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Press Release

Perhaps you’ve heard recently about a virus that is especially affecting children. It is called Enterovirus-D68. Enteroviruses are very common viruses. In the United States, people are more likely to get infected during the summer and fall. We are currently in the middle of enterovirus season. Infants, children, and teenagers are most likely to get infected with enteroviruses and become sick because they do not have immunity from previous exposure to the virus. Symptoms may include fever, runny nose, sneezing, cough, body and muscle aches. Severe symptoms may include difficulty breathing and wheezing. Those with asthma may experience worsening asthma.

Adults can also get it, but they are more likely to have no symptoms or mild symptoms.

Here’s how to protect yourself and your family:

* Wash hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds especially after changing diapers
* Hand sanitizer is NOT effective against Enterovirus-D68
* Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
* Avoid kissing, hugging, and sharing cups or eating utensils with people who are sick
* Disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as toys and doorknobs, and toilet handles, especially if someone is sick

Please call the Health Department at 973.680.4058 for more information. Also, please follow us on Twitter: @BloomfieldHDNJ for breaking news.