Date: April 1, 2019

To: Local Healthcare Providers

RE: Measles Outbreak  www.Michigan.gov/MeaslesOutbreak

This is a Health Alert re: recent Measles Outbreak in our State.


As of March 26, 2019, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has confirmed 22 total measles cases statewide since March 13, 2019.

Oakland County has 21 cases and one case was a Wayne County resident. Infected individuals range in age from 11 to 63.

Van Buren Cass District Health Department is asking all Medical Providers to be alert for signs and symptoms of Measles, contact the health department if you suspect Measles and test accordingly. Commercial Labs are available to test for Measles as is the Michigan Bureau of Labs with prior approval to shipping specimen. Contact the Health Department to receive prior approval. Please see the “Measles Testing Guidelines” attached from Michigan Bureau of Labs.

We are also asking that you screen patients for MMR Vaccine and vaccinate according to ACIP Recommendations to prevent Measles.

The measles vaccine is highly effective and very safe. A single dose of measles vaccine protects about 95 percent of children, but after two doses, almost 100 percent are immune. You cannot get measles from the vaccine. It is effective within 72 hours of exposure to prevent illness. In addition, immune globulin treatment is effective within six days of exposure for high-risk individuals. Talk to your healthcare provider to determine if immune globulin is right for you and if it is available.
High-risk individuals include those who are unvaccinated or unsure about vaccination status, pregnant women and those who are immune-compromised (have a weakened immune system due to illness and diseases like HIV, malnutrition and/or medications).

To find your local health department, visit [www.malph.org/resources/directory](http://www.malph.org/resources/directory).

Residents with questions about vaccination are encouraged to visit [IVaccinate.org](http://IVaccinate.org) for information based on credible medical science and research to help them protect from vaccine-preventable diseases, such as measles. The IVaccinate campaign is a joint effort of the Franny Strong Foundation and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and is supported by every major medical group in the state and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Measles

The symptoms of measles generally appear about seven to 14 days after a person is infected.

Measles typically begins with

- high fever,
- cough,
- runny nose (coryza), and
- red, watery eyes ([conjunctivitis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conjunctivitis)).

Two or three days after symptoms begin, tiny white spots (Koplik spots) may appear inside the mouth.

Koplik Spots

![Mouth of a patient with Koplik spots, an early sign of measles infection.](image)

In This Collection

- Signs and Symptoms
- Transmission
• Complications
• Frequently Asked Questions
• Photos
• Vaccination

**Infographic**

MEASLES SYMPTOMS TYPICALLY INCLUDE

- High fever (may spike to more than 104° F)
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes
- Rash breaks out 3-5 days after symptoms begin

• Three to five days after symptoms begin, a rash breaks out. It usually begins as flat red spots that appear on the face at the hairline and spread downward to the neck, trunk, arms, legs, and feet. Small raised bumps may also appear on top of the flat red spots. The spots may become joined together as they spread from the head to the rest of the body. When the rash appears, a person’s fever may spike to more than 104° Fahrenheit.

• Measles Rash

Skin of a patient after 3 days of measles infection.

Related Page
• Photos of Measles

Content provided and maintained by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Please see our system usage guidelines and disclaimer.

Please contact Van Buren Cass District Health Department if you have any further questions or concerns and remember to contact us if you suspect a patient has signs and symptoms of Measles. 1-800-210-1921 and ask to speak with a Public Health Nurse.