



## Indiana State Department of Health

### Indiana Health Alert Network Advisory — April 5, 2019

#### CONFIRMED MEASLES CASE IN LAGRANGE COUNTY, INDIANA

The LaGrange County Health Department, Steuben County Health Department, and the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) are investigating one confirmed case of measles. The patient is no longer infectious, and the health departments are investigating to identify and contact anyone who was exposed to the patient while infectious. Locations of potential exposure where individuals cannot be readily identified are listed below, and a press release is being issued to urge individuals who visited or worked at these locations during the exposure period to self-monitor for symptoms and check vaccination status. These locations and dates are as follows:

- **Chuy's Restaurant – 1512 Harvey Rd., College Station, TX 77840**
  - Friday, March 29
- **Cameron Memorial Community Hospital Urgent Care – 1381 N. Wayne St., Angola, IN 46703**
  - Saturday, March 30, from 3:45 p.m. – 6:35 p.m.
- **Cameron Memorial Community Hospital Laboratory**
  - Saturday, March 30, from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- **Holy Angels Catholic Church – 402 S. Nottawa St., Sturgis, MI 49091**
  - Sunday, March 31
- **San Miguel Grocery – 211 Jacob St., Sturgis, MI 49091**
  - Sunday, March 31
- **Walmart Supercenter – 1500 S. Centerville Rd., Sturgis, MI 49091**
  - Sunday, March 31

Healthcare providers should be alert for secondary cases resulting from exposures at these locations. Secondary cases would occur from April 5<sup>th</sup> to April 21<sup>st</sup>. **According to 410 IAC 1-2.5, health care providers must report cases of measles upon first suspicion immediately to the local health department where the patient resides. Do not wait for laboratory results.**

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Measles is a highly contagious virus that lives in the nose and throat mucus of an infected person. It can spread to others through coughing and sneezing. Measles virus can live for up to two hours in an airspace where the infected person coughed or sneezed. Around the fourth day of illness, the fever rises and a blotchy red rash appears on the face or near the hairline and then spreads down and out to

the rest of the body. This rash usually lasts about four or five days before slowly fading in the same order that it appeared. Patients infected with measles are considered most infectious between approximately four days before they even get a rash and up to four days after the rash starts. Anyone who develops measles symptoms should stay home and immediately call a healthcare provider.

**Health care providers are strongly encouraged to collect a nasopharyngeal swab within three days of symptom onset on individuals presenting with measles symptoms and send for testing at the ISDH Laboratory.** Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) or culture from a nasopharyngeal swab are the most reliable methods to test for measles, however, acute measles infection can also be confirmed by the presence of serum measles IgM and a significant rise in IgG antibody titer in acute- and convalescent-phase serum specimens. Appropriate laboratory specimens are essential for the confirmation of measles virus, as a number of other etiologies can cause similar symptoms. Please find additional guidance on lab testing below:

- A flowchart on which type of testing is most appropriate for a patient and when to send to the ISDH Laboratory is available [here](#).
- **Measles specimen collection and submission guidelines for virology (PCR) testing at the ISDH Laboratory can be found [here](#).** Please call the ISDH Epidemiology Resource Center at 317-233-7125 for testing information and additional submission guidance.
- Results for specimens that have not been approved prior to submission to the ISDH Laboratory may be significantly delayed. Results will be released to the submitting laboratory. If a specimen was submitted through an intermediary reference laboratory, providers are encouraged to check with those entities for results prior to contacting the ISDH.
- Serology (IgG and IgM) should be requested through a reference laboratory and no authorization is necessary. PCR and culture testing are also available commercially, however, turnaround times may be longer than for an authorized specimen sent to the ISDH Laboratory.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends two doses of measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine to protect against measles. Children and adults who are not immunized or are not up-to-date with immunization should receive the MMR vaccine. Two doses of MMR vaccine are considered about 97% effective (range 67%-100%) in preventing measles infection. **Health care providers are encouraged to be vigilant for clinical symptoms compatible with measles despite vaccination status.** Any individuals who cannot find record of their immunization or are not up-to-date with the MMR vaccine should contact a healthcare provider to discuss receiving MMR vaccine.

From Jan. 1 to March 28, 2019, 387 individual cases of measles have been confirmed in 15 states, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This is the second-greatest number of cases reported in the U.S. since measles was eliminated in 2000.

For more information or to report a suspect case, please contact Payton Revolt, ISDH vaccine-preventable disease epidemiologist, at [prevolt@isdh.in.gov](mailto:prevolt@isdh.in.gov) or at 317-233-7277 or Ali Bianco, vaccine-preventable disease public health investigator, at [abianco@isdh.in.gov](mailto:abianco@isdh.in.gov) or at 317-233-7112.

To report a suspect case or specimen authorization after business hours (8:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. M-F), please contact the ISDH epidemiologist-on-call at 317-233-1325.

Call the ISDH Laboratories at 317-921-5500 for assistance with submitting specimen for testing after receiving authorization.

More information on mumps can be found at <https://www.in.gov/isdh/25450.htm>.