

## Daycare Providers

If a child in your daycare has been diagnosed with shigella:

In order to decrease the likelihood of a Shigella outbreak at your center, the following must take place:

1. Communicable Disease Control Services will fax you a sample letter to give to the parents of the other children at the daycare center. Please print this letter on your letterhead before distributing, and fax a copy of the finished letter back to Communicable Disease Control Services (CDCS) at 314-615-8346. Due to the very contagious nature of this disease, you will need to post this letter in your facility where it can be easily accessed/seen by all parents.
2. The child with Shigella may not return to the center until two negative stool culture results, obtained 24 hours apart and 48 hours after the completion of antibiotic therapy, have been reported to the CDCS division.
3. Attendee(s) or staff member(s) with diarrhea are to be excluded from attendance, and must have a stool sample submitted. Please contact CDCS with names of anyone with diarrhea illness.
4. Cultures of symptomatic children or staff can be done through private providers. They may also be obtained through the St. Louis County Department of Health at no charge. Reports from private physicians are to be forwarded to CDCS. Fax 314-615-8346.
5. Good handwashing, toileting and diapering procedures must be implemented, as well as thorough cleaning of all surfaces, floors, and toys.
6. CDCS will make further recommendations in an outbreak situation.

For more information on shigella in daycares please call the Saint Louis County Department of Health Communicable Disease Control Services Division at 314-615-1630.