
VACCINE POINTS

“Vaccine Points” is a bi-monthly communication distributed by the Hawaii Department of Health to all participating Vaccines for Children (VFC) providers.

MEASLES

Measles outbreaks have been reported in New York, Washington, Texas, and Illinois, and in many parts of the world, including Europe and Asia (Japan, Philippines, Indonesia).

WHAT SHOULD CLINICIANS DO?

Ensure all patients and staff are up to date on measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine:

- **Children:** 2 doses of MMR: one dose at 12-15 months, second dose at 4-6 years
- **Adults:** At least one dose of MMR for adults born in 1957 or later
- **Healthcare providers:** 2 doses of MMR, a minimum of 4 weeks apart
- **International travelers:**
 - Aged 6 – 11 months: 1 dose of MMR
 - Ages 12 months and older: 2 doses of MMR, a minimum of 4 weeks apart

Consider Measles in patients presenting with **febrile rash illness AND** clinically compatible measles symptoms (**Cough, Coryza, Conjunctivitis**)

- Ask about recent international travel or travel to domestic areas frequented by international travelers or currently experiencing a measles outbreak

Promptly isolate patients with suspected measles to avoid disease transmission

Immediately report the suspected measles case to the Department of Health (see below)

Obtain specimens for testing from patients with suspected measles

- Throat or NP (nasopharyngeal) swab for Measles PCR (testing done at State Lab – contact DOH)
 - Place synthetic swab in 1-3 mL of viral transport media (keep cold)
- Serologic testing for Measles [IgM] (testing done by commercial lab)
 - Notify commercial lab of suspected measles diagnosis PRIOR to sending patient to lab

For more information, including guidelines for patient evaluation, diagnosis, and management, visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/measles/hcp/index.html>

Report to Department of Health:

Oahu (Disease Reporting Line): (808) 586-4586
Maui District Health Office: (808) 984-8213
Kauai District Health Office: (808) 241-3563
Hawaii District Health Office: (808) 933-0912
After Hours (Physician’s Exchange): (808) 600-3625 or Toll Free 1-800-360-2575

