

## Measles Update

### Public Health Bulletin for Health Care Providers - April 2025

Dear colleagues,

As of Thursday, April 17, seven cases of measles have been confirmed in Michigan residents. The first case impacted an individual in [Oakland County](#). Then subsequent cases were confirmed in residents of [Kent](#), [Macomb](#), [Montcalm](#) and [Ingham](#) counties. Most individuals recently **travelled internationally** to areas with known measles activity.

On Wednesday, April 16, a [measles outbreak](#) – defined as three or more related cases – was confirmed in Montcalm County. This is the first confirmed measles outbreak in Michigan since 2019. This outbreak is linked to the ongoing outbreak in Ontario, Canada (as of April 17, there were [925 cases](#) in Ontario).

While many of the national headlines have focused on the measles outbreak in the Southern U.S. ([with 597 cases](#)), the [Ontario](#) measles outbreak has been linked to U.S. cases in several states – warranting a heightened clinical suspicion of measles among Michigan health care providers. From April 10 to April 16, 109 new cases were reported in Ontario with eight of those cases reported in Windsor – located directly across the border from Detroit.

As we continue to monitor the situation, please take the following actions:

- **Immediately report** any patient you are testing for measles to the local or state health department.
  - Refer to the [reporting guidelines for communicable diseases](#) and to the MDHHS [Measles Updates](#) page for more information.
- **Refresh your measles knowledge.**
  - Refer to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) [clinical guidance overview and watch their video](#).

- Also refer to the revised MDHHS [measles standard operating procedures and investigation guidelines document](#).
- **Know who should get vaccinated and who may need an additional dose** (see vaccination recommendations below).
- **Ask patients with exposure to call before they show up.** Screen for measles exposure/symptoms at triage and **isolate quickly**.
  - If a patient presents with symptoms suggestive of measles, isolate them immediately. Ideally in a single-patient airborne infection isolation room (AIIR) or in a private room with a closed door until an AIIR is available.
  - Patients should be encouraged to **call ahead** and notify their health care facility of potential measles symptoms/exposures before arrival.

Please contact your [local health department](#) or MDHHS if you have additional questions. Health departments can provide guidance on testing, isolating and managing patients with suspected measles and people exposed to measles.

As a reminder, register with the [Michigan Health Alert Network](#) to stay up to date with all Michigan public health alerts.

**Thank you for your continued partnership,**

Natasha Bagdasarian, MD, MPH, FIDSA, FACP  
Chief Medical Executive, State of Michigan

Sarah Lyon Callo, MS, PhD  
Senior Deputy Director and State Epidemiologist, MDHHS Public Health Administration

---

## **Vaccination Recommendations**

### **Children**

- MDHHS recommends unvaccinated individuals ages 1 year and older receive the [measles, mumps and rubella \(MMR\)](#) vaccination to protect themselves and those around them.
- CDC [recommends](#) children receive the first dose of MMR vaccine at 12 to 15 months old and the second dose at 4 to 6 years old. The second dose can be administered earlier as long as at least 28 days have elapsed since the first dose.

- Children between 6 and 12 months may receive their first dose of MMR early if planning on international travel or travel to an area experiencing an outbreak. Infants who get one dose of MMR vaccine before their first birthday should get two more doses according to the routinely recommended schedule.

### **Adults**

- Adults and teens should also be up to date on MMR vaccinations with either one or two doses (depending on preference and risk factors); unless they have other presumptive evidence of immunity to measles, mumps and rubella.
- MMR vaccination is especially important for:
  - College students.
  - International travelers.
  - Health care personnel.
  - Close contacts of immunocompromised people.
  - People with HIV infection.
  - Adults who got inactivated measles vaccine.
  - Groups at increased risk during measles outbreak.
- Adults born in the U.S. before 1957 are generally presumed to be immune to measles given endemic spread in the 1950s.
- Adults who were vaccinated prior to 1968 may have received a less effective vaccine, and those individuals should be evaluated for eligibility to receive the current vaccine.
- No “booster” doses of MMR vaccine are currently recommended for either adults or children who have received the recommended two dose series of MMR for prevention of measles.

**Post-exposure vaccination:** People exposed to measles who do not have evidence of immunity may be eligible for post-exposure prophylaxis either with MMR vaccine (within 72 hours of exposure) or immunoglobulin (within six days of exposure).

---

### **Vaccination Trends**

Measles is one of the most infectious pathogens, where 90% of people exposed will become infected with the illness if they are not immune. While its highly contagious, measles is also vaccine preventable; and **getting vaccinated is the best way to safely build immunity.**

In fact, two doses of the MMR vaccine are about 97% effective at preventing measles and one dose is about 93% effective.

**Across the U.S. and Michigan, routine immunization coverage is dropping.** MMR vaccine coverage in Michigan children is around 85%, and MMR vaccine coverage among all residents statewide is [around 80%](#), which is not sufficient for protecting our state. At least 95% coverage is needed to prevent measles outbreaks.

---

## Provider Resources

Health care providers are often a family's most trusted health resource. It is imperative we lean on this trust to communicate the best way families can protect themselves and their loved ones from disease outbreaks like measles, which is to **get vaccinated** and to **stay up to date with routine vaccinations.**

Vaccines are available through primary care providers, pharmacies and [local health departments](#). [Medicaid and most insurance plans](#) cover MMR vaccines at no-cost. Children eligible for the [Vaccines for Children Program](#) may receive the vaccine from a provider enrolled in that program at no-cost.

For more information on measles, visit the [CDC's website](#). For State of Michigan Measles investigation guidelines, including specimen collection and testing protocols, visit [Measles Investigation Guidelines](#). See information on measles cases and outbreaks [domestically and globally](#).