Provider Alert: Update on Measles Associated with Disneyland
January 22, 2015

Measles has been confirmed in 59 California residents since late December 2014. Of these, 42 have been linked to Disney parks in Anaheim. This includes 5 Disney employees. Initial exposures at Disney parks occurred in December 2014 but additional confirmed cases visited Disney parks while infectious in January 2015. Many large contact investigations are ongoing, and related cases have occurred in Utah, Washington, Colorado, Oregon, and Mexico. Additional suspected cases are under investigation.

Patients range in age from 7 months to 70 years. Vaccination status is documented for 34 of the 59 cases. Of these 34, 28 were unvaccinated (six of whom were infants too young to be vaccinated), 1 had received one dose of MMR, and 5 had received two or more doses of MMR vaccine. There have been no measles cases in Santa Barbara County, but providers should remain vigilant.

Local healthcare providers are encouraged to:

1) **Consider measles** in patients of any age who have a fever AND a rash, regardless of their travel history. Measles rashes are red, blotchy and maculopapular and typically start on the hairline/face then spread downwards to the rest of the body.

2) Note that although documentation of two doses of prior MMR vaccine or a prior positive measles IgG test makes the diagnosis of measles less likely, it can still occur.

3) Immediately isolate any measles suspect and call the 24/7 Disease Control Office at (805) 681-5280.

4) When indicated, coordinate submission of measles specimens to the Santa Barbara County Public Health Laboratory by calling (805) 681-5255. Serum, respiratory, and urine specimens are necessary to confirm a measles diagnosis:

   a) Throat or nasopharyngeal swab (use viral culturette and viral transport media)
   b) 500-100 ml of urine (sterile centrifuge tube or urine specimen container)
   c) 7-10 ml blood in red-top or serum separator tube

5) **Immunize** those planning travel to countries where measles is circulating with MMR vaccine before they go. Infants traveling to these countries can be vaccinated as young as six months of age, though they should also have the two standard doses of MMR after their first birthday. A list of these countries can be found at [http://www.cdc.gov/measles/travelers.html](http://www.cdc.gov/measles/travelers.html).