

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE:** October 27, 2016 **END DATE:** November 9, 2016  
**CONTACT:** Suzanne Cupal, MPH  
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**RE:** Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease

The Genesee County Health Department has seen an increased presence in Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease this season. Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease is a viral illness that usually affects infants and children younger than 5 years old. Symptoms that may be associated could include fever, mouth sores, and skin rash.

Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease can be spread through close personal contact, coughing or sneezing, contact with feces, and contact with contaminated objects, and surfaces. The viruses that cause Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease can be found in an infected person's nose and throat secretions, blister fluid, and feces.

There is no vaccine to protect against the viruses that cause Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease. Maintaining good hygiene, washing your hands often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds, cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces and soiled items, and avoiding close contact with people who are infected can also minimize the spread or getting infections.

There is no specific treatment for Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease. People who are concerned about their symptoms should contact their health care provider.

**Genesee County Health Department, Your Health. Our Work.**

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