

## ***Mycoplasma pneumoniae* (Mp) Outbreaks Infection Control Measures**

### **Information for Public Health Officials.**

#### Objectives

- 1- School-based interventions to stop transmission at school
- 2- Prevent secondary transmission. Interventions to interrupt transmission at the community particularly households with young children

#### Recommendations:

- 1- Alert health care providers of the outbreak, testing options, and treating symptomatic close contacts.
- 2- Alert healthcare providers to counsel families regarding measures to limit household transmission, and use antibiotics with activity against *M. pneumoniae* when treating pneumonia.
- 3- Communicate with parents to emphasize cough etiquette, the importance of seeking care for children with febrile cough illness, and the use of hand washing or alcohol-based gels, a strategy that has been shown to limit household transmission of lower respiratory tract illnesses. Initiate hand hygiene and cough etiquette campaigns: Standard infection control practices are recognized as key factors in limiting transmission of Mp and other common respiratory pathogens.
- 4- Consider installation of alcohol-based hand sanitation stations in public schools.
- 5- Consider conducting an awareness campaign encouraging sanitary practices and reminding parents to keep children with fever or active respiratory symptoms home from school.
- 6- Prompt treatment of new cases of pneumonia may also aid in interrupting transmission.
- 7- Consider establishing prospective surveillance for pneumonia in affected schools. Transmission of Mp may sometimes continue despite control measures. Active surveillance can enable public health officials to characterize the possible continuing circulation of Mp and identify the potential need for adjustments to control measures.
- 8- Consider organizing meetings and communications among parents, teachers, and school superintendents. Provided clear, consistent messages and reassurance to the community.

Adopted from the Centers for Disease Control and prevention