

From the Stark County Health Department

What You Should Know About Measles

Measles is a highly contagious airborne disease that spreads when an infected person coughs or sneezes. With recent outbreaks occurring in various parts of the country, it's important to recognize the symptoms, understand the health risks, and learn how to protect yourself.

What are the symptoms of measles?

Measles symptoms appear 7 to 14 days after contact with the virus. Measles symptoms include:

- Cough
- Red, watery eyes (Conjunctivitis)
- High Fever (Which may spike to more than 104 degrees Fahrenheit)
- Runny Nose
- Rash (Which breaks out 3-5 days after symptoms begin)

How contagious is measles?

According to the Centers for Disease Control, if one person has measles, up to 9 out of 10 people nearby will become infected if they are not protected. It is possible to get measles just by being in the same room where a person with measles has been.

What health complications can measles cause?

Measles can cause serious health problems, especially in children under 5 years old. According to the Centers for Disease Control, about 1 out of every four people who get measles will be hospitalized. Approximately 1 out of every 1,000 people with measles will develop swelling of the brain due to infection, possibly leading to brain damage.

How can you stay protected from measles?

The Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) vaccination is one of the best ways that you can stay protected from measles. Check your vaccine records, and if you aren't sure of your vaccination status, check with your primary care provider. You can also consider getting another dose of the vaccine.

Children are recommended to get their first dose of the measles vaccine between 12-15 months old. A second dose is recommended between 4 and 6 years old.

How can the Stark County Health Department help?

If you would like to schedule an appointment for the Measles, Mumps Rubella (MMR) vaccine with the Stark County Health Department, please call 330-493-9928.

Measles

IT ISN'T JUST A LITTLE RASH



Measles can be dangerous, especially for babies and young children.

MEASLES SYMPTOMS TYPICALLY INCLUDE

- High fever (may spike to more than 104° F)
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes
- Rash breaks out 3-5 days after symptoms begin



Measles Can Be Serious



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.

You have the power to protect your child.



Provide your children with safe and long-lasting protection against measles by making sure they get the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine according to CDC's recommended immunization schedule.

WWW.CDC.GOV/MEASLES

