



WHAT IS A CONTACT?



Per the Administrative Rules of Montana, local public health will conduct a **communicable disease** investigation of a reportable condition. One of the first steps is to determine who is at risk of contracting the disease from the patient, called a **contact investigation**. The type and duration of contact depends on the disease in question. Once at-risk individuals are identified, appropriate **control measures** such as **post-exposure prophylaxis** can be applied to prevent the continued transmission of disease. For most communicable diseases, contact investigations will include individuals from the categories below:

HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS



- Family members living in the same house*
- Roommates
- House guests

**You may want to consider grandparents or other relatives who spend time in the household*

SOCIAL CONTACTS



- Friends
- Boy/girlfriends
- Teammates
- After school clubs
- Religious groups



SCHOOL/WORK CONTACTS



- Classroom seatmates
- Cube mates
- Cafeteria
- Group classes
- School bus/carpool

CONTACTS IN SPECIAL SITUATIONS



- Child care
- Healthcare
- Food preparation

