

Measles Resources for Allen County



Measles is a highly contagious viral illness that is preventable with the MMR vaccine. A single case of measles is considered an outbreak.

Symptoms typically appear 7-14 days after exposure & may include:

- Fever of at least 101° F
- Malaise
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes
- Koplik spots (small white spots inside the cheek) often form 2-3 days after symptoms begin.
- A maculopapular rash (rash of both flat and raised lesions) starts on the head and face approximately 3-5 days after initial symptom onset and then spreads downward to the neck, trunk and extremities. The spots may join together as they spread from the head to the trunk of the body.



The Measles, Mumps & Rubella (MMR) vaccine is highly effective in preventing transmission of this disease. The efficacy rate for those with two doses is 97%, and the rate for those with only one dose of vaccine is 93%.

Unvaccinated people who are exposed to measles have a 90% chance of getting sick. Any unvaccinated people exposed to measles have a 72-hour window after exposure to get the MMR vaccine to prevent infection.

Exclusion Rules for Schools

Anyone identified as a contact of a confirmed measles case is immediately excluded from school for **21 days after the onset of the last reported case**, until one of the following occurs:

- A written record is presented verifying proof that the person received two appropriately timed doses of MMR vaccine (or a single dose of MMR vaccine for children not yet due for their 2nd dose).
- A laboratory record is presented showing immunity to measles through a titer.
- A laboratory report is presented showing confirmation of a previous measles infection.
- Anyone born before 1957 does not have to show proof of immunity as they are considered immune.

Questions?

Contact our Infectious Disease Case Management line
at (260) 449-7556
(Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm)

According to CDC, severe complications or long term side effects from measles infections are possible. Pneumonia occurs in about 1 in every 20 pediatric cases, and encephalitis in about 1 in every 1,000 cases. Approximately 20% of U.S. measles cases are hospitalized, and 1-3 of every 1,000 pediatric cases die from respiratory and neurologic complications.