

# Community Response Partner Network

PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS NEWSLETTER

March 4, 2025



## **SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER: MEASLES**

### **MEASLES CASE IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

On Sunday, March 2, 2025, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services announced that they are currently investigating a confirmed case of measles in an unvaccinated child.

People who were on **China Airlines Airport Shuttle Bus** during the following time period may have been exposed to measles:

- Between **9:30pm on Tuesday, February 25** and **3:15am on Wednesday, February 26**
- The bus originally departed from JFK Airport Terminal 4 and made stops at the following locations:
  - **Cherry Hill:** H Mart (1720 Marlton Pike East, Cherry Hill, NJ 08033)
  - **South Philadelphia:** Riverview Plaza, Pho Saigon (1100 S Christopher Columbus Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19147)
  - **North Philadelphia:** Pho Ha Saigon (757 Adams Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19120)
- A full schedule of stops is available at [Airport Shuttle Bus | China Airlines](#).
- **Important Note:** All listed businesses were closed at the time of drop-off and are **not locations of exposure**.

### **WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO MEASLES**

If you were on the China Airlines Airport Shuttle Bus between 9:30pm on February 25, 2025 and 3:15am on February 26, 2025, your local health department should be reaching out to you. Shuttle bus passengers also can call 215-685-6740 if you have questions. People on the shuttle bus on this specific date and time should follow the below instructions to determine if you are protected from measles, and symptoms to look out for if you are not protected.

- **Determine if you are protected against measles.** Generally, you are considered protected (immune) if you:
  - Were born before 1957, *or*
  - Have already had measles, *or*
  - Have received **two doses** of measles-containing vaccine (usually given as measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine), *or*
  - Have a blood test showing immunity to measles.
- If you are protected from measles, you do not have to do anything. **Measles vaccine is extremely effective at preventing measles.**
- Some adults received only one dose of MMR vaccine as children. Adults who received one dose of MMR vaccine as previously are likely protected, but if they don't have proof of immunity and were exposed, they should get another dose of vaccine.
- People who are moderately to severely immune compromised should let their provider know they were exposed to measles and call PDPH.

## IF YOU ARE NOT PROTECTED FROM MEASLES, YOU SHOULD RECEIVE A DOSE OF MMR VACCINE.

- Contact your healthcare provider or pediatrician right away, especially if you don't feel well. Tell your doctor about your possible measles exposure.
- Alert your healthcare provider before visiting. Tell them that you've been exposed to measles and ask them to call the Health Department at 215-685-6740.
- Stay home. You could give measles to vulnerable people, so you must quarantine.

## IF YOU ARE NOT SURE IF YOU ARE IMMUNE:

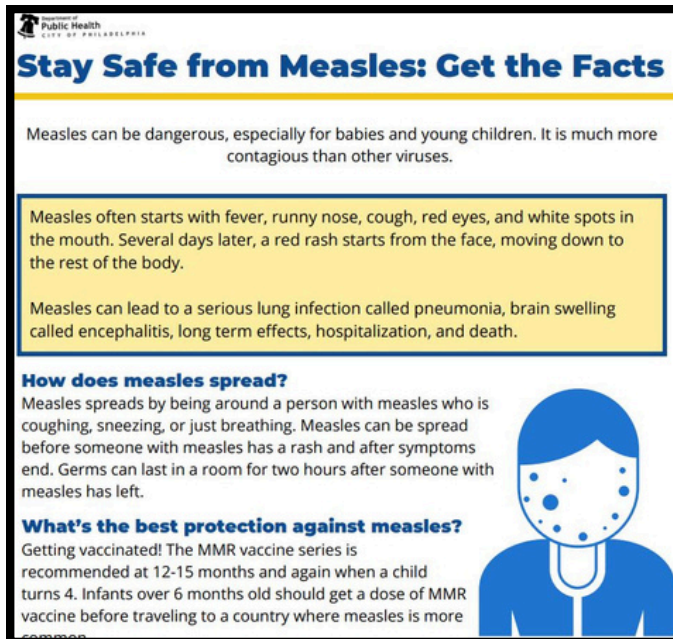
- If you were exposed to measles and aren't sure if you're immune, you should:
  - Contact your healthcare provider or pediatrician right away, especially if you don't feel well. They can review your immunization records to make sure you've had both doses of MMR vaccine.
  - Wear a mask in indoor public spaces and around anyone who is unvaccinated, until you learn your status. This will help prevent others from being exposed.

## ABOUT MEASLES

- Measles is a virus that spreads very easily from person to person.
- Measles spreads easily through coughing and sneezing or when someone touches a contaminated surface and then their face. The virus can stay in the air and on surfaces for up to two hours.
- The early symptoms of measles are fever, runny nose, cough, and puffy eyes, followed by rash. In some people, it can be a very serious infection that leads to pneumonia, brain infection, and death.

## RESOURCES

### Stay Safe from Measles - Get the Facts



Measles can be dangerous, especially for babies and young children. It is much more contagious than other viruses.

Measles often starts with fever, runny nose, cough, red eyes, and white spots in the mouth. Several days later, a red rash starts from the face, moving down to the rest of the body.

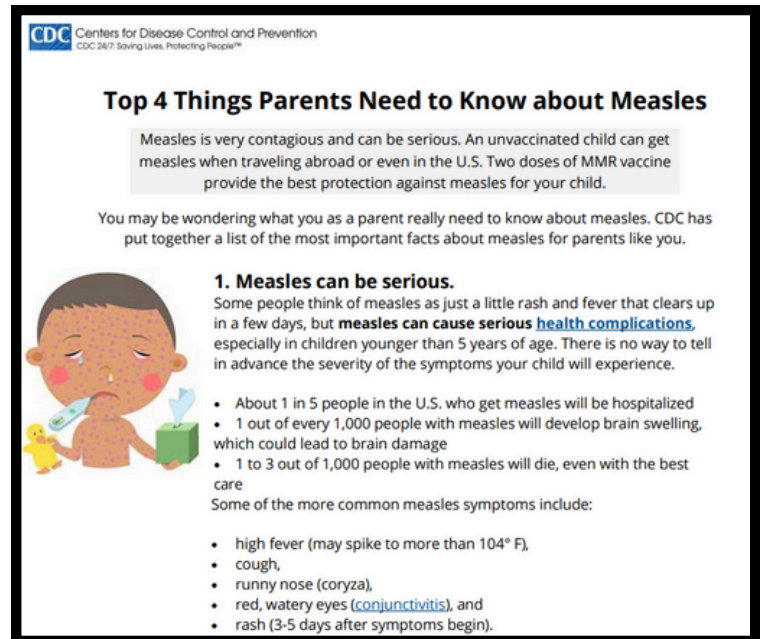
Measles can lead to a serious lung infection called pneumonia, brain swelling called encephalitis, long term effects, hospitalization, and death.

**How does measles spread?**  
Measles spreads by being around a person with measles who is coughing, sneezing, or just breathing. Measles can be spread before someone with measles has a rash and after symptoms end. Germs can last in a room for two hours after someone with measles has left.

**What's the best protection against measles?**  
Getting vaccinated! The MMR vaccine series is recommended at 12-15 months and again when a child turns 4. Infants over 6 months old should get a dose of MMR vaccine before traveling to a country where measles is more common.

Available in: [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Chinese](#), [Polish](#), [Portuguese](#), [Russian](#), [Ukrainian](#), [Vietnamese](#), [Swahili](#), [French](#), [Amharic](#), [Khmer](#), [Korean](#), [Indonesian](#), and [Haitian Creole](#)

### 4 Things Parents Need to Know about Measles



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
 CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

**Top 4 Things Parents Need to Know about Measles**

Measles is very contagious and can be serious. An unvaccinated child can get measles when traveling abroad or even in the U.S. Two doses of MMR vaccine provide the best protection against measles for your child.

You may be wondering what you as a parent really need to know about measles. CDC has put together a list of the most important facts about measles for parents like you.

**1. Measles can be serious.**  
Some people think of measles as just a little rash and fever that clears up in a few days, but **measles can cause serious health complications**, especially in children younger than 5 years of age. There is no way to tell in advance the severity of the symptoms your child will experience.

- About 1 in 5 people in the U.S. who get measles will be hospitalized
- 1 out of every 1,000 people with measles will develop brain swelling, which could lead to brain damage
- 1 to 3 out of 1,000 people with measles will die, even with the best care

Some of the more common measles symptoms include:

- high fever (may spike to more than 104° F),
- cough,
- runny nose (coryza),
- red, watery eyes ([conjunctivitis](#)), and
- rash (3-5 days after symptoms begin).

Available in: [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Chinese](#), [Russian](#), [Vietnamese](#), [Polish](#), [Portuguese](#), [Ukrainian](#), [Dari](#), [Arabic](#), [Korean](#), [Khmer](#), [Indonesian](#), [French](#), [Swahili](#), [Amharic](#), and [Haitian Creole](#)

## COMMUNITY RESPONSE PARTNER NETWORK RESOURCES

### PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY RESOURCES

#### Learn more about respiratory viruses and people with disabilities.

- Respiratory virus resources: [bit.ly/RespVirusResources](https://bit.ly/RespVirusResources)
- Tailored health promotion materials: [bit.ly/CDCHealthPromo](https://bit.ly/CDCHealthPromo)

#### Sign up for ReadyPhiladelphia alerts - text 'ReadyPhila' to 888-777!

- You can receive free text messages on emergencies, such as severe weather.
- Alerts are available in English, French, Arabic, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, Swahili, and American Sign Language (ASL).
- Be the first to know, then share important information with family and neighbors.

#### Text-to-911 in Philadelphia

- People who are Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, and anyone facing communication barriers can use this service to send an emergency text to 911 in Philly: [bit.ly/PATextTo911](https://bit.ly/PATextTo911)

### COVID-19 RESOURCES

#### Get free at-home COVID-19 tests!

- Visit a Health Department Resource Hub for testing kits (three kits per person): [bit.ly/ResourceHubsPHL](https://bit.ly/ResourceHubsPHL). No insurance or ID required.
- Community-based organizations, organizers, venues, and the public can apply to receive 100 free at-home kits and face masks to share with their communities: [bit.ly/TestKitDistrib](https://bit.ly/TestKitDistrib)

#### Free COVID-19 vaccine for uninsured and underinsured Philadelphians:

- To find the most up to date information on COVID vaccination: [bit.ly/COVIDvaxPHL](https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxPHL)

### PDPH INFORMATION

#### Have a question? Contact the Call Center at 215-685-5488.

- The PDPH Call Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30am - 5:00PM.
  - Press 3 for interpretation in your language, press 2 for Spanish.
  - Dial 711 for TRS/TTY assistance.

#### Find us online!

- Health Department website: [phila.gov/health](https://phila.gov/health)
- Health Department social media: [facebook.com/phillyhealth](https://facebook.com/phillyhealth) and [twitter@PHLPublicHealth](https://twitter@PHLPublicHealth).

### HOW TO STAY CONNECTED

- Sign up at [bit.ly/phlcommunityresponse](https://bit.ly/phlcommunityresponse) to get essential public health information, then share with your family, friends, and community.
- Questions or suggestions? Email us at [publichealthpreparedness@phila.gov](mailto:publichealthpreparedness@phila.gov) or call us at 215-429-3016 with any questions or suggestions.
- To view an archive of past Community Response Partner Network (CRPN) newsletters, visit: [bit.ly/PHPOutreachNewsletter](https://bit.ly/PHPOutreachNewsletter).