



# OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

## St. Clair County Health Department

2025

SCCHD-03

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TO: St. Clair County Providers, Hospital ICPs, Emergency Departments, Walk-in Clinics, Pediatricians, Long Term Care Facilities, Neurologists, ENT's, OB/GYN, and Pulmonology.

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### **Measles Information for Clinicians**

The St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) is monitoring the ongoing measles outbreak in the United States. As of March 7, 2025, Texas and New Mexico have reported a total of 208 confirmed cases of measles, with two deaths attributed to this outbreak. Additional cases have been reported in: Alaska, California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, New Jersey, New York City, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Washington.

SCCHD urges healthcare providers to consider measles as a potential diagnosis when evaluating patients presenting with a febrile rash, particularly those with recent travel history or known exposure to measles. Early recognition and prompt intervention are essential in controlling the spread of this highly contagious disease. Measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccination remains the most effective prevention measure.

#### **Clinical Case Definition:**

An acute illness characterized by:

- A generalized, maculopapular rash lasting at least 3 days, **and**
- A temperature of 101°F (38.3°C) or higher **and**
- Cough, coryza, **or** conjunctivitis.

#### **Laboratory Confirmation:**

- **Arrangements for testing at the state lab are made through SCCHD.** Please contact SCCHD to facilitate this. Testing supplies may be provided when in need.
- **Collect BOTH serum and PCR: throat swab (OP) or nasopharyngeal swab (NP).** Collection of urine may enhance the likelihood of successful measles detection and may be advisable when more than 6 days have elapsed since rash onset.
  - **OP/NP Swab:** Collect as soon as possible, ideally 0-3 days after rash onset, up to 10 days after onset. Submit in viral transport media.
  - **Serum IgM:** Collect **WITH** specimen for PCR. IgM can be negative up to 3 days after rash onset. IgM can be detected for 6-8 weeks after acute Measles.
  - **Urine PCR:** Collect within 10 days of rash onset. 50 mL, clean catch mid-stream, sterile container.

#### **Recommendations:**

- Report **suspect** cases **immediately** to SCCHD at (810) 987-5300.
- Immunocompromised patients may not exhibit rash or may exhibit an atypical rash.
- Isolate patient at home. In a medical setting, implement airborne precautions and use a negative-pressure room. Have a plan in place for seeing potentially contagious patients in a manner that prevents exposing others.
- Assure that patients and staff are protected against measles.
- For additional information, please review [MDHHS Measles Investigation Guidelines](#).