



What is cytomegalovirus?

- Cytomegalovirus is an infection caused by a herpes virus which is harmless to most people

What are symptoms that could occur?

- In babies born with it, signs may include being born small, jaundice (yellow skin), spleen problems, liver problems, lung problems, and seizures
- Children usually have no symptoms
- Occasionally, older children may develop fever, sore throat, swollen glands, enlarged liver, and a general feeling of not being well
- Vision loss

How is it spread?

- Through close, direct and prolonged contact with an infected individual's saliva, urine or other bodily fluids; sexually transmitted

How is it diagnosed and treated?

- Most infections are not diagnosed because there are no symptoms
- Physician evaluation and laboratory testing are necessary if a diagnosis is required
- There are no treatments available

Are there complications?

- Pregnant women can transmit CMV to her fetus, possibly causing various health problems
- People who care for CMV infants and children are at greater risk of for CMV infection because the infant/child may shed the virus in their urine and saliva where caregivers have frequent contact through activities such as diaper changing, feeding, etc.
- People with weakened immune systems may experience life-threatening diseases

Should the sick individual be isolated?

- No. There is no need to isolate infected children or adults

When can the individual return to the general population?

- No reason to exclude an individual with CMV unless he/she is feeling ill

Should facilities do special cleaning?

- Special cleaning is not necessary. Routine cleaning with EPA approved products is recommended.

If I have any other questions, whom can I contact?

- Call the Genesee County Health Department at 257-1017