

CDRS

Communicable Disease Reporting System

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE FACT SHEET **FIFTH DISEASE**

Symptoms

- Sometimes a low-grade fever and general fatigue 1 to 2 weeks after exposure
- A red rash on the cheeks giving a “slapped face” appearance
- 25% or more of infections may be asymptomatic
- Frequently associated with a lace-like rash on the trunk and extremities that fades but may recur for 1-3 weeks or longer on exposure to sunlight or heat

Transmission

- The virus is spread by exposure to airborne droplets from the nose and throat of infected people
- It can be spread one week before appearance of the rash and usually not after the rash appears
- From mother to fetus

Incubation Period

- 4 to 20 days after contact with a case

Treatment & Prevention

- There is no specific treatment
- Pregnant women and those immunocompromised should avoid exposure to infectious people during outbreaks
- Frequent, thorough hand washing

Franklin County



Board of Health

Report Disease With Ease - 24 hours a day

www.cdrsinfo.com

Columbus and Franklin County Communicable Disease Reporting System

c/o The Franklin County Board of Health, 280 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215

(614) 719-8888 ♦ (614) 719-8890 fax ♦ cds@franklincountyohio.gov - email

