



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.



Public Health Advisory

January 23, 2015

Update to January 8, 2015 Communication

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Measles Outbreak in California

As of January 23, 2015, there are 68 confirmed cases of measles in California in 2015, most of which have been linked to Disneyland or Disney California Adventure Park in Anaheim. There have been no reported cases of measles in Marin County to date. Several other Bay Area counties, however, have reported cases in this outbreak.

Statewide, patients' ages range from 7 months to 70 years, including 28 of 34 unimmunized individuals among cases with known vaccination status. Measles is very infectious and airborne transmission can occur in crowded settings. Confirmed transmission during previous outbreaks has occurred in the following settings: household, health care setting, hospital, church, airplane, and school.

Think of measles in patients with a fever and rash, especially with a history of travel or presence in venues with international travelers or measles cases. It is important for health care providers and the public to be aware that there is currently a risk for acquiring measles in California.

Please see the linked [poster for measles identification](#), and refer to our [Marin County Public Health Update](#) from January 8, 2015 for more detailed guidance.

Additional information may also be found at the [CDPH Measles Website](#).

Your expert eye, diagnostic skills, and prompt reporting of suspect measles patients to public health can make a difference in stopping the spread of this highly contagious disease in your community.

ACTIONS REQUESTED OF CLINICIANS:

1. **SUSPECT** measles in a patient with fever and rash. Ask about measles immunization history, international travel, exposure to international travelers (including theme parks or other international tourist attractions), or other known exposure to measles cases in the 3 weeks prior to illness; **consider the diagnosis regardless of travel history.**

2. **IMPLEMENT AIRBORNE PRECAUTIONS** immediately for suspected cases. **Mask** and **isolate** patient in an airborne infection isolation room if possible. Do not use a regular exam room for at least one hour after a suspected measles patient has left the room. **Notify your facility's Infection Control Professional immediately.**

3. **REPORT** suspect measles cases immediately to Marin County Public Health by phone at (415) 473-7805; after hours, call (415) 472-0911 to speak to the Public Health On-Call Duty Officer. **CALL, DO NOT FAX.**

4. **TEST** suspected cases. Collect a throat or NP swab, urine, and blood and **HOLD** for testing by the Public Health Laboratory (PHL). Call Marin County Public Health for approval and coordination of measles testing. **For details on specimen collection see:** [CDPH Measles Lab Testing April 2014](#)

5. **ADVISE** patients with suspected measles to stay home with no visitors until at least 4 days after rash onset and/or until cleared by Marin County Public Health to resume usual activities.

6. **VACCINATE** adult patients born after 1956 who have not received 2 documented doses of MMR, unless contraindicated.

7. **CONFIRM STAFF IMMUNITY** now to avoid lost work and staff time. Health care providers who are exposed to a measles case may not go to work until they provide Marin County Public Health with written documentation that they have received at least two doses of MMR or a serologic test showing measles immunity.