

## ROSEOLA

Roseola is a common rash illness that usually occurs in children under 4 years of age. It is the most common cause of rash in children 6 months to 2 years of age.

<b>CAUSE</b>	Human herpesvirus 6.
<b>SYMPTOMS</b>	Usually a high fever that appears suddenly and generally lasts 3 to 7 days. As the fever breaks, a rash appears on the trunk and neck and may later spread to the rest of the body. The rash may last from several hours to several days. At this time, the child usually does not feel very sick. Infection also occurs without symptoms in many children. Seizures may occur in children with high fevers.  Persons with weakened immune systems may have more severe disease and symptoms may last longer.
<b>SPREAD</b>	Most likely person-to-person through respiratory secretions.
<b>INCUBATION</b>	Estimated to be 9 to 10 days.
<b>CONTAGIOUS PERIOD</b>	Most likely during the fever and before the rash appears.
<b>EXCLUSION</b>	<u>Childcare</u> : Until fever is gone and other rash illnesses, especially measles, have been ruled out.
<b>DIAGNOSIS</b>	Recommend parents/guardians call their healthcare provider if their child has fever and rash.
<b>TREATMENT</b>	None.

### PREVENTION/CONTROL

- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and warm running water after touching anything contaminated with secretions from the nose and mouth and before preparing or eating food. **Thorough handwashing is the best way to prevent the spread of communicable diseases.**
- Clean and sanitize mouthed toys, objects, and surfaces at least daily and when soiled.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Kentucky Department for Public Health Frankfort, KY  
 Kentucky Regional Poison Center Louisville, KY  
 Lake Cumberland District Health Department Somerset KY  
 The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Atlanta, GA

<http://chfs.ky.gov/dph/>  
 EMERGENCY: 1-800-222-1222  
[www.lcdhd.org](http://www.lcdhd.org) (606) 678-4761  
 Toll free: 1-800-311-3435 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)