

Health Advisory: Measles Outbreak Continues

Minnesota Department of Health Thu Jul 13 14:00 CDT 2017

Action Steps:

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

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

Health care providers:

- Remain vigilant for measles cases as the outbreak has not ended.
- Assess the MMR status of your patients and vaccinate susceptible persons.
- Isolate suspected measles cases: See Minimize Measles Transmission in Health Care Settings (www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/measles/hcp/minimize.html).
- Obtain specimens for PCR: See Lab Testing for Measles at MDH Public Health Laboratory (www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/measles/hcp/labtesting.html). Test after onset of rash as false negatives may occur if tested too early.
- Report suspected cases and contact MDH at 1-877-676-5414 (toll-free) or 651-201-5414 with questions

Minnesota's measles outbreak is not over. Although the outbreak which started in late March and has primarily affected the Somali Minnesotan community appears to have slowed, a new case was identified on July 11. The new case patient is a 20 year-old, white/non-Hispanic Hennepin County resident. This individual frequented multiple public locations and businesses in **Hennepin**, **Ramsey**, and **Carver** counties while infectious. Due to the multiple public exposures, it is not possible to determine and notify all potentially exposed individuals. Providers should continue to suspect measles in patients presenting with febrile rash illness.

Individuals known to be exposed are being notified and offered post-exposure prophylaxis, if indicated. Providers are encouraged to call MDH if there is any question about whether an individual should receive [post-exposure prophylaxis](#) or how to obtain it.

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/.

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