. Under Title 17, chickenpox is reportable when it requires hospitalization, or results in an outbreak or death. To determine the extent of the outbreak, the Health Officer is requesting that providers notify Yolo County Health and Human Services Infectious Disease staff of any new cases. A follow-up notice will be sent when reports are no longer needed.

Actions:

Report

Single probable or confirmed chickenpox cases must be reported to the Yolo County Health and Human Services Outbreak Lead by faxing a completed Confidential Morbidity Report (CMR) to **(530) 669-1549**.

If you are reporting more two or more cases or are a residential facility or congregate setting, please call Yolo County Health and Human Services Infectious Disease Outbreak Team at **530-666-8339** during business hours, and the duty officer at **(530) 321-3620** after hours.

Davis

600 A Street
Davis, CA 95616
Mental Health (530) 757-5530

West Sacramento

500 Jefferson Boulevard
West Sacramento, CA 95605
Service Center (916) 375-6200
Mental Health (916) 375-6350
Public Health (916) 375-6380

Winters

111 East Grant Avenue
Winters, CA 95694
Service Center (530) 406-4444

Woodland

25 & 137 N. Cottonwood Street
Woodland, CA 95695
Service Center (530) 661-2750
Mental Health (530) 666-8630
Public Health (530) 666-8645

Symptoms:

Consider chickenpox (varicella) in patients of any age or vaccination status who present with an acute onset diffuse (generalized) maculo-papulovesicular rash without other apparent cause.

In vaccinated persons, varicella that develops more than 42 days after vaccination (breakthrough disease) due to infection with wild-type virus, is usually mild, with fewer than 50 skin lesions and a short duration of illness. The rash may also be atypical in appearance (maculopapular with few or no vesicles).

Infectious Period:

From 1 to 2 days before rash until all the lesions are crusted (usually about 5 days).

Testing:

Laboratory testing cannot differentiate between varicella (chickenpox) and herpes zoster (shingles) as they are both caused by the same varicella zoster virus. Testing is not necessary, as clinicians are often familiar with chickenpox and able to make a clinical diagnosis.

Please refer to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) publication Varicella Investigation Quicksheet (July 2019) for guidance on post-exposure prophylaxis.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Immunization/Varicella-Quicksheet.pdf>