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Confirmed Mumps Case in Whatcom County

BELLINGHAM—As of May 5, 2017 one confirmed case of mumps has been identified in Whatcom County.

Mumps is a disease caused by a virus that is easily passed from person to person through coughing, sneezing or contact with saliva from someone who is infected. The best way to prevent mumps is to get vaccinated. Whatcom County Health Department recommends that individuals who are unsure of their vaccination status contact their healthcare providers to check their vaccination status. Immunization records can also be accessed at <https://wa.myir.net/>.

Regardless of vaccination status, Whatcom County Health Department is urging the public to watch for symptoms of mumps. Symptoms usually include swelling of the cheeks, neck or jaw; fever; headaches; muscles aches; tiredness or loss of appetite. Individuals who are concerned about these symptoms should contact their healthcare provider. Anyone who thinks they may have been exposed to the mumps should also contact their healthcare provider. Sick individuals should stay home from work, school, or other public settings until they have been evaluated by their healthcare provider.

Whatcom County Health Department is working to notify individuals who have been exposed to mumps so that they can monitor themselves for symptoms and seek medical attention if they become ill.

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