

# THERE'S A CURRENT OUTBREAK OF MEASLES

Measles is a very contagious disease caused by a virus. It can be dangerous, especially for babies and young children. Protect your family and your community.



Measles spreads through the air when a sick person coughs or sneezes. The virus can stay in the air for 2 hours after a person with measles leaves the space. It is so contagious that about 9 out of 10 people who come near a person with measles and are not protected by vaccination will also become infected.

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



High fever  
(may spike to more than 104°F)



Cough



Runny nose



Red and/or  
watery eyes



Rash  
(breaks out 3-5 days after symptoms begin)

Measles can cause severe health problems, including:



Pneumonia



Swelling of the brain  
(encephalitis)



Possibly even death



## The best way to protect against measles ...

is with the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine. It's never too late to get vaccinated. Vaccination helps protect you, the people around you, and your community. If you are not vaccinated, consider staying at home or away from crowded areas until measles cases in the area decrease, especially to protect people in your family that could get very sick.

If you think that you or someone in your family have measles, stay away from others and call a healthcare provider, urgent care, or emergency room.

BE READY FOR MEASLES  
[cdc.gov/measles](http://cdc.gov/measles)



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