



## PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

# Health Advisory

# Measles

February 13, 2015

Columbus Public Health &  
Franklin County Public Health

### What you need to know

The United States is currently experiencing a multi-state outbreak of measles linked to an amusement park in California. Cases linked to the outbreak have been found in more than a dozen states. At this time, no Ohioans have been linked to the California outbreak and there have been no cases of measles in Ohio since the summer of 2014.

Vaccine is the best intervention to prevent measles. One dose of MMR is 93% effective and two doses are 97% effective at preventing measles.

The Ohio Department of Health will accept specimens from suspected measles cases who meet testing criteria.

### What to watch for

Measles is characterized by all of the following:

- A generalized rash lasting  $\geq 3$  days and
- A temperature  $\geq 101^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $\geq 38.3^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and
- Cough, coryza, or conjunctivitis

The fever, cough, coryza, conjunctivitis, and Koplik spots are followed by a maculopapular rash. The rash spreads from the head to the trunk to the lower extremities.

### What you can do

Individuals who have not received any doses of MMR or only 1 dose of MMR should be vaccinated.

Report suspect cases of measles IMMEDIATELY to Infectious Disease Reporting System (IDRS) at 614.525.8888.

Serology, IgG and IgM, can be ordered through commercial laboratories. Columbus Public Health & Franklin County Public Health can facilitate PCR testing at Ohio Department of Health Laboratory.

Isolate cases for four days following the onset of rash.

### Who is at risk

The following groups are at the greatest risk for severe illness and complications:

- Infants and children  $< 5$  years,
- Adults  $> 20$  years,
- Pregnant Women, and
- People with compromised immune systems are at the greatest risk for severe illness and complications.

Adults born before 1957 most likely had measles and are generally considered immune; however, birth before 1957 is not considered proof of immunity for healthcare personnel.

### To learn more

CDC Measles ~ For Healthcare Providers  
<http://www.cdc.gov/measles/hcp/index.html>

Collection and Submission of Suspected Measles Specimens  
<http://www.idrsinfo.org/disease.php#m>

Infectious Disease Reporting System  
<http://idrsinfo.com>

What is this? Learn more about this emergency notification system.

### Contact

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