

Stay Safe from Measles: Get the Facts



The Health Department is tracking an outbreak of measles in Philadelphia. Measles can be dangerous, especially for babies and young children. It is much more contagious than other viruses.

Measles often starts with fever, runny nose, cough, red eyes, and white spots in the mouth. Several days later, a red rash starts from the face, moving down to the rest of the body.

Measles can lead to a serious lung infection called pneumonia, brain swelling called encephalitis, long term effects, hospitalization, and death.

How does measles spread?

Measles spreads by being around a person with measles who is coughing, sneezing, or just breathing. Measles can be spread before someone with measles has a rash and after symptoms end. Germs can last in a room for two hours after someone with measles has left.

What's the best protection against measles?

Getting vaccinated! The MMR vaccine series is recommended at 12-15 months and again when a child turns 4. Infants over 6 months old should get a dose of MMR vaccine before traveling to a country where measles is more common.



About 1 out of 5 people who get measles will be hospitalized.



1 out of every 1,000 people with measles will develop brain swelling due to infection (encephalitis), which may lead to brain damage.



1 to 3 out of 1,000 people with measles will die, even with the best care.

Find vaccine locations on the next page. →

Stay Safe from Measles: Get Vaccinated



The measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine is your best protection against measles. It is available for free for all Philadelphia residents at each of the City's Health Centers.

Any child in Philadelphia can receive vaccines at City Health Centers. Call 215-685-2933 to set up an appointment.

For a limited time:

City Health Centers will be offering walk-in MMR vaccinations to any Philadelphia resident, **Monday through Friday, 10am - 12pm and 1pm - 3pm.**

Health Center 3

555 S 43rd St, Philadelphia, PA 19104

Health Center 4

4400 Haverford Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19104

Health Center 5

1900 N 20th St, Philadelphia, PA 19121

No need for an appointment! No need for an ID, just a piece of mail with your address on it will work!



For updates on where to get the MMR vaccine, visit bit.ly/PhilaMeasles.

For updates on the measles outbreak in Philadelphia, visit bit.ly/Measles2024PHL.