



**Population and Public Health**  
Office of the Medical Health Officers  
204-310 Idylwyld Drive North  
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Tel: 306.655.4612

March 2 2017

**RE: MUMPS OUTBREAK IN WESTERN CANADA**

Dear Health Care Practitioners in Saskatoon Health Region:

Saskatoon Health Region is sending you an advisory in regards to the reported outbreak in Mumps in several sports teams in Western Canada.

- Most of the reported cases of the reported mumps cases are in Manitoba and Alberta
- The outbreak has predominately affected college age university students and the Western Canada hockey league players.
- Teams have been notified of symptoms and advised to seek medical attention if symptomatic
- One sporadic case of mumps has been recently reported in SHR- not linked to the Western Canada Outbreak, but travel outside the country.

You can expect symptomatic patients to present for care in your clinics, and the following is general guidance on diagnosis, testing and reporting.

**Mumps Signs and Symptoms:**

Mumps is an acute viral infection characterized by fever, swelling and tenderness of one or more of the salivary glands. Symptoms include myalgia, anorexia, malaise, headache and fever often followed by unilateral or bilateral parotitis. Approximately 20% of infections are asymptomatic and 40% to 50% manifest as nonspecific or respiratory symptoms (PHAC).

Other respiratory pathogens in circulation can interfere with the serologic diagnosis (i.e. cross-reactions leading to false positive IgM). These pathogens include Parainfluenza virus, Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV), or Mycoplasma pneumonia.

**Testing:**

**Test using all three specimen sources:**

- Buccal swab (stensen's duct) for mumps PCR collected within 9 days after parotitis onset  
**AND**
- Urine sample for mumps PCR collected within 14 days after parotitis onset,  
**AND**
- Acute serum sample: mumps IgM and IgG within five days of symptom onset

**Exclude:**

If mumps is suspect exclude for at least 5 days after onset of parotitis and for 9 days if symptoms persist.

**Report:**

Report suspected or confirmed case of mumps to Population and Public Health at 306-655-4612.

Sincerely,

*Original signed*

Dr. Johnmark Opondo  
DMHO  
Saskatoon Health Region