

Could it be Measles?

Measles cases continue to be identified in Washington. Measles is highly contagious. Protect your patients and staff!

Watch for these measles symptoms:

- Fever and rash
- History of 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



If you suspect measles:

- Implement airborne infection control precautions immediately, mask and isolate patient—negative pressure room, if available.
- Only permit staff immune to measles to be near the patient.
- Call your local health department while the patient is still present to discuss testing for measles.
- Safeguard other facilities: assure airborne infection control precautions before referring patients.
- Do not use any regular exam room for at least 1 hour after a suspected measles patient has left the room.

For more information, visit the Department of Health at www.doh.wa.gov

