

Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health

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County Executive



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Public Health Advisory

Healthcare Providers, Schools, and Camps Encouraged to be on High Alert for Measles

April 5, 2019 - 1:30 PM

Please Distribute to School Nurses, Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics, Family Planning, Primary Care, Infectious Diseases, Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Laboratory Medicine, and Infection Control.

Background:

Recent outbreaks of measles in our region have been associated with individuals who recently traveled internationally and were not vaccinated against measles. With the expected increase in travel due to holidays, vacations, graduations, and camp season, the Department of Behavioral & Community Health encourages local providers to consider the following:

- Ensure all patients, staff, campers, and students are up-to-date with their vaccines. Maintain a list of susceptibility for easy reference in case of an outbreak.
- Healthcare facilities are advised to arrange for separate entrances/waiting rooms for patients who call or present with a fever of 101° or higher AND a rash 3 days or longer. Signage must be posted to clearly instruct patients what to do.
- Proper respiratory isolation of suspect exposed individuals is extremely important to avoid unnecessary exposures. Masks should be made available at the entrances.
- Vaccination with MMR within 72 hours of exposure is required for any who have been exposed, especially those born after 01/01/1957 or do not have documentation of two (2) MMRs.
- Immune globulin is recommended for those who are pregnant or infants who are less than six months of age. Infants 6-12 months who have been exposed may receive MMR but does not count toward childhood recommendations.
- Providers should call the DBCH while the patient is still in the office to report suspicion of measles at (845) 486-3402 (M-F, 9-5) or (845) 431-6465 (after-hours).

Measles post-exposure prophylaxis and vaccination recommendations attached.

MEASLES EXPOSURE:

POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS, VACCINATION RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESOURCES

MEASLES POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PEP)

The successful initiation of measles PEP requires quick intervention. **Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health** can assist with the proper PEP recommendations and infection control measures.

- Measles vaccination should be administered to susceptible contacts of a measles patient within 72 hours of exposure and may offer protection.
- Immune globulin is indicated for susceptible household or other close contacts of patients with measles, particularly contacts younger than 1 year of age, pregnant women and immunocompromised persons, for whom risk of complications is highest.
- Immune globulin should be given within 6 days of exposure, to prevent or lessen the severity of measles.

MEASLES VACCINATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Children 6–11 months of age who are traveling outside the United States

- Should receive a dose of MMR vaccine prior to international travel.
- MMR vaccine given before 12 months of age should not be counted as part of the routine series. Children who receive MMR vaccine before age 12 months will need two more doses for a total of three doses, the first of which should be administered at 12-15 months of age (12 months if the child remains in a high-risk area), and the second at least 28 days later (typically at age 4-6 years or before beginning kindergarten).

Children ≥ 12 months, adolescents, and adults

- Children should receive MMR vaccine at 12-15 months of age. The 2nd dose is routinely administered at age 4-6 years, but may be administered as soon as 28 days after the 1st dose. Children over one year of age who have received 1 dose of MMR vaccine and who have recently been exposed to measles or are planning travel outside the US should receive a 2nd dose as soon as possible, as long as 28 days have passed since the 1st dose.
- Anyone who has received two documented doses of MMR, or other live measles-containing vaccine, is considered immune to measles.
- Documentation of provider-diagnosed measles disease, laboratory evidence of immunity, or having been born before 1957 are also accepted as proof of immunity to measles.
- Anyone who lacks proof of measles immunity, should receive MMR vaccination.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention - [cdc.gov/measles](https://www.cdc.gov/measles) [cdc.gov/travel](https://www.cdc.gov/travel)

NYSDOH Measles Fact Sheet - www.health.ny.gov/publications/2170

Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health (845) 486-3402

New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Immunization (518) 473-4437