EXPOSURE NOTICE

STREPTOCOCCAL INFECTION

(Strep Throat)

Date

Dear Parent:

Your child may have been exposed to Streptococcal infection. Strep throat is an infection of the throat caused by bacteria of the streptococcus group. Strep throat is common in children and is spread by droplets that are coughed or exhaled into the air. Onset is usually 2-5 days after exposure.

Some common symptoms are: sore throat, fever, general malaise, stomach ache, and occasionally enlarged lymph nodes in the neck. The painful irritation in the throat makes some children vomit and/or cough.

In some cases, the bacteria may produce a rash, a condition known as Scarlet Fever.

If your child has <u>any</u> of the above symptoms, please do not send your child to school, but see your doctor first, as Strep is contagious.

Should your child have Strep, they <u>must</u> be on the antibiotic for a **minimum** of 24 hours before they are no longer contagious. In addition they must be fever free (without the aid of Motrin or Tylenol products) only <u>then</u> can they return to school. Please make sure to finish the entire prescription, even if your child feels better, as there is a high chance of relapse.

Please notify the School Nurse if your child is diagnosed with Strep.

If you have any questions please **click on** the <u>DOH Chicken Pox Fact Sheet</u> Link below:

 $\underline{http://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/streptococcal/group_a/fact_sheet.ht}$ m

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