



# News Release

## Massachusetts Department of Public Health

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### For Immediate Release

#### **STATE PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS ALERT RESIDENTS ABOUT POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO MEASLES IN MULTIPLE LOCATIONS**

*Those exposed or developing symptoms are urged to contact their healthcare provider.*

**BOSTON** (May 25, 2019) - The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) confirmed today that a case of measles was diagnosed in a child in Greater Boston on May 24th. During the infectious period, the child was present in a number of locations that could have resulted in exposure to other people.

This second case of measles this year in Massachusetts has occurred in the context of a large national outbreak of measles and a very large international outbreak.

“Lack of vaccination, combined with domestic and international travel, has resulted in the spread of measles nationally and internationally,” said Public Health Commissioner Monica Bharel, MD, MPH. “Getting vaccinated is the best way for people to protect themselves from this disease.”

DPH urges all those who do not know their measles immunization status to get vaccinated with at least one dose of the Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) vaccine. Measles vaccine given within 72 hours of exposure may prevent measles disease, and vaccination beyond this window will provide protection from subsequent exposures. DPH, local health departments, and healthcare providers are working to contact individuals at high risk for exposure.

Measles is very contagious. People who are not immune and visited any of the locations on the below specified dates and times may be at risk for developing measles. Anyone who visited these locations on any of these dates during the times listed is advised to contact their health care provider to confirm their immunization status.

Exposures to this individual may have occurred at the following locations and times:

**Saturday 5/18**

11 AM – 3:00 PM – Weymouth, MA

Weymouth Club  
75 Finnell Drive  
Weymouth, MA

**Tuesday 5/21**

8:15 am – 10:40 AM and 5:15 PM-7:30 PM – Quincy, MA

Jack 'n' Jill Childcare at Marina Bay  
500 Victory Rd.  
North Quincy, MA

**Wednesday 5/22**

4:00 PM – 7:00 PM – Quincy , MA

Star Market  
130 Granite Ave, Quincy, MA

2:00 PM- 7:00 PM – Quincy, MA

Quincy YMCA  
79 Coddington St, Quincy, MA

**Thursday 5/23**

8:15 AM – 10:40 AM and 5:15 PM-7:30 PM – Quincy, MA

Jack 'n' Jill Childcare at Marina Bay  
500 Victory Rd.  
North Quincy, MA

**Friday 5/24**

9:10 AM – 1:40 PM – Quincy, MA

Crown Colony Medical Center  
500 Congress Street  
Quincy, MA

Early symptoms of measles occur 10 days to 2 weeks after exposure and may resemble a cold (with fever, cough, runny nose, and red eyes) and a rash occurs on the skin 2-4 days after the initial symptoms develop. The rash usually appears first on the head and then moves downward. The rash typically lasts a few days and then disappears in the same order.

Those who were exposed and begin to develop symptoms of measles should call their healthcare provider before visiting an office, clinic, or emergency department. Visiting a healthcare facility may put others at risk and should be avoided. Anyone who has had measles in the past or has received two doses of the vaccine is unlikely to develop measles even if exposed.

People with measles may be contagious up to four days before the rash appears and for four days after the day the rash appears.

People who have had measles, or who have been vaccinated against measles per U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations are considered immune. The CDC recommendations are:

- **Children.** Children should receive their first dose of Measles-Mumps-Rubella (MMR) vaccine at 12-15 months. School-aged children need two doses of MMR vaccine.
- **Adults.** Adults should have at least one dose of MMR vaccine. Certain groups at high risk need two doses of MMR, such as international travelers, health care workers, and college students. Adults born in the U.S. before 1957 are considered immune to measles from past exposures.

For additional information, contact your local health department or DPH at 617-983-6800. To learn more about measles, visit the DPH website [here](#).

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