

Community Response Partner Network

PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS NEWSLETTER

March 18, 2025



Latest News on Measles in Philadelphia

- There is one [confirmed measles case](#) in an unvaccinated child from Montgomery County.
 - If you were at any of the sites on the days listed in [this link](#), you may have been exposed to measles. Call your healthcare provider to see if you're immune to measles and watch for symptoms.
- There was a potential measles exposure at the following locations in Philadelphia:
 - South Philadelphia Health & Literacy Center
 - This building includes CHOP Pediatric Primary Care South Philadelphia, Health Department Health Center #2, and the South Philadelphia Library, though there were no potential exposures in the library.
 - 1700 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19145
 - Friday, March 7, 2025, between 10:45 a.m. and 2:40 p.m.
 - Saturday, March 8, 2025, between 9:05 a.m. and 1:20 p.m.
 - CHOP Emergency Department
 - 3401 Civic Center Boulevard, Philadelphia, PA, 19104
 - Monday, March 10, 2025, 7:55 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
- **The Philadelphia exposure is not connected with the recent measles case identified in Montgomery County, or cases in other parts of the country.**
- Find the measles vaccine here: <https://bit.ly/PhilaMeasles>
- Learn more about measles and how to protect yourself in the FAQ below.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO MEASLES

Check if you are protected against measles.

- 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, *or*
 - Check with your healthcare provider to see if you or your child has the correct doses for their age.
- If you are protected from measles, you do not have to do anything. **Measles vaccine is extremely effective at preventing measles.**

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

- **If you were at the CHOP Emergency Department on March 10 during the times listed above, you should:**
 - Stay at home until Sunday, March 30.
 - Contact your healthcare provider if you develop symptoms.
- **If you were at the South Philadelphia Health & Literacy Center on March 7 during the times listed above, you should:**
 - Stay at home until Thursday, March 27.
 - Contact your healthcare provider if you develop symptoms.
- **If you were at the South Philadelphia Health & Literacy Center on March 8 during the times listed above, you should:**
 - Stay at home until Friday, March 28.
 - Contact your healthcare provider if you develop symptoms.
- **If you are under 12 months of age, pregnant and not immune, or immunosuppressed, you should:**
 - Contact your healthcare provider as soon as possible.
- **If you develop any measles-like symptoms (fever, runny nose, cough, puffy eyes, followed by rash), you should:**
 - Contact your healthcare provider as soon as possible. Tell them you may have been exposed to measles.
 - Contact the Health Department by calling 215-685-6740, then pressing #5.
 - Make sure your provider knows you were exposed to measles before you go to the office.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

- **If you're traveling internationally, the following groups should receive a vaccine dose at least 2 weeks before travel:**
 - Infants who are 6-12 months old (they'll still get the standard 2 doses for kids after they turn 1).
 - Children at least 1 year old who haven't received their second dose.
 - Adults with only one dose and no test results that show they're immune to measles.
- See this flyer for more information: https://vaccines.phila.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Measles-Traveling-Flyer_03-06-2025.pdf

FAQ ON MEASLES AND HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

- **What is measles?**
 - Measles is an extremely contagious virus.
 - It is spread through the air when someone who has measles coughs, sneezes, talks or breathes.
 - Germs can stay in a room for two hours after someone with measles has left.
- **How serious is measles?**
 - Measles is one of the most contagious diseases in the world.
 - In some people, including infants and those with weakened immune systems, it can be a very serious infection that leads to pneumonia, brain infection, or death.
 - About 90% of people who have close contact with an infected person will get measles if they're not protected.
- **What is the best protection against measles?**
 - The MMR vaccine is your best protection against measles and is extremely effective and safe.
 - Two doses of vaccine are 97% effective at preventing measles. One dose is 93% effective.
- **When should I get the MMR vaccine?**
 - Children should get their first dose of vaccine between 12 and 15 months of age and their second dose between 4 and 6 years of age.
 - Children don't need to wait until kindergarten to get their 2nd dose. If they are 4 years old, talk to their pediatrician about getting it as soon as possible.
- Anyone else who does not have two doses should get vaccinated as soon as possible.
- **If you're traveling internationally, the following groups should receive a vaccine dose at least 2 weeks before travel:**
 - Infants who are 6-12 months old (they'll still get the standard 2 doses for kids).
 - Children at least 1 year old who haven't received their second dose.
 - Adults with only one dose and no test results that show they're immune to measles.
 - Contact your healthcare provider with any questions.
- **Measles is highly contagious, but completely preventable with vaccination. Don't wait – check your status today!**

NEW EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

- Check out our new materials!
 - Winter Weather and Older Adults Activity Book! Available in English.
 - Avian flu flyers! Available in multiple languages.
 - To view and order free copies to be delivered to your address, visit: bit.ly/PHPMaterials.

COMMUNITY RESPONSE PARTNER NETWORK RESOURCES

PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY RESOURCES

Learn more about respiratory viruses and people with disabilities.

- Respiratory virus resources: bit.ly/RespVirusResources
- Tailored health promotion materials: 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

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. 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

Free COVID-19 vaccine for uninsured and underinsured Philadelphians:

- To find the most up to date information on COVID vaccination: 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
- Health Department social media: facebook.com/phillyhealth and twitter@PHLPublicHealth.

HOW TO STAY CONNECTED

- Sign up at 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 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.