

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.

**Rick Scott**

Governor

**John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS**

State Surgeon General &amp; Secretary

**Vision:** To be the Healthiest State in the Nation**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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MEDIA CONTACT: Marie Mott

850-393-2306

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONFIRMS SECOND CASE OF ENTEROVIRUS D68 IN FLORIDA**

**PENSACOLA, FL** – The Florida Department of Health has received confirmation of the presence of Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) infection in an 8 year old boy who resides in Escambia County, Florida. The Department advises parents, childcare workers, and healthcare professionals to be vigilant for respiratory virus infections such as enterovirus (EV), respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and influenza (flu).

Enterovirus D68 can cause difficulty breathing in infants and young children. Like RSV and the flu, EV-D68, is highly contagious and spreads through droplets in coughs or sneezes, or when someone touches a contaminated surface like a countertop or doorknob. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers and disinfectants have not been found to be effective against EV-D68. Frequent hand washing and the use of non-alcohol surface disinfectants are recommended.

Enterovirus D68 has signs and symptoms that are similar to the common cold, the flu, or RSV. Adults and older children might have only mild signs such as a cough, stuffy nose, and low-grade fever. People with asthma, particularly children, are at increased risk for severe presentations of EV-D68 infection. In rare cases, EV infections may become serious enough to require hospitalization.

Other prevention measures include:

- Covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or elbow;
- Avoiding sharing cups and eating utensils;
- Refraining from kissing others, especially those with symptoms;
- Frequently cleaning potentially contaminated surfaces (doorknobs, countertops, tables, toys, etc.) using a bleach solution (1 part bleach and 9 parts water).

Call your doctor if you or your child has any of these symptoms:

- wheezing
- trouble breathing
- high fever with ill appearance
- thick nasal discharge
- signs of dehydration

More information on Enterovirus D68 can be found in the Department's online newsroom. Please visit:

<http://newsroom.doh.state.fl.us/2014/10/09/information-on-enterovirus-d68/>

The Department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts. During 2014, the Department is recognizing 125 years of public health in Florida with educational opportunities and events. Please visit [www.FLHealth125.gov](http://www.FLHealth125.gov) for more information.

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**Florida Department of Health**

Escambia County  
1295 West Fairfield Drive • Pensacola, FL 32501  
PHONE: 850/595-6500

**www.FloridasHealth.com**

TWITTER: HealthyFLA  
FACEBOOK: FLDepartmentofHealth  
YOUTUBE: fldoh