

Measles Health Alert 2014

Measles is highly contagious. Please protect patients, visitors, and staff!



Keep an eye out for measles symptoms:

Suspect measles in patients with:

- Fever and rash
- History of international travel in the past 3 weeks or contact with international visitors

Note: A history of 2 doses of MMR vaccine does not exclude a measles diagnosis.

Prodrome

- Mild to moderate fever
- Cough
- Coryza
- Conjunctivitis

Rash onset

- Fever spikes, often as high as 104° to 105° F
- Red, maculopapular rash that may become confluent—typically starts at hairline, then face, and spreads rapidly down body
- Koplik's spots (tiny blue/white spots on the bright red background of the buccal mucosa) may be present



Act immediately if you suspect measles:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement airborne infection control precautions immediately, mask and isolate patient—negative pressure room, if available.• Permit only staff immune to measles to be near the patient.• Notify state and local health departments immediately. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expedite measles serologic testing (IgM and IgG) at a public health lab if possible; use of commercial labs may delay diagnosis.• Safeguard other facilities: assure airborne infection control precautions before referring patients.• Do not use any regular exam room for at least 2 hours after a suspected measles patient has left the room. |
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A message from the Connecticut Department of Public Health Immunization Program. For more information visit <http://www.cdc.gov/measles/about/index.html> or call (860) 509-7929.