

- Personal & Family Health
- Community Health
- Environmental Health

**PULLMAN**1205 SE Pro Mall Blvd #203
Pullman, WA 99163 **509.332.6752** 

COLFAX 310 N Main Street #108 Colfax, WA 99111 509.397.6280

## **COMMUNITY HEALTH DIVISION**

# **Measles Assessment Checklist**

Report all <u>SUSPECTED</u> measles cases immediately to Whitman County Health Department. www.doh.wa.gov/ForPublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/NotifiableConditions/Measles

# Consider measles in the differential diagnosis of patients with fever and rash:

| A) What is the highest temperature recorded?  |     | °F | Fever onset date://   |
|---|-----|----|---|
| Section 1   |     |    |   |
| B) Does the rash have any of the characteristics listed?  | Yes | No | Rash onset date:  |
| Was the rash preceded by one of the symptoms listed in (C) by 2-4 days?                         | Yes | No | Characteristic measles rash: Red maculopapular rash. May become confluent. Typically starts at hairline, then face, and spreads rapidly down body.  Rash onset typically occurs: 2-4 days after first symptoms of fever (≥101°F) and one or more of the 3 C's: cough, conjunctivitis, coryza. |
| Did fever overlap rash?   | Yes | No |   |
| Did the rash start on the head or face?   | Yes | No |   |
| C) Does the patient have any of the following symptoms?   | Yes | No |   |
| Cough   | Yes | No |   |
| Runny nose (coryza)   | Yes | No |   |
| Red eyes (conjunctivitis)   | Yes | No |   |
| Section 2   |     |    |   |
| D) Unimmunized or unknown immune status?  | Yes | No | Dates of measles vaccine:   |
|   |     |    | #1/   |
|   |     |    | #2 <i>J</i>   |
| E) Exposure to a known measles case?  | Yes | No | Date and place of exposure:   |
| F) Travel, visit to health care facility, or other known highrisk exposure in the past 21 days? | Yes | No | Date and place of travel:   |

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Measles should be *highly suspected* if you answered YES to at least one item in B <u>AND</u> C in Section 1, <u>PLUS</u> a YES in D, E, or F in Section 2.

#### **IMMEDIATE ACTIONS:**

- Mask and isolate the patient (in negative air pressure room when possible) AND
- Call Whitman County Public Health to report suspect cases, get permission for testing at PHL if needed, and initiate the case investigation to help prevent spread.
  - o 509.332.6752 during normal business hours
  - 509.595.4834 after hours (duty officer)

# Collect the following specimens

- Preferred: Nasopharyngeal (NP) or throat swab for rubeola PCR and culture
  - Swab the posterior nasal passage with a Dacron<sup>™</sup> or rayon swab and place the swab in
     2–3 ml of viral transport medium. Store specimen in refrigerator and transport on ice.
  - Most accurate day 0-5 after rash onset.
- Urine for measles PCR and culture
  - Collect at least 50 ml of clean voided urine in a sterile container and <u>store in</u> refrigerator.
  - Urine PCR test is most sensitive between ≥72 hours and 10 days after rash onset and may not be positive until >4 days after symptom onset.
- Serum for measles IgM and IgG testing
  - o Draw at least 4-5 ml blood (yields about 1.5 ml serum) in a red or tiger top (serum separator) tube. Store specimen in refrigerator and transport on ice.
  - o IgM is most accurate greater than 72 hours after rash onset
  - NOTE: neither IgM nor IgG antibody responses can distinguish measles disease from the response to vaccination in a patient with suspected measles that has been vaccinated 6-45 days prior to blood collection.

## Submit laboratory specimens to your preferred commercial laboratory.

• If you need to submit specimens directly to WA-Public Health Labs, please contact Whitman County Public Health. Pre-approval from the Department of Health is required for measles specimen submissions.

For questions, please call Whitman County Public Health at (509) 332-6752.