

Measles Preparedness Checklist for Acute Care Facilities



Use this guide to prepare acute care facilities and staff to respond to a suspect measles case.



Staff and Personnel

- ☐ Ensure all healthcare personnel have two (2) documented doses of MMR vaccine or a positive measles (rubeola) IgG test on file.
- ☐ Provide a recommendation to all non-healthcare staff including janitorial, security, administration, volunteers, etc. to have two (2) documented doses of MMR vaccine or a positive measles (rubeola) IgG test on file.
- ☐ Work with occupational health to offer titer testing and/or vaccination to any staff without documented immunity and develop an internal contact tracing plan.
 - If any vaccinations are administered by your organization, **ensure information is entered into the California Immunization Registry (CAIR2)** to allow the local public health department to quickly clear employees to return to work.
 - Have a list readily available of any staff that do not have immunity in case an exposure occurs.
- ☐ Ensure there is a process to track all first responders (e.g., emergency medical services, law enforcement, and fire service members), vendors, and contracted providers coming into and out of the facility.
 - This includes the company/organization they work for, when they arrived, and when they left the facility.
- ☐ Verify that frontline staff have been properly fit tested for a respirator when hired and conduct fit testing annually or in alignment with your written respiratory protection program.



Training

- ☐ Identify staff that can utilize CAIR2 to search vaccination records to:
 - Identify patients that have documented immunity, and
 - Flag patients that may need post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)/titers.
- ☐ Review proper personal protective equipment (PPE) practices for staff that may be taking care of suspect measles cases.
- ☐ Ensure frontline healthcare staff, including check-in/triage staff, are trained to know:
 - The [signs and symptoms](#) of measles, and
 - Risks of exposure, such as recent international travel, domestic travel to an area with a current outbreak of measles, or a known exposure to measles.
- ☐ Consider creating a triage checklist for staff to use.
- ☐ Provide appropriate staff with contact information for the County of San Diego's (County) Epidemiology and Immunization Services Branch to immediately report a suspect measles case.
 - **IZ PHN Line:** 866-358-2966 option 5
 - **After hours and weekends:** 858-565-5255
 - **Email:** PHS-IZPHN.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov

- Leave a message, **including a direct phone number**, for a public health nurse to return the call shortly. In the meantime, ensure the patient is in airborne precautions and notify your infection prevention/control team.

- ❑ Ensure staff are trained to notify the proper management, leadership, emergency managers; and infection prevention team within the facility/organization if they have a suspect measles case.
- ❑ Consider conducting a tabletop exercise to go through the steps that should be taken if a suspect measles case comes into the facility.

Facility

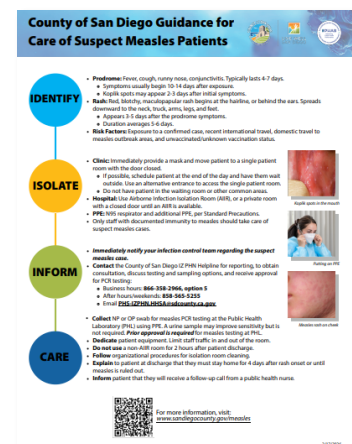
- ❑ Post flyers:
 - Throughout the facility alerting patients and visitors of the signs and symptoms of measles. Be sure to include what an individual should do if they believe they are infected, including staying outside the facility and who to call to minimize exposure to others.
 - Around employee workstations and break rooms with information regarding what to do if a suspect measles case is identified.
- ❑ Ensure the facility has enough masks and respirators for both staff and patients to use as needed if there is a suspect measles case.
- ❑ Identify room(s) for isolation of suspect cases (airborne infection isolation rooms, or AIIR).
- ❑ Identify all shared air spaces within the facility. If possible, have specific information regarding the facility's HVAC system ready for review, if needed, after exposure.

What is a shared air space?

- Smaller spaces, such as the patient compartment of an ambulance, a single patient room, or a clinic waiting area.
- Different areas in a larger space or rooms that share a common air handling system, such as a large emergency department with patient waiting, triage, HCP work areas, or multiple individual patient rooms that share a common unfiltered air source (i.e., ventilation return air is recirculated without passing through HEPA filtration).

Processes

- ❑ Identify a point person/team that is responsible for gathering the information needed and will serve as a point of contact for the local public health department when an exposure happens. Consider creating a checklist for this person/team to use once a case has been identified.
- ❑ Ensure a trained staff member is always available to run reports and create a list of patients and staff that were exposed based on parameters provided by the local public health department. This is a time-sensitive request to enable immediate contact tracing and other public health activities.
- ❑ Work with your laboratory team to create an order set for measles (PCR) testing that will indicate that the specimen should be sent to the County's Public Health Laboratory (PHL) if testing is approved.
 - **Prior approval by the County is required** before sending specimens and should be noted in the instructions when clinicians put in the order. Things to consider adding to the order set include what specimens to collect and type of swab to be used.



- ❑ Identify how quickly specimens can be sent to the County's PHL. If possible, specimens sent to PHL should arrive by 11:00 a.m. for same day testing.
- ❑ Identify how to coordinate testing and vaccination for patients, staff (contract and permanent), volunteer, vendors, and visitors. Develop an internal plan to address actions for anyone who was exposed. Consider including processes to:
 - Notify individuals of the measles exposure.
 - Work with the local public health department to assist if needed.
 - Identify where testing or vaccination will occur.
 - Work with your pharmacy to determine if MMR vaccines and immunoglobulin (IV and IM) are stocked and available.
- ❑ Set up a communication plan to alert patients, staff, visitors, etc. of the exposure once confirmed.
- ❑ Identify a process to monitor exposed staff for symptoms suspicious of measles, including:
 - Ensuring that staff know who to contact if symptoms develop.
 - Ensuring the local public health department is notified if a staff member develops symptoms.
- ❑ Review resources below and consider signing up for [local health alerts](#) and public health and local [medical emergency planning](#) or [infection prevention](#) groups.

Resources

- [Measles \(Rubeola\) \(County of San Diego\)](#)
- [Measles \(CDPH\)](#)
 - [Measles Healthcare Exposure Investigation Quicksheet](#)
 - [Digital Vaccine Record](#)
- [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Measles in Healthcare Setting \(CDC\)](#)
 - [Appendix A: Considerations when Evaluating a Person for Exposure to Measles in a Healthcare Setting](#)
 - [Measles Assessment Tool \(MAT\) for Infection Control in Healthcare Settings](#)
- [Recommendations for Environmental Infection Control in Health-Care Facilities](#)