

mumps

Mumps is an infectious disease which shows itself mainly by swelling of the salivary glands in the side of the face.

SYMPTOMS

Slight fever with pain and swelling below one ear. The area of pain and swelling gradually extends up into the side of the cheek. This swelling usually lifts the lower part of the ear outwards and frequently develops two or three days later on the other side of the face. The temperature and general illness is usually moderate but may be quite severe. The mucous membranes of the mouth and throat are usually inflamed. The swelling is frequently sufficient to cause difficulty in swallowing and even difficulty in speaking. It is particularly difficult to swallow sour foods. As a complication, an inflammation of the testicle or ovaries is quite common in the post-pubertal age group and infection of other glands, such as pancreas, is occasionally seen.

INCUBATION PERIOD

Twelve to twenty six days – Usually about eighteen days.

NOTIFICATION

The local city health department or health unit should not be notified as soon as diagnosis of mumps is confirmed.

ISOLATION PROCEDURES

None.

QUARANTINE

None.

SPECIAL MEASURES

Exclusion from school and non-familial contacts for a period of nine days from onset of swelling. Those caring for the patient should wash their hands thoroughly after touching the patient or articles he has handled. These articles should be cleaned thoroughly.



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