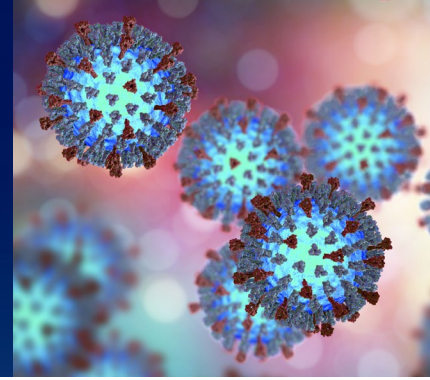


When to Suspect and Test for Measles



Measles risk criteria

Clinically compatible illness

All the following are met:

- Fever
- Maculopapular rash
- At least one of the following:
 - Cough
 - Coryza
 - Conjunctivitis

Susceptibility

Any of the following are met:

- No history of vaccination
- No documentation of previous infection or immunity (IgG)

Exposure

Any of the following are met:

- Contact with a measles case within 21 days
- Travel within 21 days

Criteria	Risk	Recommendations
Meets all criteria: • Clinically compatible • Susceptible • Exposure	High	Act immediately: isolate, test, and report
Clinically compatible and one other criteria: • Susceptible • Exposure	Moderate	If there is not a more likely diagnosis: isolate, test, and report
Meets one or no criteria: • Clinically compatible • Susceptible • Exposure	Low	Testing not recommended, consider alternative diagnosis or discuss testing options with public health



Additional considerations

- Testing during the prodromal phase, prior to rash onset is not recommended.
- If an individual received a measles-containing vaccine within 3 months and now has a fever and rash but no risk factors, measles is unlikely and testing is not recommended.
- For immunity testing only, the specimen should be sent to a commercial laboratory.

If measles risk is high or moderate: isolate, test, and report

Isolate Take airborne precautions in the clinic and notify your infection preventionist. The patient should isolate at home until measles is ruled out or through 4 days after rash onset.

Test Obtain both a nasopharyngeal and/or throat swab and a serum sample. All testing for suspect measles cases should be sent to the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH).

For testing information and specimen collection instruction, search the [WSLH clinical testing services](#).

- **PCR testing (preferred):** NP and/or OP swabs should be collected within 3 days of rash onset but no later than 10 days after rash onset.
- **Serology IgM/IgG (recommended):** Collect serum specimens for IgM at least 72 hours after rash begins. IgG should be collected in conjunction with IgM.

Report Measles is a Category I Reportable Disease. Health care providers should immediately report by telephone the identification of a suspect case to the [local health department](#) in which the patient resides.

For after-hours, weekends, and holidays contact the DHS epidemiologist on call at 800-943-0003 option 4.

