

Fordham University mumps outbreak jumps campuses

By abc7NY

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There are now 13 reported cases, 12 at the Rose Hill campus in the Bronx and one at the Lincoln Center campus in Manhattan.

The symptoms are similar to the flu, but the virus can also cause painful swelling.

All of the infected patients had the mumps vaccine, but doctors say it's not 100 percent effective.

Infected students have been either isolated or sent home.

- UHS saw 1 case in January, 4 cases on Feb. 18; 3 cases on Feb. 19 and 5 cases on Feb. 20.

- All the students with suspected mumps infections have either returned home or have been isolated from other residents during the infectious phase of the illness.

- All Fordham students are required to have full vaccinations before attending the University, including the vaccination for mumps, measles, and rubella (MMR).

- All of the students who were tentatively diagnosed with mumps had been vaccinated. Vaccinations do not offer 100 percent protection, however, vaccination is still strongly recommended.

- Typically mumps patients are contagious for two days prior to the outbreak of symptoms and five days after.

Mumps is a viral infection. The symptoms are:

- Fever

- Headache

- Muscle aches

- Tiredness

- Loss of appetite

- Swollen and tender salivary glands under the ears or jaw on one or both sides of the face (parotitis)

Mumps is spread from person to person through contact with respiratory secretions, e.g., saliva and sneeze droplets, from an infected person. Items used by an infected person, such as cups, utensils, etc., can also be contaminated with the virus and should not be shared.