



Yeast

Yeast is a fungus that can cause infection. It is common for children to have yeast infections of the mouth or throat (thrush) or the diaper area (diaper rash).

If you think your child has a yeast infection:

- Tell your childcare provider or call the school.
- Children with yeast infections do not need to stay home.
- For more information, call Hennepin County HSPHD-Epidemiology at 612-543-5230 or your local health department.

Parent/Guardian information

Symptoms

Thrush – White, slightly raised patches on the tongue, gums, roof of the mouth, throat, or inside the cheek. Sucking on fingers or thumbs may cause children to develop the infection around the fingernails.

Diaper rash – Smooth, shiny, red rash with a raised border.

Spread

- Person to person spread is rare, but may happen by touching skin rash/sores or secretions from the mouth.

Contagious period

The illness can spread as long as rash/sores are present.

Call your health care provider

- If anyone in your home has symptoms of thrush or diaper rash.

Prevention

- Wash hands after touching anything that could be contaminated with secretions from the nose or mouth and after changing diapers. Your child may need help with handwashing.
- Clean and disinfect objects that come in contact with secretions from the mouth or nose and the skin in the diaper area.
- Replace bottle nipples and pacifiers after treatment.

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- Do not allow sharing of objects that come in contact with the mouth such as toys and bottles.
- For diaper rash, keep the skin dry and change diapers frequently.

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