

Health Advisory: Measles Cases in Twin Cities Area

Minnesota Department of Health, Mon, June 2, 13:00 CDT 2025

Action Steps

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

Hospitals, clinics and other facilities: Please forward to family physicians, pediatricians, infection preventionists, primary care clinicians, infectious disease doctors, and emergency department staff

Health care providers:

- Consider measles in patients presenting with rash, fever, and cough, coryza, or conjunctivitis; especially among unvaccinated people with recent domestic or international travel or contact with measles cases.
- Isolate suspected measles cases in the health care setting. Refer to MDH: Minimize Measles Transmission in Health Care Settings
 (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/measles/hcp/minimize.html).
- Collect specimens for PCR testing as soon as possible after rash onset. MDH Public
 Health Laboratory provides measles PCR testing free of charge; testing is done M-F with
 a quick result turnaround time. Refer to MDH: Lab Testing for Measles at MDH Public
 Health Laboratory (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/measles/hcp/labtesting.html).
- Contact MDH at time of specimen collection to report the suspect measles case. There is a limited time to provide post-exposure prophylaxis so having information on suspect cases helps public health be able to quickly respond if the patient tests positive.
- Assess MMR vaccination status of patients at every visit and vaccinate susceptible persons - especially those traveling internationally or to an area of ongoing measles outbreak: <u>CDC: Measles Vaccine Recommendations</u> (www.cdc.gov/measles/hcp/vaccine-considerations/index.html).
- Contact the Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC) to get help recalling patients due or overdue for MMR. Client Follow Up features in MIIC can be used to identify patients in need of MMR. (Email: health.miichelp@state.mn.us)

Situation Summary

Two additional cases of measles have been identified in Minnesota. One in an adult whose vaccine status is still being verified and was exposed during domestic air travel, the other in an unvaccinated child with unknown exposure. Cases reside in Washington and Dakota County respectively. The cases are unrelated. MDH is working with local health departments to contact those who were known to be exposed to either case. One case was at the theme park at Mall of America while infectious. Persons who were at the mall on May 24 between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00

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p.m. may have been exposed and should be aware of any symptoms that develop between **May 31 and June 14**. These cases bring Minnesota's case count to 4 for 2025.

Nationally measles continues to increase. As of May 29th, a total of 1,088 confirmed measles cases have been reported by 33 jurisdictions throughout the United States in 2025 (<u>CDC: Measles Cases and Outbreaks (www.cdc.gov/measles/data-research/)</u>)

It is important to assess MMR vaccination status at every clinic visit and recall those who have previously refused MMR vaccine. MMR vaccine remains the most important tool for preventing measles and the current measles situation is an opportunity to restart conversations with patients about the importance of vaccination.

Children should receive two doses of measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine—the first at 12 to 15 months of age and the second at 4 to 6 years of age. For all ages, it is important to assess MMR status for patients traveling internationally or to an area domestically experiencing an outbreak. Children 6 to 12 months old can get an early does of MMR vaccine if their travels will put them at high risk for measles: (CDC: Plan for Travel

(www.cdc.gov/measles/travel/index.html). Follow state and local guidance in areas with ongoing community-wide transmission of measles (CDC: Measles Cases and Outbreaks (www.cdc.gov/measles/data-research/index.html))

For more information

- MDH Measles Information for Health Professionals
 (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/measles/hcp/index.html)
 Additional information and provider palm cards on recognizing and reporting measles and links to other measles related materials and posters.
- CDC: Plan for Travel (www.cdc.gov/measles/travel/index.html)
- CDC: Measles Cases and Outbreaks (www.cdc.gov/measles/data-research/index.html)
- MDH: Using Client Follow-up in MIIC (www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/train/followup.html)
- <u>CDC Healthcare Providers: Stay Alert for Measles Cases</u> (<u>www.cdc.gov/measles/hcp/clinical-overview/stay-alert-for-measles-cases.html</u>)

A copy of this HAN is available at: MDH Health Alert Network (http://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.