

# Infectious Disease Detective

**Directions:** Read the case studies. For each one, analyze how the infection was transmitted and whether transmission was direct or indirect. Then suggest how the infection could have been prevented or stopped from spreading.

## ► Case Study 1: Cold Virus

**Dwane** wasn't feeling well. He had a runny nose and a scratchy throat. At school, Dwane sneezed without covering his nose. Kyle sits next to Dwane in third period. Kyle's been tired and stressed lately, and now he's starting to feel sick too.

**How was the infectious disease transmitted?**

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**Form of transmission:**  direct  indirect

**How could Dwane have stopped the spread of the disease?**

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**How could Kyle have protected himself from the disease?**

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## ► Case Study 2: Hepatitis B

**Nadine** went to get a pedicure at a nail salon. The manicurist used the same nail clippers, file and other tools on several clients in a row. A month later, Nadine felt like she might be getting the flu. The symptoms didn't go away and now her skin and the whites of her eyes are starting to look yellow.

**How was the infectious disease transmitted?**

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**Form of transmission:**  direct  indirect

**How could the manicurist have stopped the spread of the disease?**

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**How could Nadine have protected herself from the disease?**

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## ► Case Study 3: Food Poisoning (Norovirus)

**Dana** has a job as a server at a local restaurant. She was sick over the weekend, but by Monday she felt good enough to go to work. During her shift, Dana started feeling nauseous again and went to the restroom to throw up a little. In a hurry to get back to the customers, she left the restroom without washing her hands. The servers make the salads from a big bowl of lettuce and cut tomatoes that are kept on the counter. Dana made a salad for a customer. She served the salad and the customer ate it. A few hours later, Dana's customer started feeling sick to his stomach.

**How was the infectious disease transmitted?**

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**Form of transmission:**  direct  indirect

**How could Dana have stopped the spread of the disease?**

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**How could the customer have protected himself from the disease?**

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## ► Case Study 4: Athlete's Foot/Jock Itch

**All of the team members** go barefoot in the school locker room. Since last week, Jacob's feet and the spaces between his toes have been burning and itching. He's been taking extra care to wash them well and always dries them first before toweling off the rest of his body when he takes a shower. But today after basketball practice, he noticed that the burning and itching had started happening in his groin area too.

**How was the infectious disease transmitted?**

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**Form of transmission:**  direct  indirect

**How could the school or other team members have stopped the spread of the disease?**

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**How could Jacob have protected himself from the disease?**

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