

Health Advisory: Measles Outbreak Update and Revised Vaccine Recommendations

Minnesota Department of Health Tuesday, April 18, 2017, 8 am

Action Steps:

Local and tribal health departments: Please forward to hospitals, urgent care centers, clinics, and convenience clinics in your jurisdiction.

Hospital and clinics: Please distribute to health care providers who treat patients presenting with new illness.

Health care providers:

- Implement updated MMR immunization recommendations during measles outbreak.
- Report suspected cases and contact MDH at 1-877-676-5414 (toll-free) or 651-201-5414 with questions.
- Create a triage and isolation plan for patients presenting with measles symptoms (see link to resources below).

Outbreak update

As of April 17, 2017, there are nine confirmed measles cases in Hennepin County residents. The cases range in age from 1 through 4 years. All were unvaccinated and eight of the cases are Somali Minnesotan. Continue to have high suspicion for measles, as the information about the source case is still not known and additional cases are expected.

Updated MMR Immunization recommendations

For providers serving children living in Hennepin County and all Somali Minnesotan children regardless of county of residence:

- Administer MMR to children 6 to 12 months old identified as exposed to a case of measles.
 - Note: This early MMR dose will not count toward the two doses routinely recommended at 12–15 months and 4–6 years of age.
- Accelerate the two-dose MMR series for children 12 months and older:
 - Administer the first dose of MMR on (or as soon as possible after) the first birthday, followed by a second dose 28 days later.
 - Administer the second MMR dose now if it has been at least 28 days since the first MMR dose and no other live virus injectable vaccines (i.e., varicella vaccine) have been administered in the past 28 days.

For all Minnesota health care providers:

- Assess MMR vaccination status for **every** patient at every visit.
- Call back and vaccinate children 12 months of age and older that have not received the first dose of MMR.
- For more detailed information, see Measles Outbreak Vaccination Guidance (www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/measles/hcp/outbrkvax.html).

Planning for patients with measles symptoms

Health care facilities should be prepared for managing potentially infectious patients. For more information to create a triage and isolation plan, see Minimize Measles Transmission in Health Care Settings (www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/measles/hcp/minimize.html).

Remember to obtain specimens from symptomatic patients for PCR testing. Test after onset of rash; testing before onset of rash can lead to false-negative results. See Lab Testing for Measles at MDH Public Health Laboratory (www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/measles/hcp/labtesting.html) for more information.

Find additional information about measles on Measles Information for Health Professionals:

(www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/measles/hcp/index.html).

A copy of this HAN is available in PDF and Word format at www.health.state.mn.us/han/.

The content of this message is intended for public health and health care personnel and response partners who have a need to know the information to perform their duties.