What to Know About Measles

Is measles serious?

Measles is a highly contagious virus that can lead to serious health complications like lung infection, brain damage, deafness, hospitalizations and death.

Measles is especially serious for young children, older adults, pregnant people and those with weakened immune systems.

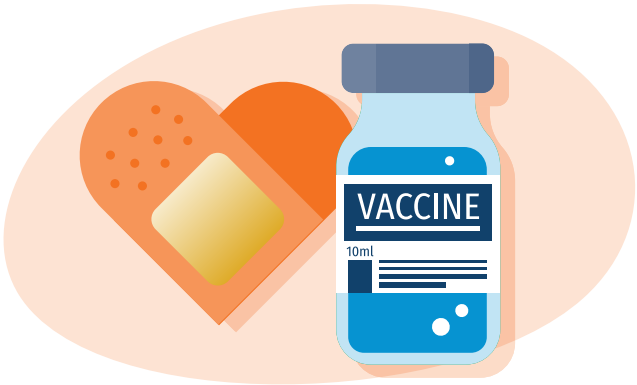
What are the symptoms of measles?

- High fever.
- Runny nose.
- Diarrhea.
- Rash all over body.
- Cough.
- Red eyes.
- Ear infection.

How do I get vaccinated?

Measles is highly contagious. Everyone should be up to date on Measles Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine. To check your vaccination status or to get vaccinated, talk with your health care provider or call your local health department.

Learn more at Michigan.gov/Measles.



Routine Recommendation:

Children need 1 dose of MMR at 12 months of age and again at 4 to 6 years of age.

- Children 1 to 4 years old who live in or are visiting an affected area can receive a second dose early (at least 4 weeks after the first dose).

Catch-Up Recommendation:

Unvaccinated children and adolescents should receive 2 doses at least 4 weeks apart.

Adult Recommendation:

- Adults born in 1957 or later who are at low risk and have no evidence of immunity should receive 1 dose.
- Adults born in 1957 or later who are at high risk and have no evidence of immunity, should receive 2 doses at least 4 weeks apart.
- Adults born before 1957 are assumed to have immunity to measles and do not need a dose of MMR vaccine.
- Talk to your health care provider to determine your level of risk and need for vaccination.

International Travel Recommendations:

- Infants ages 6 to 11 months should receive 1 dose before departure (does not count toward 2-dose series).
- Unvaccinated children ages 12 months and older should receive 2 doses at least 4 weeks apart before departure.
- Adults who have no evidence of immunity, should receive 2 doses at least 4 weeks apart before departure.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has alerted all health care providers to consider measles in any patient with febrile rash illness especially if their vaccination status is unknown.

MDHHS
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

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