# Provincial Measles Primary Care Pathway

All HCWs should assess their measles immunity. HCW's are considered immune if they have:

- Documentation of having received 2 doses of measles-containing vaccine **OR**
- A documented laboratory-confirmed measles infection **OR**
- A blood test showing proof of immunity.

Screen for suspected/probable measles case: Suspected measles symptoms, recent travel or exposure, and/or not fully immunized

**Whenever possible ask patient with suspected/probable measles to call 811 for guidance and avoid in-person clinic visits**

**Whenever possible, complete assessment in the car and avoid bringing a patient into the clinic.**

Always use IPC routine practices.

**Assess history**:

- Onset of illness
- Travel history
- Measles immunization history
- Exposure to positive case

**Assess clinical symptoms**:

- Prodromal Fever ≥38.3
- Coryza
- Cough
- Conjunctivitis
- Koplik spots
- Maculopapular rash (3-7 days after symptom onset)

**Assess for differential diagnosis:**

- Measles vaccine reaction
- Drug reaction(s)
- Other viral exanthems

**No** clinical signs and a differential diagnosis excludes measles

Provide appropriate care and assess need for measles vaccination

If patient inadvertently enters the clinic or you need to bring the patient into the clinic for an assessment, have the patient wear a procedure mask and take them to a single room with the door closed. Use appropriate PPE (seal checked N95, gloves, gown, and eye protection). As much as possible, reduce exposure to other patients and staff.

**All suspected, probable, and confirmed cases (from in-person/virtual assessments) must be reported immediately by calling 1-844-343-0971**

Please advise the patient to isolate in their home until they are called with the results of their tests and that they may also receive a call from public health. Zone MOH's may be contacted with questions or concerns at the following numbers:

Calgary Zone: 403-264-5615
North Zone: 1-800-732-8981
Central Zone: 403-356-6430
Edmonton Zone: 780-433-3940
South Zone: 403-388-6111 (*ask to have MOH paged)
For those living on a First Nation: ISC MOH: 780-218-9929

## Investigations

| Symptomatic Specimen Collection | |
|---|---|
| **Setting** | **Specimen and orderable** |
| Patient seen in an office or clinic setting | Urine **OR** Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab **OR** Throat swab for Measles NAT/PCR |
| Collection outside of an office or clinic setting | Order lab tests according to the clinical need **AND** specimen collection availability (Follow Measles Specimen Collection Pathways) |

- For measles laboratory questions contact the ProvLab Microbiologist/Virologist On-Call: Calgary 403-944-1110 or Edmonton 780-407-8822
- Notify the APL Appointment Booking line at 1-877-702-4486 **prior** to sending patients for serology and urine collection.
- When collecting NP or throat swab in Primary Care:
  - Use appropriate PPE (seal checked N95, gloves, gown, eye protection) and complete in patient's car if possible (avoid patient coming into the clinic).
  - Use universal transport media (red top, white swab, pink medium).
  - Submit the NP or throat swab with the Serology and Molecular Testing Requisition form to the Provincial lab. Ensure the requisition form is filled out in detail.
- For urine sample collect about 10 mL in sterile container.

## Management of Measles Cases

- **Reinforce Isolation as guided by Public Health:** advise patient they need to stay out of public spaces until 4 days after a rash appears. Susceptible exposed individuals may have quarantine requirements guided by Public Health.
- **Manage complications**: complications can include pneumonia, otitis media, febrile seizures, croup, diarrhea, and encephalitis and can be life-threatening. Tends to be more severe in infants, immunocompromised individuals, and those who are pregnant. Encourage patients and families to monitor symptoms and stay connected with their primary care provider.
- **Provide education:** Provide information about disease transmission and appropriate infection control measures to minimize the possibility of transmission. Share link to patient information: Measles (alberta.ca).
- **Connection with Public Health:** Advise patient they may be contacted by Public Health to collect further information and explain additional next steps.
- **Support post-exposure prophylaxis recommendations**: Specific patient guidance as outlined by Zone MOH.
- **Follow Required Disinfection Practices:** To prevent spread, any room that the patient has occupied should be left unoccupied, with the door closed and should **not be used for two hours** after a suspected case has left the room to allow for adequate air changes for 99% air clearance. If unable to maintain the 2-hour window, a N95 must be worn to complete disinfections/cleaning.