



Action Steps for Health Care Settings After a Measles Exposure

Action Steps

The following are expected actions that health care facilities (HCF) need to **take after identifying** an infectious measles case in their facility:

Pennsylvania Department of Health
(PA DOH): (717-787-3350)
After-Hours Emergency Reporting PA
DOH: 877-PA-HEALTH (877-724-3258)
[Local Health Departments](#)

1. Assess individuals (employees, patients, and visitors) who were exposed to measles during the health care visit.¹

If the HCF cannot identify the people exposed, public health officials may need to issue a public statement (e.g., a news release) to notify those exposed and prevent further spread.

2. Within 24 hours, compile a list of all employees, patients, and visitors considered exposed to measles. The HCF is responsible for contacting exposed individuals and [evaluating evidence of immunity to measles](#).

The list should include the following information (to the fullest possible extent).

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Demographic data (name, date of birth, address, telephone number) | <input type="checkbox"/> Air shared space location |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immunity status/evidence | <input type="checkbox"/> Date and start/end time of exposure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Identify if they are patients, health care personnel (HCP) or visitors | <input type="checkbox"/> High-risk contacts (e.g., pregnant, immunocompromised, <12 months of age) |

If the health care facility CANNOT compile a list, immediately contact your local health department or the PA DOH (717-787-3350) for further guidance.

Resources: [Measles: Infection Prevention and Control Quick Response Guide for Health Care](#)

3. As needed, coordinate rapid serologic testing for measles immunity (measles IgG) for high-risk contacts (such as immunocompromised patients, pregnant women, and unvaccinated infants) whose measles immunity status is unknown.

¹ *Pennsylvania disease investigation code at § 27.152. Investigation of cases and outbreaks provides authority for PA DOH to investigate any case or outbreak of disease judged to be a potential threat to public health and provides that individuals cannot interfere with or obstruct a representative of PA DOH from entering their facility or seeking documentation to support an investigation.*

4. Provide resources to make **postexposure prophylaxis (PEP)** available to all susceptible individuals who were exposed, if indicated.

5. Follow internal HCF protocols for notification and symptom monitoring. Share plans with the health department for situational awareness.

Exclude HCP without evidence of immunity from work from day five after the first exposure through day 21 following their last exposure, regardless of whether they receive PEP. Public health officials will coordinate and determine the next steps for monitoring susceptible high-risk individuals in the community.