

## Measles Information for Non-Clinicians

January 2019

### Symptoms:

- Fever, cough, coryza (runny nose), and conjunctivitis (red eyes).
- The rash usually starts on the head and then spreads to the trunk followed by the extremities.
- The rash presents a few days after the onset of the fever and other symptoms, but the patient is infectious prior to the rash appearing.

### Who is at the highest risk?

NON-IMMUNE PERSONS IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH A KNOWN CASE. CLOSE CONTACT IS DEFINED AS A PHYSICAL DISTANCE ROUGHLY WITHIN 30 FEET (10 meters) FOR 20 MINUTES OR LONGER. (Per Oregon DOH)

### Determining if a patient is immune:

People with documented prior measles immunizations (MMR vaccine) or who were born prior to 1957 are considered immune to measles. No further testing or isolation for measles is necessary.

### What to do if a patient might have measles:

1. **Phone triage when possible:** Patients who have the symptoms listed above or have been exposed to another person with measles and are not immune should not be brought into our facilities if avoidable. If a patient who is attempting to schedule an appointment has measles symptoms or exposure, notify a clinician (physician or nurse) immediately.
2. **If individuals present to an outpatient clinic or Providence Emergency Department complaining of exposure or signs and symptoms consistent with measles:**
  - a. Give the patient a surgical mask immediately.
  - b. Immediately notify a clinician (physician or nurse) to assist in placing the patient in a room away from other patients

Please contact your local infection prevention team or supervisor with any questions you might have.