

## Summary and Action Items

- 1.) Provide awareness of a **measles** case in Cook County.
- 2.) Encourage health care providers to consider measles in the differential of clinically compatible cases, especially with appropriate exposure risks such as travel or contact with a case or location identified as a potential risk.
- 3.) Remind providers to **immediately report to public health** any suspect cases at the time of clinical testing and outline appropriate steps for diagnosis and isolation.

## Background

From January 1 to March 21, 2019, 314 individual cases of measles have been confirmed in 15 states (<https://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html>), with many states experiencing outbreaks. In Illinois, there have been seven cases with the most recent case in Cook County. The most recent case, with an onset of March 20, 2019, has no connection to the previous cases in Champaign and DeKalb Counties and is no longer infectious. Individuals identified as potentially exposed during the contagious period will be directly contacted. However, exposures can also have occurred in public areas, where it is impossible to identify all potential contacts.

## Potential Exposures

The following is a listing of known public exposures for the most recent case. When considering whether a clinically compatible case may have been exposed to measles, please ask if the patient might have been exposed at any of the below locations. Patients presenting for measles evaluation should be assessed for potential exposure at these locations on the dates and times listed. A patient may develop symptoms up to 21 days after the exposure date. Susceptible persons who were exposed at any of these locations should be quarantined for 21 days after their most recent exposure; refer to your local health department for guidance.

Sunday, March 17, 2019 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Rochelle Zell Jewish High School 1095 Lake Cook Rd, Deerfield, IL
Monday, March 18, 2019 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Full Circle Fitness 55 Green Bay Rd, Glencoe, IL
Monday, March 18, 2019 11:45 am - 2:00 pm	Dunbrook Cleaners and Tailors Dunbrook Center, 2750 Dundee Rd, Northbrook, IL
Monday, March 18, 2019 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Bed Bath and Beyond 96 S. Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL
Monday, March 18, 2019 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Sunset Foods 1127 Church St, Northbrook, IL
Tuesday, March 19, 2019 5:00 pm - 8:45 pm	Greek Islands Restaurant 200 S. Halsted, Chicago, IL
Tuesday, March 19, 2019 7:15 pm - 11:45 pm	Nederlander Theater 24 W. Randolph St, Chicago, IL
Thursday, March 21, 2019 10:00 am - 12:45 pm	Home Depot 655 Lake Cook Rd, Deerfield, IL

Thursday, March 21, 2019 11:00 am - 1:15 pm	Medical Office 707 Lake Cook Rd, Deerfield, IL
Thursday, March 21, 2019 2:00 pm- 5:30 pm	Giorgio Elan Salon 9025 N. Milwaukee Ave, Niles, IL
Thursday, March 21, 2019 3:45 pm - 6:00 pm	Shell Gas Station 9002 N. Milwaukee Ave, Niles, IL
Thursday, March 21, 2019 1:45 pm - 6:40 pm	Fresh Farms 8203 W. Golf Rd, Niles, IL
Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:45 pm - 7:00 pm	Dunbrook Cleaners and Tailors Dunbrook Center, 2750 Dundee Rd, Northbrook, IL
Thursday, March 21, 2019 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Dairy Queen 2770 Dundee Rd, Northbrook, IL
Friday, March 22, 2019 1:15 pm - 3:45 pm	Medical Office 707 Lake Cook Rd., Deerfield, IL
Friday, March 22, 2019 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Glenbrook Hospital Laboratory and Oncology Center 2100 Pfingsten Rd, Glenview, IL
Saturday, March 23, 2019 9:30 am - 2:00pm	Northshore Urgent Care 49 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL
Saturday, March 23, 2019 10:30 pm to 2:00 am (3/24/2019)	Northshore Evanston Hospital – Emergency Department 2650 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, IL

**Symptoms**

Typically, measles starts with a fever, runny nose, cough, red eyes, and sore throat, and is followed by a rash that spreads all over the body, most often starting on the head. The symptoms of measles generally appear seven to 14 days after a person is exposed but can appear up to 21 days after exposure. Patients are considered contagious from four days before to four days after the rash appears.

**Transmission**

Measles is a highly contagious respiratory disease caused by a virus, transmitted by direct contact with infectious droplets or by airborne spread when an infected person breathes, coughs, or sneezes. Measles virus can remain infectious on surfaces and in the air for up to two hours after an infected person leaves an area.

**Diagnosis**

Providers should assess patients for measles risk during initial phone calls. Immune status of patients should be determined. If patients arrive at your clinic or hospital without calling ahead, facilities should screen incoming patients for suspect measles and **promptly mask suspect measles cases and place them in airborne isolation away from other patients in waiting rooms or treatment areas.** If airborne isolation is not available, patients should be placed in a single patient room with the door closed. Any rooms where the patient was treated should remain empty for at least 2 hours after the patient has left. Any medical staff caring for a suspect case should be immune to measles and observe airborne precautions.

Consider measles in any patient with febrile rash illness and clinically compatible measles symptoms who: a) has recently traveled abroad or to an area where measles is known to be of concern or visited one of the above settings during the noted time periods, b) has not been vaccinated, and/or c) has had contact with someone with a febrile rash illness.

Immunocompromised people may not develop a rash or may exhibit an atypical rash. For

additional information, click on IDPH's [Basic Measles Testing Decision Algorithm](#).

The preferred testing method is a nasopharyngeal specimen by PCR. Serum IgM antibody testing can also be performed. **Health care providers and laboratories must first receive authorization to send specimens for testing at the IDPH lab and an authorization number must be obtained by the local health department. Contact your LHD with more specific questions.**

We ask that health care providers be vigilant in identifying any suspect measles cases. **Health care providers should not wait for laboratory results before contacting their local health department during or after work hours.** Laboratories should also report to their local health department positive lab tests for measles as soon as possible, but within 24 hours.

## Prevention

The measles vaccine is very effective. One dose of measles vaccine is about 93% effective at preventing measles if exposed to the virus. Two doses are about 97% effective. It is important for all individuals, especially those that work in the healthcare field, to have appropriate records on hand to verify immune status of any vaccine-preventable diseases (vaccination records, laboratory proof of prior disease or immunity). An individual can attempt to locate their vaccination records through their healthcare providers or through any educational facility they have attended (e.g. high school, college/university).

**At this time, there are no changes to the national recommended MMR vaccine schedule for children living in or visiting Illinois. Continue to give MMR vaccine at 12-15 months of age, and 4-6 years of age.** For children between 6-11 months of age who are travelling internationally to an area with known widespread measles transmission, vaccination can be considered.

## IDPH and LHD Response

The Cook County and Evanston Health Departments are working with the health care facilities to notify patients, students, and staff who may have been exposed and identify all susceptible (non-immune) persons. Immunity to measles is defined as:

- 1) Being born before 1957
- 2) Having documented two doses of measles-containing vaccine if you are a K-12 or college student or adults in settings that poses a high risk for measles transmission (e.g. health care workers)
- 3) One dose of measles-containing vaccine preschool aged children and adults not in high-risk settings for measles (e.g. professors)
- 4) Past laboratory confirmed measles diagnoses
- 5) Laboratory evidence of measles immunity

All susceptible contacts will be quarantined and monitored for 21 days from most recent exposure.

Providers may also print the measles educational flyer to post at their medical offices. The flyer can be found on the [IDPH website](#).

## Contact

Contact your [local health department](#) during or after work hours.

**Additional Resources**

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

<http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/measles>

**Target Audience**

Local Health Departments, Infectious Disease Physicians, Hospital Emergency Departments, Infection Preventionists, Health Care Providers, and Laboratories

**Date Issued**

March 27, 2019