



Madison County Government Health Department

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Alan J. Dunstan
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Shigella

We are seeing diarrheal illness in our community. Some of this illness is due to a bacteria known as *Shigella*. Below is some information to help decrease the spread of illness.

Key Points:

- *Shigella* is a very contagious bacteria and can be spread very easily from person to person
- The illness can be spread from a person who is infected and has not washed hands properly
- A person can spread the illness even if they do not have symptoms

Signs and Symptoms:

- Diarrhea (or bloody diarrhea)
- Fever
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Abdominal Cramps

Prevention Methods:

- Do not attend work or school if an individual is experiencing these symptoms
- Do not return to school or work until diarrhea and other symptoms have subsided for 24 hours
- Wash hands thoroughly before eating, when preparing food, after using the bathroom or changing a diaper, and anytime hands are visibly soiled

If you have any questions concerning this information, feel free to contact the Madison County Health Department at 618-692-8954, extension 2.