

# Exposure Notice to Families - Reyes Syndrome Following Chicken Pox or Influenza



Dear Family:

There have been a few cases of chicken pox and flu in this area in recent weeks. Reyes Syndrome is a complication that may possibly develop following these viral illness.

**What are the symptoms?** Vomiting and drowsiness followed by combative behavior, delirium and disorientation and rapid breathing.

**How is it spread?** It is not contagious. It is a complication that may develop following certain viral illnesses. The chances of developing may increase if child was given aspirin while having chicken pox or flu. The Center for Disease Control and the American Academy of Pediatrics advise that **aspirin not be used** when children have chicken pox or influenza- like illnesses as there may be a link between Reye Syndrome and aspirin intake.

If these symptoms occur seek medical care **immediately** and be sure to tell the doctor that the child recently had the chicken pox or flu.

Staff \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Center \_\_\_\_\_