

What is mumps? Mumps is a viral illness that affects the salivary glands in the throat.

What are the symptoms of mumps? The disease begins with low-grade fever, headache, muscle pain and general feeling of discomfort. Commonly the cheek and jaw area (salivary glands) typically swell on one or both sides of the face within the first 2 days of illness, this is called parotitis.

How does the mumps virus spread? Mumps spreads when an infected person coughs or sneezes, and a non-infected person inhales respiratory droplets that contain the virus; also when an infected person shares items such as cups or eating utensils with a person who is not protected against mumps.

What should I do if I attend University of WI-La Crosse and think I have symptoms of mumps? If you think you have mumps symptoms, call the Student Health Center at **608-785-8558** for instructions *before* visiting the Health Center.

For more information about mumps disease, including potential complications, how to prevent infection and vaccination recommendations see the attached *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)* handout or visit the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/mumps/index.html>.