



LIVINGSTON COUNTY Health Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Livingston County Health Department Warns of Possible Exposure to Measles

HOWELL, Michigan. - (October 13, 2017) Livingston County Health Department (LCHD) is investigating a measles case that was confirmed this week in an adult Livingston County resident who works in Washtenaw County. This is the second case of adult-onset measles in Livingston County. The first one was reported earlier this year, and it highlights the importance of routine measles vaccination for all people to prevent the disease and future measles outbreaks. LCHD is providing information to local residents because of potential exposure to measles at multiple locations throughout Livingston County and the region.

Measles is a highly-contagious, airborne disease. Residents are encouraged to evaluate their vaccination status with their doctor. If you suspect measles, seek medical treatment as soon as possible. The MMR vaccine is available through primary care doctors and at some local pharmacies, as well as at LCHD. Individuals should contact their doctor for advice.

Having two doses of MMR vaccine at least 28 days apart is fully protective. Having only one dose of MMR vaccine is approximately 93 percent protective. The first dose is routinely given to children after their first birthday. Vaccination is not necessary if an individual has a prior history of measles illness.

Measles

Measles (rubeola) is an extremely contagious disease caused by the measles virus. Measles can cause complications such as pneumonia and encephalitis (inflammation of the brain). Measles can also cause miscarriages or premature delivery in pregnant women.

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Symptoms

The illness starts with a runny nose, red eyes, cough, fever and sore throat. Tiny white spots may appear in the mouth. A raised, red rash appears on the 3rd to 5th day of illness. The rash typically starts on the face and spreads down the body and out to the arms and legs. The rash usually lasts 4 to 7 days. Symptoms usually start 7 to 14 days after being exposed to measles, and last 1 to 2 weeks.

How is it spread?

Droplets from the nose or mouth, through sneezing, coughing or speaking, spread measles. A person with measles is contagious for four days before and four days after the rash appears.

For more information, please visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's measles website](#) or the [LCHD measles fact sheet](#).

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