

## Health Advisory: Measles Exposure in Metro

Minnesota Department of Health Sep 14, 2016 10:00 CST

### Action Steps:

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

**Hospital and clinics:** Please distribute to health care professionals

### Healthcare providers:

- Consider measles in patients presenting with clinically compatible symptoms **between September 13<sup>th</sup> and September 29<sup>th</sup>**
- Isolate suspected measles cases and promptly report to MDH at 1-877-676-5414 (toll-free) or 651-201-5414
- Obtain specimens for PCR in suspected measles cases (see lab factsheet: <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/measles/hcp/labtesting.html>)
- Counsel patient to remain at home with no visitors until PCR results are back
- Verify documentation of measles immunization/immune status of all patients regardless of age

A laboratory-confirmed case of measles has been identified in a 30 year-old Massachusetts resident who traveled to Minnesota on business during his infectious period. Prior to coming to Minnesota, the case reported recent travel to India where it is assumed he acquired measles. The case reported receipt of 2 doses of MMR vaccine as a child.

Clinical symptoms were compatible with measles including fever, rash, cough, coryza and conjunctivitis. The case was laboratory-confirmed by PCR and IgM serology at the Massachusetts Department of Health. Rash onset occurred on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Exposures in MN occurred from September 6-8<sup>th</sup>.

Isolated exposures occurred in Ramsey, Hennepin and Dakota counties. MDH and relevant local health departments are notifying persons who may have been exposed in specific settings.

The incubation period of measles is generally 14 days from exposure to the onset of rash (range is 7 to 18 days, and rarely as long as 21 days); therefore, secondary cases in Minnesota would be expected to have onset between September 13<sup>th</sup> and September 29<sup>th</sup> 2016.

Make sure all patients have documentation of measles immunization or proof of immunity. Be particularly mindful of patients born between 1957 and 1978 who may have received only one dose (or a less efficacious formulation) and may not have immunity from disease. If there is no documentation of immunization or immunity, administer one dose of MMR.

Providers are encouraged to call MDH with questions about suspected cases or exposures.

Additional information about measles for health professionals found here:

<http://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/](http://www.health.state.mn.us/han/).

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