



To: CAHAN San Diego Participants

Date: March 20, 2024

From: Public Health Services

Health Advisory: Measles Prevention in International Travelers

Key Messages

- Healthcare providers should ensure their patients are up-to-date on measles vaccine and immunize all international travelers, aged 6 months or older, who do not have documented immunity.
- Consider measles in the differential diagnosis for anyone with fever and rash who has recently traveled abroad.
- Immediately report any suspected measles cases to the County Immunization Program during office hours by calling (866) 358-2966 (press 5 at the prompt) Monday-Friday 8AM-5PM and (858) 565-5255 after hours and on weekends.

Situation

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a [Health Advisory](#) to inform clinicians of an increase in global and U.S. measles cases and to request clinicians ensure their patients are up to date on measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccination. Additionally, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued a [Health Advisory](#) on the importance of immediate respiratory isolation of suspected measles cases in order to prevent exposure to additional contacts. There have been 58 confirmed U.S. measles cases to date in 2024, including four in California, and one in San Diego County.

Background

In anticipation of increased travel activity over spring break, clinicians should ensure that all individuals 6 months and older are up-to-date on measles vaccination prior to any international travel, regardless of destination. Additionally, consider measles in the differential diagnosis for anyone with fever and rash who has recently traveled abroad. Delays in identifying and isolating measles cases in health care settings can result in exposures to hundreds of additional contacts.

Actions Requested

- **Immunize** any U.S. resident older than age 6 months [without evidence of immunity](#) who is planning to travel internationally with the MMR vaccine prior to departure.
 - Infants aged 6 through 11 months should receive one dose of MMR vaccine before departure. Infants who receive a dose of MMR vaccine before their first birthday should receive two more doses of MMR vaccine, the first of which should be administered when the child is age 12 through 15 months and the second at least 28 days later.
 - Children aged 12 months or older should receive two doses of MMR vaccine, separated by at least 28 days.
 - Teenagers and adults without documented measles immunity should receive two doses of MMR vaccine separated by at least 28 days.

- **Consider** measles in the differential diagnosis of febrile rash, especially among patients with a history of recent international travel or domestic travel through an international airport.
- **Isolate** suspected measles cases immediately, ideally in an airborne infection isolation room (AIIR) if available.
- **Report** suspected measles cases immediately to the County Immunization Program during office hours by calling (866) 358-2966 (press 5 at the prompt) Monday-Friday 8AM-5PM and (858) 565-5255 after hours and on weekends.

Resources

Federal

- [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) - 00504 | Increase in Global and Domestic Measles Cases and Outbreaks: Ensure Children in the United States and Those Traveling Internationally 6 Months and Older are Current on MMR Vaccination \(cdc.gov\)](#)

State

- [Immediate Respiratory Isolation Recommended for Persons with Suspected Measles \(ca.gov\)](#)

Local

- [Measles \(Rubeola\) \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)
- [CAHAN San Diego Health Advisory: First Measles Case in San Diego County, since 2019](#)
- [Measles Desk Aid for Clinicians](#)

Thank you for your participation.

CAHAN San Diego

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