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## Provider Alert

### Measles Alert, Testing, and Documentation of Immunity

There have been two confirmed measles cases in Santa Barbara County between May 31<sup>st</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup> 2019.

**Providers who have a suspect measles case should immediately call the Disease Control Program 24/7 at 805-681-5280.**

In order to protect the public, the healthcare workforce, and prepare for potential measles exposures, providers are urged to review and **share the following information with healthcare staff:**

#### CDPH Measles Quicksheet

- Updated (May 2019) [CDPH Measles Quicksheet](#) sections:
  1. Assessing Suspect Measles Cases
  2. Assessing Measles Immunity in Contacts
- [CDPH 2019 Measles Recommendations Letter](#)

#### Preventing Exposures to Measles in Your Facility

If you have a suspect measles case:

1. Do not allow suspect case in areas where there are other patients.
2. Instruct patients who are suspect for measles to wait outside the facility.
3. Use airborne infection control measures, mask, and isolate suspect measles cases preferably in negative pressure rooms or outdoor areas

#### Testing for Measles

4. Refer to [Should I Test for Measles?](#) healthcare provider guide
5. Call to report suspect measles cases 24/7 to Santa Barbara Public Health Department at (805) 681-5280 while the patient is in your facility
6. Collect laboratory samples. PHD staff must provide consultation and instructions before samples are submitted.

Sample Information:

- Urine: 10-50 ml in sterile container AND
- Dacron swab of throat (preferred) or nasopharynx, in viral transport
  - [Collecting Respiratory Specimens for Measles Testing Poster](#)
  - [Measles Laboratory Testing Guidance](#)

## **Document Healthcare Personnel Measles Immunization or Immunity**

Healthcare personnel who are exposed to a suspect or confirmed measles case will be quarantined unless they can provide:

- Documentation of a positive measles IgG test **OR**
- Documentation of two doses of measles vaccine given in 1968 or later, separated by at least 28 days, with first dose given after first birthday

To avoid disruption of staffing and patient services, we recommend that healthcare providers and facilities proactively:

- Assess, document, and maintain records of vaccination/immunity to measles for all workers in your healthcare facility per the Cal OSHA Aerosol-Transmissible Disease Standards

## **Vaccinations for International Travelers**

- Recommend MMR immunization for infants 6-11 months, and adults whose immunization status is not known, who will be traveling internationally
  - [CDC Guidance to International Travelers](#)

## **Document Patient Immunization or Immunity Status for Measles**

If your patient is exposed to measles they may be quarantined until they are able to provide written documentation of measles vaccination or of a blood test that demonstrates immunity.

**We recommend that providers:**

- Discuss with patients the need to determine and document measles immunity based on their risk level described in the May 2019 [CDPH Measles Quicksheet](#)
- Assist patients to access and maintain written documentation of measles immunization or blood tests demonstrating immunity to measles
- Vaccinate or refer for measles vaccination as appropriate
  - See CDC MMR Vaccine Recommendations:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/mmr/public/index.html>
- Request measles titers as appropriate

## **Resources:**

### **Measles is very contagious (poster)**

- <http://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-1239.pdf>  
<http://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-1239S.pdf> (Spanish)

### **Vaccine Safety: Answers to Parents' Top Questions**

- <http://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-916.pdf>
- <http://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-916S.pdf> (Spanish)