

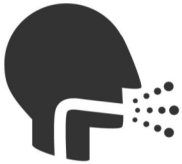
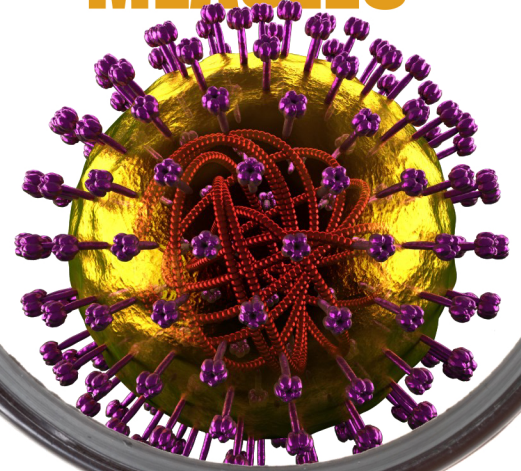


MEASLES is a highly contagious respiratory disease caused by a virus.

It spreads through the air through coughing and sneezing. Measles starts with a fever, runny nose, cough, red eyes, and sore throat, and is followed by a rash that spreads all over the body. Complications can include pneumonia, ear infections, and diarrhea, encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), seizures and death. Complications are more common in adults and young children.

KNOW THE FACTS

Understanding MEASLES



What are the SYMPTOMS of Measles

The symptoms of measles generally appear about 7 to 14 days after a person is infected.

Measles typically begins with:

- high fever
- cough
- runny nose (coryza)
- red, watery eyes (conjunctivitis/pink eye)
- A rash that usually starts behind the ears or on the face 2-7 days later
 - ◊ The rash spreads over the face, trunk and limbs
- Small white spots appear inside the mouth



Is everyone at RISK for getting Measles?

No, Persons who:

- were born before 1957
- have proof of a past measles infection
- have immunity that is detected by a lab test
- or received 2 doses of Measles containing vaccine (MMR) are considered to be immune.



If you think you HAVE measles or have been EXPOSED to someone with Measles

Contact the Prince George's County Health Department Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. at 301-583-3750 or 240-508-5774 (after hours, holidays, and weekends) or your physician. Keep away from others. A person can spread measles from 4 days before and up to 4 days after the rash develops. If you must seek medical care, call ahead and let them know you think you may have measles.



Can measles be PREVENTED?

Yes, a first dose of Measles (MMR) vaccine should be given at 12-15 months of age with a second dose at school entry (4-6 years of age). Infants 6-11 months should have 1 dose of Measles (MMR) vaccine before traveling abroad.

High risk adults such as:

- previously unvaccinated persons
- international travelers
- college students
- healthcare workers born during or after 1957

should also receive 2 doses of Measles (MMR) vaccine



Is there a TREATMENT for Measles?

There is no specific treatment for Measles. Contact your medical provider. Fluids and good nutrition should be consumed. Antibiotics may be prescribed for treating eye or ear infections related to the illness.



Check your IMMUNIZATION records.

If you have not received the measles vaccination, you should get vaccinated.



Call 301-583-3750 or visit www.cdc.gov/measles/index.html for more information about measles.

