

# Exclusion for common or concerning conditions

These are 20 of the more common or concerning conditions seen in care services. For the full list of exclusion based on conditions, see the *Staying Healthy* guidelines.



CONDITION	EXCLUSION OF DIAGNOSED PERSON
<b>Chickenpox (varicella)</b>	Exclude until all blisters have dried – this is usually at least 5 days after the rash first appeared in non-immunised children, and less in vaccinated children See the guidelines for contact exclusions
<b>Conjunctivitis or eye discharge</b>	Exclude until discharge from the eyes has stopped (unless a doctor has diagnosed non-infectious conjunctivitis)
<b>Ear infection</b>	Not excluded unless they also have concerning symptoms (fever, rash, tiredness, pain, poor feeding)
<b>Fever</b>	Exclude until the temperature remains normal, unless the fever has a known non-infectious cause If the child has gone home from the service with a fever but their temperature is normal the next morning, they can return to the service If the child wakes in the morning with a fever, they should stay home until their temperature remains normal If a doctor later diagnoses the cause of the child's fever, follow the exclusion guidance for that disease
<b>Gastroenteritis ('gastro')</b> • <i>Campylobacter</i> infection • Cryptosporidiosis • Giardia infection (giardiasis) • Rotavirus infection • <i>Salmonella</i> infection (salmonellosis) • <i>Shigella</i> infection (shigellosis)	Exclude until there has not been any diarrhoea or vomiting for at least 24 hours Staff members with these symptoms should not handle food until they have not vomited or had diarrhoea for at least 48 hours (they can be assigned to other duties after at least 24 hours, or stay away from the service for at least 48 hours) Check if your state or territory has different requirements for gastroenteritis
• Norovirus infection	Exclude until there has not been any diarrhoea or vomiting for at least 48 hours
<b>Hand, foot and mouth disease</b>	Exclude until all blisters have dried
<b>Head lice</b>	Not excluded, as long as effective treatment begins before the next attendance at the service The child does not need to be sent home immediately if head lice are detected
<b>Hib (<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b)</b>	Exclude until the person has received treatment for at least 4 days
<b>Measles</b>	Exclude for at least 4 days after the rash appeared See the guidelines for contact exclusions
<b>Meningitis (viral)</b>	Exclude until person is well
<b>Meningococcal infection</b>	Exclude until the person has completed antibiotic treatment
<b>Mumps</b>	Exclude for at least 9 days or until swelling goes down (whichever is sooner)
<b>Pneumococcal disease</b>	Exclude until person has received antibiotic treatment for at least 24 hours and feels well
<b>Rash</b>	Not excluded unless combined with other concerning symptoms (fever, tiredness, pain, poor feeding)
<b>Respiratory conditions and infections</b> • Bronchitis and bronchiolitis • Common cold • COVID-19 (also refer to state or territory advice) • Croup • Flu (influenza) • Human metapneumovirus • Pneumonia • RSV (respiratory syncytial virus)	If a person has respiratory symptoms (cough, sneezing, runny or blocked nose, sore throat), exclude them only if: • the respiratory symptoms are severe, <b>or</b> • the respiratory symptoms are getting worse (more frequent or severe), <b>or</b> • they also have concerning symptoms (fever, rash, tiredness, pain, poor feeding) <u>Otherwise do not exclude.</u> A person can often have an ongoing cough after they have recovered from a respiratory infection. If their other symptoms have gone and they are feeling well, they can return to the service
<b>Shingles (zoster infection)</b>	Exclude children until blisters have dried and crusted Adults who can cover the blisters are not excluded (they are excluded if blisters cannot be covered) See the guidelines for contact exclusions
<b>Skin-related infections</b> • Cold sores (herpes simplex)	Not excluded if the person can maintain hygiene practices to minimise the risk of transmission If the person cannot maintain these practices (for example, because they are too young), exclude until the sores are dry Cover sores with a dressing, if possible
• Fungal infections of the skin or scalp (ringworm, tinea, athlete's foot) • Impetigo (school sores) • Scabies and other mites causing skin disease	Exclude until the day after starting treatment For impetigo, cover any sores on exposed skin with a watertight dressing
• Warts	Not excluded
<b>Strep throat</b>	Exclude until the person has received antibiotic treatment for at least 24 hours and feels well
<b>Whooping cough (pertussis)</b>	Exclude until at least 5 days after starting antibiotic treatment, or for at least 21 days from the onset of coughing if the person does not receive antibiotics See the guidelines for contact exclusions
<b>Worms</b>	Not excluded

