

FOR CHILD CARE CENTERS

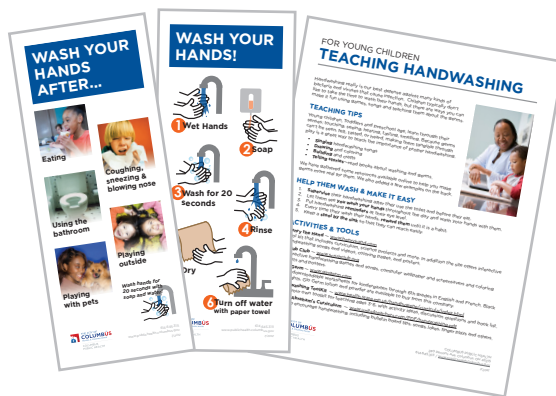
PREVENTING CRYPTO

Crypto, short for Cryptosporidium, is a germ that causes diarrhea. Follow these tips to help prevent the spread of Crypto in your child care center.

WASH HANDS

- Wash your hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds.
- If possible, use a paper towel to turn off the faucet and open the door. Do not use reusable towels.
- Crypto is not killed by alcohol gels and hand sanitizers so they are of little use in controlling an outbreak.

For more on handwashing in child care centers and for curriculum ideas, go to www.columbus.gov/crypto



DIAPER CHANGING

- Keep diaper changing areas separate from play and food prep areas.
- Use disposable gloves and change them after each diaper change.
- Cover changing surface with disposable paper and change after each use.
- Put dirty diapers, used gloves and paper in a secure, covered trash bin.
- Wash your hands after removing gloves and child's hands after change is done.

For more on diaper changing, signs or a poster, go to www.columbus.gov/crypto



STAY HOME WHEN SICK

- Children should not come to child care while they have diarrhea. They must wait at least 24 hours after it has stopped before returning to child care.
- Child care providers also need to stay home if they have diarrhea for at least 24 hours after it has stopped.
- Avoid water play or swimming activities including water tables, swimming pools, slides and public pools. Crypto can be spread by contaminated water and can survive for days even in properly chlorinated pools.

CLEAN FACILITY

- Cleaning and disinfecting the child care facility is critical to preventing the spread of illness.
- If a certain illness, such as Crypto, has been diagnosed in a child or workers at your facility, specific methods for cleaning and disinfecting must be followed in order to kill the organism causing disease.

For information on these guidelines, go to www.columbus.gov/crypto

