

Fever and Rash?.....Consider Measles

Measles cases continue to be identified in California in returning international travelers and their contacts. Measles is highly contagious. Please protect patients, visitors, and staff!

✓ Keep an eye out for measles symptoms:

Suspect measles in patients with:

- fever and rash
- history of international travel or contact with international visitors in the prior 3 weeks.

Note: A history of 2 doses of MMR vaccine does not exclude a measles diagnosis.

Prodrome

- Mild to moderate fever
- Cough
- Coryza
- Conjunctivitis

Rash onset

- Fever spikes, often as high as 104° to 105° F
- Red, maculopapular rash that may become confluent—typically starts at hairline, then face, and spreads rapidly down body
- Koplik's spots (tiny blue/white spots on the bright red background of the buccal mucosa) may be present



✓ Act immediately if you suspect measles:

- Implement airborne infection control precautions immediately, mask and isolate patient – negative pressure room, if available.
- Permit only staff immune to measles to be near the patient.
- [Notify Orange County Public Health immediately.](#)
- Expedite measles serologic testing (IgM and IgG) through Orange County Public Health; use of commercial labs may delay diagnosis. Nasopharyngeal aspirates or throat swabs should also be sent for viral culture.
- Safeguard other facilities: assure airborne infection control precautions before referring patients.
- Do not use any regular exam room and keep the door closed for at least 2 hours after a suspected measles patient has left the room.

Phone: 714-834-8180

After Hours/Week-Ends: 714-628-7008



Visit www.ochealthinfo.com for more information or call 714-834-8180.

Adapted from the California Department of Public Health, Immunization Branch, Measles Alert 2009.

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