

VIRAL RASHES IN CHILDREN

CAUSES, SIGNS, AND TREATMENTS

Measles (Rubeola)



Causative agent

Morbillivirus

Symptoms

- Flat and red rashes throughout the body
- Fever
- Hacking cough

Treatment

- Treatment mainly focuses on the alleviation of symptoms
- Vaccination is the best preventive measure

Chickenpox (Varicella)



Causative agent

Varicella-zoster virus

Symptoms

- Small red bumps that turn into itchy blisters across the body
- Fever with general discomfort
- Fatigue and irritability

Treatment

- Treatment mainly focuses on the alleviation of symptoms
- Vaccination is the best preventive measure

Fifth disease



Causative agent

Parvovirus B19

Symptoms

- Red rash on the cheek giving the impression of being slapped
- Mild fever and headache
- Runny nose

Treatment

- Only required for severe symptoms such as joint pain and swelling
- Maintenance of personal hygiene is the best preventive measure

Rubella (German Measles)



Causative agent

Rubella virus

Symptoms

- Red rash that spreads from the face to the rest of the body
- Mild fever with cold-like symptoms
- The sclera of the eyes may turn red and swell

Treatment

- Treatment mainly focuses on the alleviation of symptoms
- MMR vaccine is the best preventive measure

References:

- 1 Viral Exanthems (Rashes); Children's National
- 2 Togaviruses: Rubella Virus; National Institutes of Health