**Symptom Tracking: the Hows and Whys**

**The public health department has schools use “line lists” to document symptoms during a disease outbreak in a school setting. The Klamath County Public Health Department has confirmed that this is the best tool to do this work.**

A line list is a table that summarizes information about persons who may be associated with an outbreak. Each row represents a single individual, and each column represents a specific characteristic about that person. Column information includes identifying, demographic, clinical, and other epidemiologic information (symptoms), including risk factors possibly related to the illness (e.g. symptomatic person’s in a household, visits to the doctor, reports of testing).

A line list helps organize preliminary information gathered during the early part of an outbreak investigation. As the investigation progresses, the line list can be updated. One advantage of creating an electronic line list is that the data can be collated and accessed by all members of the team.

**Required Outcomes:**

1. Supporting families' understanding of the exclusion algorithm.
2. Implementation of the exclusion algorithm.
3. Documentation of individual student’s symptoms to identify trends in the buildings
4. Assignment of a student’s possible return to school date
   1. For students without a diagnosis, the exclusion algorithm can be used to make this determination (Wendy will support this process as staff learn how to implement AND continually monitor the line list to ensure accuracy)
   2. For students with an exposure or diagnosis, Wendy will work with the health department to make a determination about their return date.
5. Monitoring families’ compliance with the exclusion algorithm.
6. Identification of exposures/cases which must be investigated.

**Next Steps: Investigation of Exposures/Cases in Schools**

See “KFSD Positive COVID-19 Case Exposure Checklist”

See “School COVID-Exposure Script”