



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

NORTH CENTRAL PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT

“Caring For Our Communities”

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PSA

Date: January 28, 2019
To: All Media
From: Teri Thalhofer RN, BSN, Director
North Central Public Health District
Subject: **Important Reminder Regarding Measles**

As of January 27, 2019, 34 confirmed cases and nine suspect cases have been identified in the Clark County measles outbreak.

There have been no new cases in Wasco or Hood River Co. The one case that visited our area in December is unrelated to the current outbreak in Washington State.

IMPORTANT Reminder Regarding Measles: Oregon public health officials urge people to avoid immediately going to a medical office if:

- 1. They are not immune AND**
- 2. They have been exposed AND**
- 3. They have symptoms**

Instead, call a health care provider or urgent care center by telephone to create an entry plan to avoid exposing others in waiting rooms.

Measles is a highly contagious virus that spreads through the air after a person with measles coughs or sneezes. People are contagious with measles for four days before the rash appears and up to four days after the rash appears. The virus can also linger in the air for up to two hours after someone who is infectious has left.

Measles poses the highest risk to unvaccinated pregnant women, infants under 12 months of age, and people with weakened immune symptoms.

Most Oregonians have been vaccinated against measles and are protected. Anyone who has never been vaccinated is at higher risk of getting measles if they come into contact with someone who is contagious.

For a complete list of public exposures, please visit: <https://multco.us/health-officer/measles-outbreak-winter-2019-oregon-exposures>

Anyone with questions about measles infection or the measles vaccine should call their primary care provider or their county health department. For more information on measles for the public, please visit the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) measles webpage at:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASES/CONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/Pages/measles.aspx>

Or call:

- North Central Public Health District (Wasco, Sherman & Gilliam Counties) 541-506-2600
- Hood River County Health Department 541-386-1115

OHA has also established a call center for general questions related to the measles. Anyone who has questions about public exposures should dial 2-1-1. The call center hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, including weekends.

(For more information, please contact North Central Public Health District at (541) 506-2600 or visit us on the web at www.ncphd.org.)

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