

Pneumonia

A serious lung condition. Can be a complication of other illnesses and can occur throughout the year.

Cause: Most commonly respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), influenza virus and some bacteria. Physical and chemical irritants may also cause pneumonia.

Symptoms: Rapid breathing and pain, usually fever and cough. May have runny nose, milder cough and fever several days before getting pneumonia.

Incubation: Depends on the germ causing the infection. It is spread person to person by touching the secretions from the nose and mouth of the infected person.

Can child come to school: The child should remain at home until the fever is gone And he/she is well enough to participate in routine activities.

Prevention/Control: Wash hand thoroughly with soap and warm running water after touching the secretions from the mouth and nose. Cover nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing and sneezing or cough/sneeze into sleeve. Dispose of used tissues.

Treatment: There is no specific treatment for most viruses. Antibiotics may be Prescribed is a bacterial infection is suspected or diagnosed.