

Looking for more info
about Communicable
Diseases?



Check out these sites!

**Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention**
www.cdc.gov

**New York State
Department of Health**
www.health.ny.gov

**Ontario County
Public Health**
www.co.ontario.ny.us

Ontario County Public Health

3019 County Complex Dr.
Canandaigua, NY 14424

Phone 585-396-4343
Fax 585-396-4551

www.co.ontario.ny.us



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OCPH



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Ontario County, NY

Communicable Disease

Surveillance and Reporting



*OCPH works with the
community to detect and
prevent communicable
diseases.*

Ontario County Public Health



Communicable Disease

Communicable diseases are illnesses spread from person to person through skin contact, inhalation (breathing), ingestion (eating), sex, and from mothers to unborn babies. Animals and insects, like mosquitoes and ticks, can carry diseases that make humans sick, as well.

Communicable Disease Laws

NY State Law requires physicians and labs to notify the health department when certain illnesses are diagnosed in the community. Common NY State reportable illnesses are salmonella, Lyme disease and chlamydia.

The Role of Public Health

Ontario County Public Health staff investigate illnesses in the community with the help of medical providers, hospitals, the NY State Department of Health and the CDC.

The investigation of communicable diseases in the community depends on the organism (germ) that is making people sick. Investigations may include interviewing those who are ill, taking measures to prevent the illness from spreading and providing education to the community.

More than a few cases of the same illness might indicate an outbreak. During outbreaks it is sometimes necessary for the health department to remove a suspected source of infection (food, water, etc.) or isolate people who are ill or have been exposed. The health department has the responsibility and legal authority to protect the public's health in this way.

Disease Prevention

Public Health has a long history of teaching individuals and communities how to prevent illnesses. Handwashing is an old public health message that is as important today as it was 100 years ago. It is a simple tool everyone can use to stay well. According to the CDC, it is like a "do-it-yourself" vaccine.



Handwashing is like a "do-it-yourself" vaccine. It is a win for everyone, except the germs!

Other public health disease prevention strategies include vaccinations, fluoridation of public water supplies, the use of insect repellents, and proper food handling.
