

FIFTH DISEASE FACT SHEET

What is fifth disease?

Fifth disease is a mild rash illness caused by parvovirus B19. It is more common in children than adults.

A person usually gets sick with fifth disease within 14 days after getting infected with parvovirus B19.

What are the symptoms?

Symptoms may include:

- Fever
- Runny nose
- Headache
- Bright red rash on cheeks followed by a lacy rash over the rest of the body that may itch. **Rash may last for 7 to 10 days.**
- Adults may have joint pain and swelling.

How can it be prevented?

- **Wash** hands often, for at least 20 seconds.
- **Cover** coughs or sneezes with tissues or a sleeve.
- **Avoid** close contact with people who are sick.
- Do **NOT** touch eyes, nose or mouth, especially if infected with the virus.

Pregnant women who may have been exposed to fifth disease should call their health care provider immediately.

More Information: <http://www.cdc.gov/parvovirusb19/fifth-disease.html>

This FACT SHEET is for information only and is not meant to be used for self-diagnosis or as a substitute for consultation with a healthcare provider. For more information call your healthcare provider.

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