When to Suspect and Test for Measles

Screen for measles

Consider measles in patients of any age who have:

▪ Fever AND a rash.
  ▪ Fever must be present at time of rash, even if subjective.
  ▪ Rash should start on the head or neck.
  ▪ At least one of the “three C’s” – cough, coryza, or conjunctivitis.

Assess risk

Increase suspicion if symptoms and a risk factor (within past 21 days).*

▪ Travel outside the U.S.
▪ Known contact with a measles case.
▪ Contact with an international visitor.
▪ Domestic travel through an international airport.
▪ Lives in or visited a U.S. community where there are measles cases.

*Consider measles regardless of vaccination history.

Report and test

Report suspect cases to the Minnesota Department of Health immediately.

▪ Call 651-201-5414 or 1-877-676-5414.
▪ Collect throat swab for RT-PCR testing. Refer to Lab Testing for Measles at the MDH-Public Health Laboratory (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/measles/hcp/labtesting.html).
▪ Notify your infection preventionist.
▪ Follow steps to Minimize Measles Transmission in Health Care Settings (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/measles/hcp/minimize.html).