Reye Syndrome

What is Reye syndrome?
Reye syndrome is a rare condition that may follow an upper respiratory infection or a case of varicella (chickenpox). People with Reye syndrome experience nausea, vomiting and a change in mental status.

Who gets Reye syndrome?
Reye syndrome is more likely to occur among school-age children.

How is Reye syndrome diagnosed?
There is no specific laboratory test to diagnose Reye syndrome. Several criteria must be met for a case to be diagnosed as Reye syndrome.

How can Reye syndrome be prevented?
Children who have an upper respiratory infection or varicella should not be given aspirin or aspirin-containing products without specific physician instructions to administer these medicines.

Where can I get more information?
Contact your doctor or the Southern Nevada Health District, Office of Epidemiology at (702) 759-1300.