

Mumps

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Mumps Latest News

Health officials in Maryland, United States recently issued an alert after confirming an uptick in mumps cases.

About Mumps

- It is a **contagious disease** caused by the **mumps virus**, which belongs to a group of viruses known as paramyxoviruses.
- It can cause **painful swelling in your parotid salivary glands (parotitis)**.
- **Transmission:**
 - **Humans** are the **only known host for the mumps virus**, which is **spread from person to person by drops** of moisture **from the nose and mouth**, such as through sneezing.
 - It is also **spread through direct contact with items that have infected saliva** on them.
- Mumps occurs worldwide and **usually affects children and young adults**.
- **Incubation period:** Typically 16 to 18 days; ranging from **12 to 25 days**.
- **Symptoms:**

- **Face pain**
- Fever
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Loss of appetite
- **Swelling of the parotid glands** (the **largest salivary glands, located between the ear and the jaw**)
- **Swelling of the temples or jaw** (temporomandibular area)
- **Normally** mumps is a **mild, self-limiting disease** and **disappears without sequelae**.
- However, **complications may occur**, such as **encephalitis or sensorineural deafness**.
- **Orchitis** (a **painful inflammation of the testes**) **occurs in 20% of young adult males** who develop mumps.
- **Treatment:** There is **no specific treatment** for mumps. The various symptoms may be relieved with medicines.
- **Prevention:**
 - **Vaccination** is the main preventive measure against mumps.
 - **MMR immunization (vaccine) protects against measles, mumps, and rubella.**

Source: CNN

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/mumps/>

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