

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 or area in the U.S. where measles is more common.





About 1 out of 5 people who get measles will be hospitalized.

1 out of every 1,000 people with measles will develop brain swelling due to infection (encephalitis), which may lead to brain damage.



1 to 3 out of 1,000 people with measles will die, even with the best care.



Stay Safe from Measles: Get Vaccinated

The measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine is your best protection against measles. It is available for free for all Philadelphia residents at each of the City's Health Centers.

Any Philadelphia resident can get a free MMR vaccine at City Health Centers, **Monday through Friday from 9am to 1pm**. No appointment or insurance is required.

City Health Centers

Health Center 3 555 S. 43rd St., Philadelphia, PA 19104 | 215-685-7504

Health Center 4 4400 Haverford Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19104 | 215-685-7601

Health Center 5 Annex 2001 W. Berks St., Philadelphia, PA 19121 | 215-685-2933

Mattie L. Humphrey Health Center (Health Center 9) 131 E. Chelten Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19144 | 215-685-5701

Strawberry Mansion Health Center 2840 W. Dauphin St., Philadelphia, PA 19132 | 215-685-2401

Children can also get vaccinated at their pediatrician's office or a retail pharmacy. Call the pharmacy ahead of time to check age requirements.

Get vaccinated today!

For updates about measles in Philadelphia:

