

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](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/measles/hcp/labtesting.html) (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/measles/hcp/labtesting.html).
- Notify your infection preventionist.
- Follow steps to [Minimize Measles Transmission in Health Care Settings](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/measles/hcp/minimize.html) (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/measles/hcp/minimize.html).

Vaccine-Preventable Disease Section
625 Robert St. N., PO Box 64975
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975
651-201-5414 | www.health.state.mn.us/immunize

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5414. Printed on recycled paper.