

3/14/2019

** NOTICE: This health alert provides written guidance for health care professionals and others who may need to take action to prevent or control a notifiable condition. It is not intended to provide guidance for the general public.*

Communicable Disease Updates are posted online at: <http://bit.ly/ThurstonCDUpdates>

Recommendations for influenza and group A *Streptococcus* rapid testing when evaluating possible measles cases

No cases of measles have been identified in Thurston County to date. However there are ongoing outbreaks in Clark County, Washington as well as in other states, and we may see cases. Public Health is aware of multiple instances in recent weeks where patients presenting with febrile rash illnesses were tested for influenza, as well as for measles, and influenza was confirmed as the cause of the patients' illnesses.

Actions Requested

- Consider measles in the differential diagnosis of persons presenting with fever and a rash, and utilize the attached Suspect Measles Case worksheet.
- Consider rapid testing for influenza and group A *Streptococcus* in persons with a febrile rash illness, especially if the presentation is not consistent with the classic measles symptoms described in the attached Suspect Measles Case worksheet.

Measles resources

- Updated Washington State case counts, by county:
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/IllnessandDisease/Measles/MeaslesOutbreak>
- Measles flyer for families:
https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/Measles%20Basic%20Info_english.pdf
- Measles flyer for provider offices:
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/348-478-MeaslesFlyerProvider.pdf>
- Washington State Notifiable Conditions Guidelines – Measles:
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/5100/420-063-Guideline-Measles.pdf>
- CDC Manual for the Surveillance of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases - Measles:
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/surv-manual/chpt07-measles.html>
- CDC Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases – Measles:
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/meas.html>

Thank you for helping to protect the health of Thurston County

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE UPDATE

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION SECTION
THURSTON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
412 LILLY RD NE
OLYMPIA, WA, 98506-5132
DISEASE REPORTING: (360)786-5470 INFORMATION: (360) 867-2533
Rachel Wood, MD, MPH, Health Officer



3/14/2019

TO REPORT A NOTIFIABLE CONDITION IN THURSTON COUNTY	
Voice mail for reporting Non-immediately reportable conditions (24 hours a day)	Phone: 360-786-5470 Fax: 360-867-2601
Day time immediately reportable conditions	360-867-2500 ask staff to locate Communicable Disease staff
After hours immediately and 24 hour reportable conditions or a public health emergency	Call 911 and ask staff to locate the Health Officer.
No one is available with Thurston County Public Health and condition is immediately notifiable	1-877-539-4344 – Washington State Department of Health



Suspect Measles Worksheet for Healthcare Providers

✓ Consider measles in the differential diagnosis of patients with fever and rash

Patient Name:		DOB:	
Evaluating Clinician:		Phone:	
Date of Eval:			
	YES	NO	Comments
A) Has the patient had a documented temperature of at least 101°F?			Fever onset date: ___/___/___
B) Does the rash have any of the following characteristics?			Rash onset date: ___/___/___
• Was the rash preceded by one of the symptoms listed in (C) by 2-4 days?			Measles rashes are red, maculopapular rashes that may become confluent – they typically start at hairline, then face, and spreads rapidly down body. Rash onset typically occurs 2-4 days after first symptoms of fever (≥101°F) and one or more of the 3 C's (cough, conjunctivitis, or coryza).
• Did fever overlap rash?			
• Did rash start on head or face?			
C) Does the patient have any of the following?			
• Cough			
• Runny nose (coryza)			
• Red eyes (conjunctivitis)			
D) Unimmunized or unknown immune status?			Dates of measles vaccine: #1 ___/___/___ #2 ___/___/___
E) Exposure to a known measles case?			Date and place of exposure:
F) Travel, visit to health care facility, or other known high-risk exposure in past 21 days?			See local health department for potential exposure sites.

✓ Measles should be highly suspected if you answered:

- YES to A, plus
- YES to at least one item in B and C, plus
- YES in D or E or F

✓ IMMEDIATELY

- Mask and isolate the patient (in negative air pressure room when possible).
- Call Thurston County Public Health 360-867-2500 to report the case and to arrange testing at the WA State Public Health Laboratories (WAPHL). All health care providers must receive approval from Thurston County Public Health prior to submission. You should not send specimens to commercial labs due to lengthy processing times.

✓ Collect the following specimens

- Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab for rubeola PCR and culture (preferred respiratory specimen)
 - Swab the posterior nasal passage with a Dacron™ or rayon swab and place the swab in 2–3 ml of viral transport medium. Store specimen in refrigerator and transport on ice.
 - Throat swab also acceptable.
- Urine for rubeola PCR and culture
 - Collect at least 50 ml of clean voided urine in a sterile container and store in refrigerator.
- Serum for rubeola IgM and IgG testing (If you cannot collect serum in your office, it is not necessary to have it collected at another facility or lab. NP and urine specimens are priority.)
 - Draw at least 4-5 ml blood (yields about 1.5 ml serum) in a red or tiger top (serum separator) tube. Store specimen in refrigerator and transport on ice.