

# MEASLES:

## Important considerations



- ✓ As of July 2019, outbreaks of measles are occurring in multiple states and a growing number of countries.
- ✓ From January 1 to July 11, 2019, 1,123 individual cases of measles have been confirmed in 28 states.
- ✓ In 2018, Europe experienced a large measles outbreak with over 69,000 cases of reported.
- ✓ Number of measles cases in Alaska since January 1, 2019: 1

## WHO'S AT RISK → INCUBATION → SYMPTOMS



- Babies who are too young for vaccine (<12 months)
- Immunocompromised
- Pregnant women
- Unvaccinated

Average: **14 days**  
(range 7-21 days)

- High fever (up to 104 F)
- Runny nose
- Cough
- Red, watery eyes
- Rash (spreads from head to toe)
- Koplik spots (sometimes)



**Measles complications can include: pneumonia, encephalitis, and/or death**

**How infectious is measles? → One person can infect 12-18 susceptible people**

## RISK FACTORS



Travel outside of Alaska within past 21 days.



Contact with someone who has measles

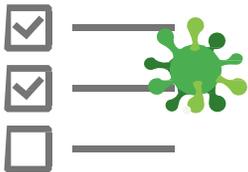


Not receiving a measles vaccine (MMR)



Visitors from areas where measles is occurring

### SUSPECT



Evaluate signs and symptoms and risk factors to determine if measles is high on the suspicion list.

### REPORT



Measles is **immediately reportable** in Alaska to the Division of Public Health-Section of Epidemiology. Reporting should not wait until lab results are available. If you suspect measles, report it ASAP.

### CONFIRM



A diagnosis of measles is confirmed by prompt laboratory testing. Collect both a throat swab (or NP swab) and a urine sample for PCR testing as soon as possible after rash onset. Submit samples to the Alaska State Virology Laboratory.

### PREVENT

- Airborne infection isolation precautions in healthcare settings.
- Isolate patient at home and out of the public through 4 days after onset of rash.
- Measles vaccine (MMR) is extremely effective against preventing the disease in those who are >12 months of age. **Two doses of MMR are 97% effective.**

**To report a suspected case of measles contact the Alaska Section of Epidemiology at (907)269-8000 or 800-478-0084 (after hours)**

