**Mumps Viruses**

Mumps is a viral infection transmitted by and affecting only humans. While the salivary glands (especially the parotid gland) are well known to be involved during a mumps infection, many other organ systems may also experience effects of the virus infection.



**Defenses**

**Vaccine**

The MMR vaccine provides 80% effective immunity against mumps following a two-dosage schedule (12-15 months with booster at 4-6 years of age).

**Behavioral**

Get the veccine

**Treatment**

There is no direct treatment for mumps. Supportive care may be provided, including efforts to lower fever.

**Offenses**

**Attacks**

The virus is spread by respiratory droplets. These can become airborne when an infected person coughs, sneezes, and talks. Additionally, a person can contract the virus by touching surfaces that are contaminated with infected droplets.

**Outcome**

The initial symptoms of mumps infection are nonspecific low-grade [fever](http://www.medicinenet.com/aches_pain_fever/article.htm), malaise, [headache](http://www.medicinenet.com/headache/article.htm), muscle aches, and [loss of appetite](http://www.medicinenet.com/loss_of_appetite/symptoms.htm).

**Incubation Duration**

14-18 days 10 days

|

|

|

|

|

|

|

|

|

|

|

|

|

|

|

|

|

|

|

|