



MACOMB COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Mount Clemens Health Center

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www.macombgov.org/publichealth

Mark A. Hackel
County Executive

William J. Ridella, M.P.H., M.B.A.
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Kevin P. Lokar, M.D.
Medical Director

March 28, 2019

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As of March 28, 2019, twenty-two cases of measles have been confirmed in Southeast Michigan. Measles is a highly contagious viral disease that causes a rash, high fever, cough, runny nose and watery eyes. Complications can include pneumonia, brain and nervous system infection, hospitalization and even death.

Maintaining high levels of measles vaccination in the community is critical to controlling the spread of measles. One dose of measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine is required for preschool-age children and two doses of MMR vaccine are required for school-age children.

Please review your child's immunization record to be certain they have been vaccinated. Children who are not age-appropriately vaccinated should be vaccinated at this time. Children can be vaccinated through their private provider or the Macomb County Health Department.

Information about measles and the Macomb County Health Department Immunization Clinic is attached. If you have questions you may contact the Macomb County Health Department Communicable Disease Program at (586) 783-8190 or the Immunization Clinic at (586) 469-5372.

Sincerely,

Kevin P. Lokar, M.D., M.P.H.
Medical Director

MEASLES (RUBEOLA)



What is measles?

Measles is a highly contagious viral disease that can be very serious or even fatal. It begins with a fever that lasts for a couple of days, followed by a cough, runny nose, and conjunctivitis (pink eye). A rash starts on the face and upper neck, spreads down the back and trunk, then extends to the arms and hands, as well as the legs and feet. After about five days, the rash fades in the same order it appeared. Serious complications of measles include pneumonia and encephalitis (inflammation of the brain).

Who gets measles?

As a result of widespread immunization, the measles virus does not circulate in the United States. All reported cases of measles in the United States have been brought in from other countries, usually Europe and Asia. Travelers leaving the United States should be immune to measles. Although measles is usually considered a childhood disease, it can be contracted at any age by a person who never had the disease or been vaccinated. Unvaccinated individuals are 22 times more likely to get measles than are those who have two measles vaccines, usually given as measles, mumps and rubella vaccine (MMR).

How is measles spread?

Measles is highly contagious. The measles virus lives in the mucus in the nose and throat of infected people. When they sneeze, cough or talk, droplets spray into the air and the droplets remain active and contagious on infected surfaces for up to two hours.

What are the symptoms of measles?

Measles symptoms generally appear in two stages. In the first stage, which last two to four days, the individual may have a runny nose, cough and a slight fever. The eyes may become reddened and sensitive to light while the fever gradually rises each day, often peaking as high as 103° to 105°F. Koplik spots (small bluish white spots surrounded by a reddish area) may also appear on the gums and inside of the cheeks. The second stage begins on the third to seventh day and consists of a red blotchy rash lasting five to six days. The rash usually begins on the face and then spreads downward and outward, reaching the hands and feet. The rash fades in the same order that it appeared, from head to extremities. Other symptoms include weight loss, diarrhea and enlarged lymph glands throughout the body.

How soon do symptoms appear?

Symptoms usually appear in ten to 12 days, although they may occur as early as seven or as late as 18 days after exposure.

When and for how long is a person able to spread measles?

An individual is able to transmit measles from four days prior to and four days after rash onset.

What are the complications associated with measles?

Complications occur in up to 30 percent of all cases and are more common in those younger than five and older than 20 years of age. Pneumonia occurs in up to six percent of reported cases. Encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) may also occur. Other complications include middle ear infection, diarrhea and seizures. Infection of the mother during pregnancy has been associated with an increase in low-birth weight infants, premature labor, miscarriage and birth defects.

What is the treatment for measles?

There is no specific treatment for measles.

Does past infection make a person immune?

Yes. Immunity acquired after contracting the disease is usually permanent.

Is there a vaccine for measles?

Measles-containing vaccine is recommended for anyone born on or after January 1, 1957 who does not have a blood test confirming measles immunity. Individuals should receive 2 doses of MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccine for maximum protection. The first dose should be given at 12 to 15 months of age. The second dose should be given at four to six years of age (age of school entry). Unprotected persons can get the vaccine at any age.

Does the MMR vaccine cause autism?

There is no evidence to support that measles-mumps-rubella vaccine (MMR) cause autism.

What can be done to prevent the spread of measles?

Maintaining high levels of measles immunization in the community is critical to controlling the spread of measles. Infected individuals should be excluded from work or school during their infectious period.

For more information, go to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website www.cdc.gov and search the disease you are interested in their *A to Z Index* in the blue bar at the top of the page.



Health
Department

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC HOURS



Walk-Ins Accepted, Appointments Preferred

effective 8-1-2017

Health Center	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mount Clemens Health Center 43525 Elizabeth Road Mt. Clemens, MI 48043 (586) 469-5372	Open 8:30-4:30 TB testing: 8:30-4:30	Closed	Open 8:30- 6:30 TB testing: 8:30-4:30	Open 8:30-4:30 No TB testing; can read results	Closed* *Open 3rd Fridays, 11:30-4:30
Southwest Health Center 27690 Van Dyke, Ste. B Warren, MI 48093 (586) 465-8537	Closed	Open 8:30-4:30 TB testing: 8:30-4:30	Open 8:30-4:30 TB testing 8:30-4:30	Open 8:30- 6:30 No TB testing; can read results	Open* 8:30-4:30 TB testing: 8:30-4:30 * Except 3rd Fridays, Open 11:30-4:30
Southeast Family Resource Center 25401 Harper Avenue St. Clair Shores, MI 48081 (586) 466-6800	Open 8:30- 6:30 TB testing: 8:30-4:30	Open 8:30-4:30 TB testing: 8:30-4:30	Closed	Closed	Open* 8:30-4:30 TB testing: 8:30-4:30 *CLOSED 3rd Fridays

For CHILDREN: A PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST be available to complete & sign clinic health forms for each child. Forms are available at: <http://health.macombgov.org/Health-Programs-FamilyHealthServices-ImmunizationClinic>

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING WITH YOU TO THE HEALTH CENTER:

1. IMMUNIZATION RECORD(S) for all persons being immunized
2. INSURANCE CARDS(S) for all persons being immunized
3. VALID IDENTIFICATION

PAYMENT/BILLING INFORMATION:

- There are charges for the administration of vaccines – **cash or check only**.
- Medicaid/Medicare Part B will be billed for approved vaccines.
- Macomb County Health Department can bill some commercial insurances for immunization services.
- Adults and children who have no insurance or who have insurance that does not cover the cost of vaccines may be eligible to receive vaccines at reduced cost.

For more information:

- Please call (586) 469-5372 or (586) 465-8537 and ask to speak with an Immunization Program Registered Nurse, or
- Visit our website for **updates and holiday schedules:** <http://health.macombgov.org/Health-Programs-FamilyHealthServices-ImmunizationClinic>
- Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PublicHealthMacomb>